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MONTHLY BULLETIN

OF THE

BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS,

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

Vol. IX.

JULY—DECEMBER,

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MONTHLY BULLETIN

OF THE

BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS,

International Union of American Republics.

VOL. IX. JULY, 1900. No. 1.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

FOREIGN COMMERCE FIRST QUARTER OF 1900.

The trade returns of the Argentine Republic for the first quarter of the present year amounted to $87,372,760, of which $34,691,648 were imports and $52,681,112 exports. The imports of bullion were $2,992,918 as against $1,109,269 in the same period of 1899. The imports for the first three months of 1900 show an increase, when compared with the same months of 1899, of $4,770,576, and the exports an increase of $5,152,017. The classification of the imports, compared with 1899, was as follows:

	1900.	1899.
Live stock	$103,919	$147,487
Food stuffs	2,739,978	2,548,519
Tobacco	1,009,841	1,009,546
Wines and spirits	2,150,629	1,562,235
Textile materials	13,631,926	11,825,822
Oils	1,083,709	893,947
Chemicals and drugs	1,092,691	746,109
Dyes and colors	228,283	190,544
Lumber	1,868,889	2,046,958
Paper goods	1,013,491	661,217
Leather	368,785	284,482
Iron goods	4,958,588	3,674,957
Other metals	967,310	789,666
Glass, china, etc	2,497,785	2,876,154
Miscellaneous	975,824	663,433
Total	34,691,648	29,921,072

The exports were classified as follows for each of the periods under comparison:

	1900.	1899.
Pastoral products	$26,678,176	$32,316,799
Agricultural products	24,683,134	14,345,902
Forest products	859,148	622,206
Mineral products	39,676	31,777
Products of the chase	145,213	69,675
Miscellaneous	275,775	142,736
Total	52,681,112	47,529,095

The commerce of the Argentine Republic with the several nations of the world, for the first three months of 1900, was as follows:

	Imports.	Exports.
Great Britain	$12,143,303	$6,157,648
Germany	5,075,227	8,916,838
Italy	4,767,182	1,192,902
France	3,858,728	7,752,631
United States	3,237,703	2,187,188
Belgium	2,828,906	7,027,970
Brazil	1,115,417	909,660
Spain	1,080,213	365,541
Paraguay	293,927	547
Uruguay	117,414	440,283
Holland	48,957	1,112,912
Chile	36,664	242,357
Bolivia	20,815	75,045
West Indies	2,855	39,719
Africa	----------	1,253,447
Other countries	64,337	2,244,073
Orders	----------	12,762,351
Total	34,691,648	52,681,112

THE PAVEMENTS OF BUENOS AYRES.

"La Nación" of Buenos Ayres in its issue of May 15, 1900, contains an interesting article regarding the pavements now in use in that city.

According to this publication the first pavements used in Buenos Ayres were made of granite blocks and paving stones laid upon beds of river sand. This class of pavement gave such unsatisfactory results, due principally to the loose subsoil, that a change was made requiring the laying of the paving material upon beds of Portland concrete. This system proved so satisfactory that 1,500,000 square meters were constructed upon this basis.

Wood and asphalt came into use at this time. At first soft wood, principally pine, was used for paving purposes, but later on this was replaced by an exceedingly hard and durable wood known as *Algarrobo* (locust wood), which has given such excellent results that it is considered by many to be superior to asphalt. Locust wood, being a national product, is cheaper than asphalt, and preference has been given to its use in the paving of the streets of the city, there being

at the present time 380,000 square meters of this material in use as against 65,000 square meters of asphalt.

In 1895 there were constructed 194 squares of different kinds of pavements; in 1896, 272; in 1897, 169; in 1898, 260, and in 1899, 352 squares. The proportion of the different kinds of pavements made is shown by the following comparisons: In 1895 there were constructed with locust wood 22 squares, 3 of asphalt, 91 of granite upon beds of river sand, and 78 upon Portland concrete. In 1896 there were paved with wood, 82 squares; with granite upon beds of river sand, 68 squares, and 122 squares upon beds of Portland concrete. In 1897 there were constructed 41 squares with locust wood, 21 on beds of river sand, 37 on lime concrete, and 70 on Portland cement concrete. In 1898 the construction amounted to 51 squares of locust wood, 8 of asphalt, 30 upon beds of river sand, 96 upon lime concrete, and 75 upon Portland concrete. Finally, in 1899—a year in which a large quantity of paving was done in Buenos Ayres—there were constructed 71 squares with locust wood, 36 with asphalt, 23 upon beds of river sand, 171 upon lime concrete, and 49 upon Portland concrete. Notwithstanding the flattering figures of 1899, it is quite probable they will be exceeded by those of 1900. The cost in 1899 was about $3,500, national currency, per square.

At the present time there are within the city limits about 5,000,000 square meters of pavement, and nearly 6,500,000 meters of unpaved streets. That is to say, the whole paved surface represents a road 10 meters wide by about 100 leagues long, which was constructed at a cost, approximately, of $40,000,000, national currency. It can well be said that one of the most notable proofs of the progress and advancement of Buenos Ayres is the wonderful increase in the length and quality of its street pavements.

TRADE OF ROSARIO IN 1899 AND 1900.

The Monthly Bulletin of the Italian Chamber of Commerce and Art of Rosario (Bollettino Mensile della Camera Italiana di Commercio ed Arti) publishes in its issue of May 10, 1900, a report on the trade of Rosario for the first quarter of 1900, as compared with the same period in 1899. The total valuation of the imports is given as $2,113,858.14 in 1899 as against $2,309,387.83 in 1900, while the exports for the first three months of the two years in comparison were $7,954,159.97 and $10,150,670.93, respectively.

The four leading countries interested in this trade were as follows: England, with $733,872.88 in imports and $1,614,158.51 in exports; the United States, with $436,980.88 in imports and $1,062,781.19 in exports; Italy, with imports valued at $421,301.41, and Germany, whose imports and exports through this port were $296,224.68 and $982,942.89, respectively. It is of value to note that Argentine

exports to Portugal for the first three months of the current year from Rosario are given as $5,412,001.13, while imports from that country only figure for $1,687.50.

The tonnage of the port for the first quarter of 1900 is represented by 169 steam vessels with a registered tonnage of 280,079, and 30 sailing vessels of 22,502 tons burden, against 158 steam and 50 sail vessels, with a tonnage of 244,720 and 35,447, respectively, in the corresponding period of 1899. The exports were carried in 162 steam and 51 sailing vessels, and comprised 307,945 tons of grain, of which England took the largest share; 5,636 bales of wool—2,272 bales being shipped to the United States; 143 tons of flour to England, and 47,566 tons of flax seed.

A table of values is published by the Bulletin referred to as follows for the first quarter of 1900:

IMPORTS.

	Dutiable.	Free.
Foodstuffs	$434,217.03	.....
Liquors	116,736.96	.....
Tobacco	45,067.05	.....
Yarns and textiles	204,135.67	$139,244.80
Clothing	15,486.48	48,085.91
Chemical products, etc	80,099.07	1,514.96
Wood, and manufactures	220,223.40	29,177.00
Paper, and manufactures	39,850.08	5,490.00
Leather, and manufactures	853.65	4,117.00
Iron, and manufactures	293,496.35	15,532.00
Building materials	9,067.95	346,256.55
Metals, and manufactures	23,061.75	1,938.97
Earthenware, glassware, etc	55,790.33	1,874.44
Fuel	60,744.28	61,677.21
Miscellaneous	45,041.59	10,606.30
Total	1,643,871.74	665,516.09

EXPORTS.

Live stock	$931,744.53	$30.00
Agricultural products	.....	8,877,301.00
Industrial products	.....	14,124.00
Forest products	.....	50,198.62
Mining products	.....	35,627.30
Animal and vegetable products	40,141.44	194,865.44
Miscellaneous	6,641.60	.....
Total	978,527.57	9,172,146.36

By way of demonstrating how large a business has been done in agricultural implements, the British Consul at Rosario, in a recent report to his Government, states that the authorities of the Province of Santa Fé collected tax this year on 1,540 threshing machines actually employed in preparing the crops for market.

CARBIDE OF CALCIUM FACTORY IN CORDOBA.

A electric carbide of calcium factory is being erected by a London firm in Cordoba, and it is expected that it will have been completed by

the time this notice has been printed. The force for operating the establishment is supplied by an electric power house which was erected some months ago by an Englishman at Casa Bamba, in the Cordoba Mountains. The factory covers 5 hectares of ground, and is about 2 kilometers distant from the city limits, the power being brought from Casa Bamba by means of cables. The works will be under the supervision of Viscount EUGENE DE BOISMENU, whose name is prominently identified with the manufacture of acetylene gas in France. Cordoba is regarded as an ideal location for an establishment of the sort indicated, as it furnishes abundant supplies of lime and charcoal, both of which are ingredients of carbide. When this factory is in full operation it is estimated that the electric force required will be fully equal to 3,000 horsepower.

GIANT SLOTHS OF PATAGONIA.

On June 25, 1900, Prof. RAY LANKESTER delivered a lecture to a natural history society in London on the giant sloths of Patagonia. These are scientifically known by the name of *Mylodon*, and are supposedly extinct edentate animals allied to the megatherium. The lecture referred to was made more interesting by means of pictures of a skeleton of a sloth recently found near Last Hope Inlet by Dr. MORENO, the well-known Argentine explorer. It is stated that a number of scientists are of the opinion that in the unexplored regions of Patagonia living specimens of this animal may be found. It is also reported that the "Daily Express," of London, has made arrangements to send a special expedition to Patagonia in search of this extraordinary animal.

SANITARY AFFAIRS IN BUENOS AYRES.

The "Rio News" says the National Government has assumed charge of sanitary matters in Buenos Ayres and has placed the consolidated service under the control of Dr. NUNDO DE ANDRADE, Director-General of Public Health. Previous to this consolidation the sanitary services of the port were looked after by Dr. ANDRADE, while sanitary affairs in the city were managed by Dr. TORRES COTRIM.

The "Argentinisches Wochenblatt" stated that the President of the Board of Health has proposed the sending of a medical attaché to the Argentine Legation in Rio de Janeiro; also to request the Government of Brazil to send a similar official representative to its legation in Buenos Ayres.

PATENTS GRANTED UNITED STATES CITIZENS.

During the month of April last the following patents were granted to citizens of the United States:

Patent No. 2,798 to Messrs. HENRY JAMES KIMMAN and EDWARD NASH, covering improvements on direct-acting machines especially

adapted to pneumatic hammers. The duration of this patent is ten years.

Patent No. 2,805 to the Marsden Company, cessionaires of D. Mark Worsnop Marsden, of Philadelphia, covering a new industrial product, made of vegetable pith, for packing. The life of this patent is fifteen years.

THE INDUSTRIAL CONGRESS.

At the recent industrial congress Dr. Garcia Mérou, Minister of Agriculture, read the opening address, which was highly spoken of by the press. No less than 62 papers were offered in competition for the various prizes, the list including theses on almost everything regarding agriculture and industrial subjects. Among them were papers on the cultivation of cotton; the coal question; the characteristics of Argentine wheat; gold and silver mines in the northern Provinces; the production of the precious metals in the southern Provinces; the introduction of birds of the starling class for the purpose of destroying the locusts; the borax beds; cultivation of rice; the future of Argentine live stock; reform of the land laws; the dairy industry; the necessity of laws against the adulteration of food, etc., etc.

PURCHASE OF FREIGHT CARS.

The "New York Journal of Commerce" reports that a manufacturing company of that city recently secured an order for 150 freight cars, which are to be shipped to the Argentine Republic as quickly as possible. The value of this contract is said to be $217,500, as each car is worth $1,450. It is not stated for what road these cars are intended.

CONTRACT FOR WATCHES.

It is stated by the "New York Journal of Commerce" of July 7, 1900, that a manufacturing concern of New York City had just received an initial contract for the supply of 25,000 cheap watches, which were to be shipped to the Argentine Republic. Hitherto, it is said, such articles have been supplied to the Argentine market by European manufacturers. This same firm is reported to have recently filled an order for 15,000 watches to be forwarded to the Paris Exposition.

SALES OF REAL ESTATE.

"Sales of real estate in the Argentine Republic," says the "Financial Times," of London, "form a very fair test of the development and prosperity of the country, and in that respect the past year (1899) comes out pretty well. The sales of houses, agricultural lands, and pasturage amounted to $12,700,000 currency, against $11,827,000 in 1898. The total has, in fact, only once been exceeded—in 1897, when the figures were $14,000,000. Taking the last three years, the annual

average of the sales has been $12,800,000, against an average of $7,400,000 for the previous three years and of only $5,886,000 for the triennial period 1888–1890."

COLONIZATION PROPOSAL.

It is reported that a Belgian syndicate has submitted a proposal to the Minister of Agriculture regarding the colonization of the southern part of Buenos Ayres Province on a vast scale. This proposition contemplates the settlement of 25,000 families, or, at an average of four to each family, of 100,000 persons. The estimated outlay is 80,000,000 *francs*.

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN OBSERVATORY.

The Royal Geographical Society of Great Britain announces that it has secured the cooperation of the Argentine Government in the establishment of an observatory on the south coast of the Republic. The exact location has not yet been determined upon.

DISCOVERY OF IRON ORE.

According to the "La Plata Zeitung," rich deposits of a high-grade iron ore have been discovered in the department of Minas, Province of Cordoba. It is further stated that the mines will be purchased by the Krupp firm, of Essen, Germany.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY IMPROVEMENTS.

"La Nación," in its issue of April 12, 1900, states that "El Ferrocarril del Sur" (the Southern Railway) will spend £3,000,000 in the improvement of its line. The improvements will consist in the addition to and erection of suitable stations and the ballasting and straightening of certain portions of the roadway.

IMMIGRATION IN 1899.

The official statistics with reference to immigration during the year 1899 show that the arrivals from foreign countries numbered 145,699, of whom 34,616 were ordinary passengers. The number of immigrants from countries other than from South America was 84,442, of whom the greater part came from Italy. The increase in the number of immigrants over the arrivals in 1898 was 44,045.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

During the year 1899 the Telegraph Department of the Province of Buenos Ayres transmitted 399,000 telegrams, for which it received $314,701. Including the official messages, the revenues received by this department in the year named amounted to $505,000, national currency.

The following minerals were exported through Buenos Ayres during March and April: 54 tons of iron, 50 tons of lead, and 1 ton of borax. The iron and lead were mined in the Provinces of Cordoba, Salta, and San Luis, and the borax in the Province of Salta.

The city of Buenos Ayres is lighted by means of 702 arc lamps, of which 315 are alternating and 587 continuous current. Besides these there are 13,597 gas, 8,553 kerosene, 8 incandescent, and 8 naphtha lamps.

The imports of electrical goods and apparatus, electric-light, telegraph, and telephone material during the first quarter of 1900 amounted to $826,299, gold.

The revenues of the tramways of the city of Buenos Ayres during the month of April, 1900, amounted to $1,111,681.63. Of this sum the municipality received $66,700.91.

A company has been formed in Buenos Ayres for the exploitation of the south coast fisheries and oyster beds.

BOLIVIA.

PARCELS POST CONVENTION WITH GERMANY.

A parcels post convention was perfected in 1899 between Germany and Bolivia. The charge for packages of 1 kilogram or less is 3 *marks;* not exceeding 3 kilograms, 4 *marks* to La Paz, Sucre, Puno, Chililaya, and all other post-offices of the Republic. Heavy packages are admissible, but the "Südamerikanische Rundschau" states that the conditions are such that it does not recommend using this means for the transportation of freight until other arrangements are perfected.

STEAMBOAT FOR LAKE TITICACA.

An interesting engineering feat which has recently been accomplished is the placing of a steamboat of 550 tons on Lake Titicaca, between Bolivia and Peru, a sheet of water 120 miles long, 325 miles from a seaport, and nearly 13,000 feet above sea level. This vessel was built at Leven shipyard, Dumbarton, Scotland, temporarily put together, and then transported in sections to Mollendo, whence it was carried in 22 cars up the railroad which skirts the steep sides of the Andes to the lake side. There it was once more put together and the boilers and engines installed. The *Coya*, as the vessel is named, is 170 feet long, 26 feet beam, and has accommodations for 45 first-class and 40 second-class passengers. The distance traversed by this steamer is 100 miles, the journey occupying ten hours. The vessel serves as a means of communication between the Republics of Bolivia and Peru.

NEW MINING LAW.

"El Comercio de Bolivia," in its issue of May 24, 1900, publishes the new mining law which was promulgated on the 11th of April of the present year, an extract of which is as follows:

"ART. 1. A general plan of each mining district of the Republic shall be made, and upon it there shall be shown in detail all the mining land obtained in conformity with the present mining law, that in litigation and that which is free, as well as that ceded in accordance with the mining code of 1852, and the names of the respective owners.

"ART. 2. A general plan of a district being made, it shall be approved by the Government, and this shall make operative the present law.

"ART. 3. The plan shall be filed in the office of the Prefect (Governor), and shall be constantly accessible to the public.

"ART. 4. As soon as the present mining law goes into effect in a mining district the petitions for mining claims shall be made upon the free ground shown on the general plan of the district, and shall be accepted or rejected by the Prefect in accordance therewith and without other procedure than the existence or nonexistence of free land.

"ART. 5. Every petition shall be recorded by the Chief of the Registry of Mines, in order that no other petition be made covering the same during the interval necessary for the making of the survey, the placing of the cornerstones, and the possession of the property in accordance with the mining law. The title being issued, a definite description shall be made on the general plan of the district.

"ART. 6. The decree of concession being obtained, the survey, demarcation, etc., prescribed by the Mining Code shall be made.

"ART. 7. The State and the petitioner shall pay, respectively, the fees of their experts (engineers), and in the absence of a contract the charges specified by the Mining Code shall govern.

"ART. 8. The license (*patente*) shall be payable from the day the document that serves as a title to the property is issued.

"ART. 9. In future there shall be acquired and preserved the right to all the substances named in article 3 of the law of the 19th of October, 1871, and article 1 of the Mining Decree of the 31st of December, 1872, with the exception of lime, stucco, and quarries that are subject to the provisions of the mining law. * * *

"ART. 10. The petitioner may ask for and obtain claims covering 64 hectares.

"ART. 11. The enactment of the 18th of December, 1891, is declared in force, and applies to quarries and calcareous substances.

"ART. 12. At the capital of each Department there shall be a Government registration and mining office, whose principal officer shall exercise the functions of a Notary of Mines, shall have charge of the mining records, and shall make an annual index of the same.

"ART. 13. In accordance with the requirements of Article I, mine owners shall present their respective titles, under the penalty of a fine of $25 to $200 should they fail to do so. If presentation should be persistently refused, the land shall be considered as in litigation.

"ART. 14. All contrary laws are hereby repealed."

BRAZIL.

TREATY OF EXTRADITION WITH CHILE.*

"The President of the Republic of the United States of Brazil and the President of the Republic of Chile, having resolved to conclude a treaty for the extradition of criminals, have appointed Plenipotentiaries for this purpose; that is to say, "the President of the Republic of the United States of Brazil named Gen. DIONYSIO EVANGELISTA DE CASTRO CERQUEIRA, Minister of Foreign Relations of Brazil; and the President of the Republic of Chile named Don JOAQUIN WALKER MARTINEZ, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the same Republic, who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following articles:

"ARTICLE I. The two contracting Republics mutually agree to deliver up persons who, having been charged with or convicted of crimes or offenses, shall seek refuge or be found within the territories of the other. Provided that—

"(1) The country making the demand shall have jurisdiction over the trial of the criminal for whom requisition is made;

"(2) That the crimes or offenses be punishable, according to the laws of the country in which they were committed, by loss of liberty for a period not less than two years in the case of persons charged or accused, and not less than one year in the case of those already convicted;

"(3) That the country making the requisition present documents which, conformable to its laws, authorize the arrest and trial of the criminal.

"(4) That the offense or penalty be not barred by limitation, according to the laws of the country of asylum;

"(5) That the criminal may not have been condemned for the same act committed in the country in which he resides, or may not have served his sentence.

"ART. II. The extradition shall be granted when the criminal is a citizen of the country on which requisition is made; but in such case he shall be tried in the country of the asylum, and the govern-

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*The ratifications were exchanged May 8, 1900.

ment of the country asking his extradition shall submit everything necessary to throw light upon the case and expedite the procedure.

"This provision shall not apply to criminals who may have become citizens of the country of the asylum after the perpetration of the crime for which extradition is asked.

"ART. III. The extradition of persons charged with political offenses or acts connected therewith shall not be granted.

"Acts of anarchy directed against the foundation of the social organization shall not be considered political offenses.

"ART. IV. No person who shall have been surrendered shall be tried or be punished for any political crime or offense, or for any act connected therewith, committed previously to his extradition.

"No person who has been delivered up by either of the contracting Governments shall be tried for any crime or offense committed prior to his extradition, other than the offense for which he was surrendered, without the previous consent of the country from which he has been surrendered, in pursuance of the present treaty.

"ART. V. If the accused person whose extradition is asked by one of the contracting parties should also be claimed by one or more powers, pursuant to treaty provisions, for different crimes or offenses committed within their jurisdiction, he shall, in preference, be delivered up to the State in which the gravest offense has been committed. If the offenses committed are judged of the same gravity, preference shall be given to the State whose demand is first received; and if all the demands should be of the same date, the authorities of the country of which the demand is made shall determine the order of surrender.

"ART. VI. If the person demanded be held for trial in the country on which the demand is made, the delay shall not prevent ultimate extradition.

"ART. VII. Requisitions for the surrender of fugitives shall be made by the respective diplomatic or consular agents of the contracting parties; or, in the event of the absence of these, they may be made directly by the Governments. If the fugitive shall have been charged with crime, a duly authenticated copy of the warrant for his arrest in the country where the crime may have been committed, or of the depositions upon which such warrant may have been issued, shall accompany the requisition. When the person shall have been convicted of a crime, a copy of the sentence of the court, duly authenticated, shall be produced, together with the evidence proving that the prisoner is the person to whom such sentence refers.

"ART. VIII. When either of the two contracting Governments or their respective authorities shall deem the case urgent, they may request, by telegraph or written communication through the diplomatic channel, the provisional arrest of a criminal together with the seizure

of articles relating to the offense, on giving assurance that the criminal has been convicted, or that a warrant has been issued for his arrest.

"If, within one month from the day of the arrest of such criminal, the Government on which the demand is made shall not have received in due form the documents on which the claim is founded, the criminal shall be set at liberty.

"ART. IX. If the Government of Brazil or that of Chile shall deem the evidence produced insufficient to grant the request for extradition, the documents shall be returned to the Government making the request and the reasons stated for not proceeding with the extradition.

"ART. X. The request for extradition as regards matters of form, regularity of procedure, the admissibility of evidence, qualification of witnesses, and the exceptions which may be taken by the criminal demanded shall be decided by the competent authorities of the country of the asylum, in accordance with the laws and practice followed in the same. The privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall not be denied to the criminal or fugitive.

"ART. XI. If the decision be favorable to the request for extradition, it shall be the duty of the examining judge to immediately communicate the same to the Executive authority in order that measures may be taken for the surrender of such fugitive.

"If the decision be adverse, the judge or court shall order the immediate release of the prisoner, and shall communicate this fact to the Executive authority, to whom he shall transmit a copy of the decision in order that the latter may make it known to the demanding Government.

"In cases of appeal on account of insufficiency of evidence, extradition proceedings may be renewed whenever the demanding Government shall present new or further evidence.

"ART. XII. All articles found in the possession of the fugitive criminal at the time of his arrest which relate to the offense for which extradition is demanded shall be delivered up at the time of surrender. Articles relating to the offense which may be found in the possession of third parties shall be seized but not delivered up until the right of possession is decided.

"ART. XIII. The Republic on which the demand is made shall effect the transportation of the criminal to the port most suitable for the embarkation of the agents named by the Republic making the demand. The latter may send one or more military or police agents to accompany the criminal, but all acts of such agents shall be subordinate to the agents or authorities of the territory of the Republic on which the demand for extradition is made.

"ART. XIV. The passage through the territory of one of the contracting parties of an individual who has been surrendered by a third power to the other party, provided he is not a citizen of the country

through which the passage is made, shall be granted on the presentation of a duly authenticated copy of one of the documents mentioned in article 7, provided that the crime or offense for which extradition has been granted is comprised among those enumerated in the present treaty.

"ART. XV. The extradition expenses incurred up to the time of the surrender of the criminal shall be paid by the Government on which the demand has been made; expenses incurred after his delivery shall be paid by the Government making the requisition.

"ART. XVI. When one of the Governments shall have obtained the extradition of an individual for trial, it shall communicate to the other the final sentence.

"ART. XVII. A criminal who has been arrested in virtue of the request for extradition may request his release on bail, in accordance with the laws of the country making the requisition.

"ART. XVIII. The extradition shall be granted in pursuance of the provisions of the present treaty even when the acts have been committed prior to the treaty.

"ART. XIX. The present treaty shall remain in force for an indefinite period and shall terminate in one year after either of the high contracting parties shall have denounced it to the other.

"The treaty shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Rio de Janeiro after they have been approved by the Congresses of the two High Contracting Parties.

"In faith whereof the Plenipotentiaries of the Republics of the United States of Brazil and Chile have signed this treaty and have hereunto affixed their seals in the city of Rio de Janeiro, the fourth day of May, in the year nineteen hundred."

ORIGIN OF IRON IMPORTS.

An English special report gives the following information in regard to the most important imports of iron goods into Brazil:

Bar iron comes mostly from Great Britain, but manufacturers in the United States are attempting to obtain a portion of this trade.

Belgium and Germany furnish a considerable amount of iron. In railway material of all kinds, springs, wheels, axles and brakes, the competition is chiefly between Belgian and British manufacturers. Galvanized sheet iron formerly came entirely from Great Britain, but now much of it, which is used for coffee machines, is imported from Belgium. Tinned sheet iron is used in the district of São Paulo for gutters, etc. In bridge construction the Belgians are the most important competitors. Wrought-iron pipes, black and galvanized, are imported from the United States. The large cast-iron pipes for the waterworks in Santos have also been obtained from the United States.

Wire nails are made in a factory in São Paulo. Bolts and screws are imported in large quantities from Germany and wire fencing is also of German production, the English having recently lost the market. The wire from Germany is not only cheaper, but of equal strength. Barbed wire is rarely used.

RAILWAY FROM RECIFE TO LIMOEIRO.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Great Western of Brazil Railway Company was held at London on April 25, 1900.

From the report on the present condition and future of the railway it appears that notwithstanding the heavy losses which the line has sustained during the past year owing to floods, there was an increase in the net income of 80.5 per cent. The outlook of traffic for the current year is good. Owing to the abundant rains there is every indication of excellent crops. Exchange, which had fallen as low as $5\frac{11}{16}$ pence had risen to $8\frac{1}{2}$ pence at the time of the report, and showed a tendency to advance still further. The relations of the company with both the State and Federal Governments were most cordial.

During the first three months of the present year the total receipts of the line amounted to £20,460, against £10,280 for last year.

The extension of the line from Timbauha to Pilar, which will be completed by the 1st of July, 1900, will have an important effect upon the future of the company, as it will put Pernambuco in communication not only with the territory through which it passes, but also, by means of the Conde d'Eu Railway, with the State of Parahyba and later with the State of Rio Grande do Norte. This branch will increase but little the general expenses of operation, as probably no new stock will be needed to operate the line and but a small increase in the personnel will be required. In addition to the interstate traffic there will be considerable increase in the transportation of cattle from Itabayana. There has been some talk of amalgamating the Great Western and Conde d'Eu railways.

AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS FROM AMAZONAS.

According to statistics furnished by the Treasury of the State of Amazonas, 11,633,705 kilos of rubber, officially valued at 114,576 *contos*, were exported in 1899. Among the principal products exported during the same year can be mentioned 2,025,281 kilos of cacao, 956,220 kilos of salt fish, 94,546 hectoliters of nuts, 120,660 kilos of *piassava*, 175,757 kilos of rawhides, 667 kilos of sarsaparilla, 11,961 kilos of copaiba oil, and 33,963 kilos of *guarana*.

YERBA MATE TEA COMPANY.

The president of the "Companhia Mate Larangeira," of Brazil, says that the agent of the company in the United States has succeeded

in promoting in Philadelphia the organization of the "Yerba Mate Tea Company," with a capital stock of $100,000. The Philadelphia company, he adds, has, with the assistance of the Brazilian Minister and Dr. CORDEIRO DE GRAÇA, already accomplished important results.

DIMINUTION OF BELGIAN IMPORTS.

The attention of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Belgium has been called by Belgians in Brazil to the serious diminution in the importation of Belgian products by Brazil. As a remedy, it is suggested that the duty of 10 per cent now imposed on Brazilian coffees entering Belgium be abolished.

NEW PORTUGUESE MINISTER.

General FRANCISCO MARIA DA CUNHA has been appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to Brazil by the Government of Portugal. It is said in Rio de Janeiro that this appointment will serve to strengthen the cordial relations between the two countries.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING OF UBERABA.

A São Paulo press dispatch states that an English company proposes to light the town of Uberaba, State of Minas Geraes, by means of electricity. The plant is estimated not to cost more than 300,000 *milreis*, to be paid for in three equal yearly installments. Power is to be derived from a turbine placed in the Uberaba River four leagues from the town, and from this a force of 300 horsepower is expected, even in the dryest season.

NEW RAILWAY AND NAVIGATION COMPANY.

A company has been organized in Belgium for the purpose of establishing a railway and navigation service on the Tocantins-Araguaya. The Belgians have subscribed 14,000,000 *francs* in preferred stock and 1,500,000 in common stock. Preferred and common stock will have a 6 per cent dividend.

LOCOMOTIVES PURCHASED AT PARÁ.

The United States Consul at Pará says that the Pará State Government purchased several locomotives last year, spending about 600,000 *milreis* (say $100,000). He adds that an appropriation of 2,000,000 *milreis* is soon to be available for other railroad material.

MISSIONES BOUNDARY TREATY.

The ratifications of the treaty concluded between Brazil and the Argentine Republic to define the boundary in the Territory of the Missiones, were exchanged at Rio de Janeiro, the 26th of May, 1900.

CHILE.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The "Diario Oficial" of Santiago publishes in its issue corresponding to the 1st of June, 1900, the message which the President of Chile delivered on that date to the National Congress, an extract of which is as follows:

The President states that another year of peace for the Republic has elapsed; that friendly and cordial international relations exist with all the world; that the international tribunal organized by the Government of Great Britain to decide, in accordance with existing treaties, the boundary questions between Chile and the Argentine Republic, has convened in London, and that there is reason to believe that its decision will soon settle these vexatious questions which have been the cause of disputes for a quarter of a century.

"During the present year the tribunal which has in charge the claims of American citizens which were not settled during the short deliberations of the former body will be held in Washington.

"Diplomatic negotiations between Chile and the Empire of Japan have been crowned with success, Chile's representative having overcome the obstacle to the ratifying of a treaty of peace and commerce. The approval of this treaty is recommended, as is also that of treaties with other European and American countries which have been already submitted to the Congress.

"Primary instruction has received the special attention of the Government, and numerous schools have been established in those places where most urgently needed. The founding in other States of the Republic of schools for girls, similar to those which have met with such signal success at Santiago, Valparaiso, and Iquique, is recommended.

"The state of the public finances is satisfactory. The fiscal year 1899 left a balance in the treasury of $13,046,186.45. This amount does not include $3,178,657 invested up to December 31 in the purchase of securities made in accordance with the act of July 31, 1898. Adding this surplus to the $109,355,386, the estimated receipts in gold and currency for the present year, makes a total available amount of $122,401,572.45.

"The expenses of the administration for 1900 chargeable to the budget and special laws now in force, after deducting the amounts which can not be turned into cash, will reach $106,058,200.20. There will therefore be at the close of the present fiscal year a surplus of $16,343,372.25. The ordinary and special receipts for the year 1901 are conservatively calculated at $108,543,186, which added to the fore-

going surplus makes a grand total available of $124,886,558.25. The estimate for public expenses for the coming year is, in gold and currency, $108,276,357.66. The funds available will therefore exceed the expenses by $16,610,200.59.

"The constant sedimentary deposits in the Bay of Valparaiso, the principal port of the Republic, makes the acquisition of a dredge absolutely necessary in order to render the harbor serviceable for the loading and unloading of large vessels and to avoid at the same time the dangers that would be caused to the city by the obstruction of the exits of its drainage canals. The study of these questions and of others which have for their object the improvement of ports should be intrusted, as in other countries, to special permanent committees with authority to collect a reasonable tax and invest the proceeds in the construction of improvements that will facilitate commercial operations."

"The stock of gold in the mint, coined or in bullion, which is reserved for the conversion of the public debt, is $2,699,635. The funds accumulated in the country and abroad, to be used in the exchange of the 50,000,000 of Government notes, will amount to, at the close of the present year, the sum of 27,699,633 gold dollars of a value of 18d, without counting interest and the $7,160,000 that will be invested in bonds. Adding the $16,500,000, excess of receipts over expenditures during the present year, there will have been accumulated by the date fixed in the law more than the amount necessary for the payment of the issue. Orders have already been given for the purchase of bullion, and in a few days coinage will be begun.

"This pressing duty of the Government having been fulfilled, it will be an act of prudence and foresight, without prejudice to the well-matured plan for the improvement of public works, to apply a part of the resources that this flourishing fiscal epoch offers to the reduction of the national debt, with the view of assuring a prosperous condition of the national treasury in the future, and in order to place on a solid basis the credit of the country abroad. For this purpose it is suggested that at the proper time during the year 1902 there be set aside an annual sum for the special amortization of the external debt proportionate to the increase obtained in the amount of the tax upon the exportation of nitrate.

"The foreign commerce of the country, estimated in dollars of a value of 18d., amounted last year to $269,336,491, of which sum $106,260,358 corresponded to the importations and $163,106,133 to the exportations. These figures compared with 1898 show an increase in importations of $3,998,300 and a decrease in exportations of $4,963,298. The apparent decrease in exportations is due to the fact that in 1898 the exports of gold and silver coin amounted to $14,271,608, while in 1899 only $2,595,577 were exported. Without considering, then, the

shipments of coin abroad, and including only the exportation of natural products in general, the increase in 1889 is $6,712,733.

"The exportation of nitrate during the last fiscal year amounted to 30,043,900 Spanish quintals, being an increase of 1,575,641 over that of 1898. It is calculated this year that the exportation of this substance will exceed 30,500,000 quintals, and in the following year 31,000,000 quintals. The Government watches closely the state of this industry, and is inclined to assist it as far as possible without producing conditions which might affect the natural increase in the amount of the fiscal taxes and the value of the nitrate properties.

"The balance shown by the operation of the nation's railways is not satisfactory, on account of the great damage done to the track, bridges, and buildings by the elements during the exceptionally hard winter of last year and that part which has passed of the winter of this year. On the other hand, the present equipment is not sufficient to handle the traffic, and it is necessary that it should be increased considerably, as was provided for in the proposed law presented to Congress at the close of last year.

"The railways already contracted for are in process of construction, and during the present year others will be begun as provided for by recent legislation." The Executive also states that the approval of the project for the purchase of the Trans-Andine Railway and for the prosecution of its extension would be a source of satisfaction to him, as this railway enterprise will be a notable factor in the development of the commerce of the country.

The protection of fisheries and the construction of irrigation canals are recommended, the latter being of special importance and significance to the true advancement of agriculture within the Republic.

NITRATE STATISTICS.

Messrs. W. Montgomery & Co., in their semiannual review of the sodium nitrate (saltpeter) situation, state that the market for this article has followed its usual course for almost a year, but that during the spring months, due to a shortage in the supply, there was a considerable fluctuation in prices. The price at the beginning of the year was 7s. 7½d. per quintal. The shipments to Europe during the year were 1,140,000 tons, of which 1,017,000 tons went to the Continent and 123,000 to the United Kingdom. The weather in general throughout the spring favored the consumption of nitrates, as did also the high prices of other nitrogenous substances. In regard to the supply for next season, the "Commercial Industrial Mining Review" says it is feared that it may not be sufficient. Up to the present time there are in sight 730,000 tons, of which it is estimated there will arrive in time to be delivered to the consumer, between the 1st and 30th of April next, 700,000 tons.

There has been considerable talk regarding the formation of a nitrate trust, but up to the present time no practical results have been attained, because while this plan was agreeable to some it was not acceptable to the majority. The consumption next season will probably be very satisfactory, and the only fear is that it may be restricted on account of the low price of cereals and beets. The sodium-nitrate supply is about 730,000 tons annually, and last year it was 703,000.

COPPER PROPERTIES.

The "Commercial-Industrial Mining Review" (La Revista Comercial é Industrial de Minas) publishes the following article regarding copper:

"The constant use of this material in many industries, and especially in the electrical industry, has increased its value to such an extent as to make it one of the most highly prized metals. In England alone there have been formed thirteen copper companies, with a capital of more than £3,600,000. When these begin operations in the various copper producing countries the supply in the markets of the world will be visibly increased, and consequently the price of copper in bars will fall to £50 or £55 per English ton.

"The consumption of copper is not so great that its present price of £78 per ton can be maintained should there be a considerable proportionate increase in production, as will undoubtedly result from the operations of the new copper companies. Many of these companies have already commenced development work in the United States and Australia on more or less rich deposits of copper ores. Of this immense capital, collected for the mining of copper ores, up to the present time it is not known that one single pound sterling has been invested in Chile.

"It is well known in nearly all the financial markets of the world that our copper mines are celebrated for their rich returns, nevertheless the enormous capital collected last year in London for investment in copper has not sought our copper-producing districts, which only await the assistance of capital to make them the most important factor in the production of copper in the world.

"What reasons prevent companies possessed of such valuable capital from making investments in our territory, they having been organized with the sole object of working copper ores, and here are found such ores in abundance and under such favorable conditions that no country can compete with them? The territory from Tacna to Magallanes, Chile, is covered with valuable minerals. The copper region contains more than 10,000 mines, among which are some whose richness and abundant production have made them especially notable and unexcelled, maintaining them in the front rank of the copper mines of the world. What European or American copper markets are not

acquainted with the rich copper centers of Tocopilla, Gatico, Cobija, Antofagasta, Chañaral, Puquíos, Cerro Blanco, Huasco, Vallenar, La Higuera, Tamaya, etc.?

"The money invested in Chile in copper properties is insignificant in comparison with the great abundance in which this mineral is found. With half of the subscribed capital of the English companies, Chile could produce more copper than all of the other copper-producing countries put together. We have great unexplored regions and many zones where, after careful and intelligent investigation, the richness of the ores has been established. In our copper district the ores are found in nearly all the forms known to nature, among which are sulphides, bronzes, etc.

"In the Provinces of the north of Chile, Antofagasta, Atacana, and Coquimbo, the greater part of the copper mines commence their workings with colored ores, which change with depth into black and gray bronzes, etc., and at a depth of from 100 to 250 meters into yellow bronzes."

EXPORTATION OF MANGANESE.

The manganese exports of Chile during the last ten years are estimated by the "Revista Comercial é Industrial de Minas," of Santiago, at 344,087 tons, having a valuation of $12,145,179 (Chilean). Of this sum $5,943,508 represents the cost of shipment to Europe, leaving $6,201,671 as profit to the producing country. The development of the manganese deposits of the Republic was begun in 1884, with an output of 4,324 tons. The quantity increased year by year until, in 1890, 50,000 tons represented Chile in the manganese market. From 1888 to 1898 the average output has been from 23,000 to 51,000 tons, though the last four years have been signalized by a falling off in the production without any apparent assignable cause. The periodical quoted considers that were cheap freight rates once obtainable between Chile and the manganese markets of the world this product would be an important factor in the wealth of the country.

IMPORTS OF CEMENT.

The "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels), of June 16, 1900, publishes the following information furnished by the Belgian Mission in Chile, on the imports of cement into that Republic:

"According to statistics the imports of Portland cement into Chile during the last few years indicate an average quantity of about 100,000 barrels per year. Work on the sewers at Concepcion are now being pursued and it is hoped that the Government will soon undertake the building of those at Santiago, an important work which will necessitate a demand for large quantities of this product.

"The yearly imports of the port of Talcahuano amount to from 15,000

to 20,000 barrels; those of Valparaiso from 40,000 to 60,000; those of Valdivia and Iquique from 5,000 to 15,000 barrels each. The importation in the ports of Talcahuano and Valdivia tend to increase owing to the important railway constructions which are being executed in the southern region, particularly the railway from Pitrufquen to Valdivia.

"The Chilean imports of cement in 1897 (101,000 barrels) came in most part from England, which furnished 60,000 barrels. Germany follows immediately after, with 35,000 barrels. Belgium, which comes third, only furnished 4,000 barrels, shipped to Valdivia.

"In 1898 the situation was very different. Of the 16,905,040 kilograms imported (91,500 barrels), worth 676,199 *pesos*, Germany furnished 56,300 barrels, worth 405,271 *pesos*, England 25,600, the United States 11,600, and Belgium 1,000 barrels only.

"Statistics for 1899 not yet having been published only those for the port of Valdivia are obtainable, where 41,199 barrels were unloaded, 27,569 of which came from Hamburg, 11,050 from London, and 2,580 from Antwerp. Not one barrel was shipped from the United States.

"These figures show clearly how rapidly Germany is gaining possession of this market at the expense of other countries, especially Belgium, whose imports of cement to other South American markets have been very considerable. Belgium furnishes three-fifths of the cement imported by Rio de Janeiro, or 118,000 barrels, per year. Even in Canada the Belgian imports exceeded 80,000 barrels, against 95,000 furnished by England. Belgian cement is also favorably known in Chile, and consequently its importation could be successfully attempted on a much larger scale.

"The above figures show that the commerce in Portland cement in Chile is almost exclusively in the hands of the English and Germans.

"The English cement "Best-Best," of WHITE BROS., is especially recommended in official calls for supplies, etc. The Burham brand of English cement is imported, but the consumption is much smaller than for the former brand. The Ciervo brand is also imported. As to Portland cement of German manufacture the Alsen brand finds the best market. Several attempts have been made to import Belgian cement under the same conditions as the brands named, but with little success.

"This failure is due in great part to the fact that the Government, which, through its public and maritime works, is the principal consumer of cement, stipulates in its call for furnishing of supplies, etc., in public works that the WHITE BROS. or Alsen brand be used. Consequently the contractors who are anxious to avoid annoyances, buy the brands recommended officially, even when they could obtain other cements at lower price. Accordingly, any new brand to obtain recognition must be accepted by the different technical services and be

mentioned in the calls for contracts of supplies under the same conditions as WHITE BROS. and Alsen cements.

"Shipments of cement are made in the following manner: In 1899, of 41,119 barrels imported, 23,400 were brought by steamers, 17,299 by sailing vessels, and the shipments are generally made in relatively small quantities—from 1,000 to 2,000 barrels—which is preferable for the quality of the material. German cement imported by steamers comes by the Kosmos Line, which stops at Antwerp, consequently the freight rates for Belgian cement are identical with those for the German product. As to shipments by sailing vessels, the situation is less advantageous on account of the irregular departures.

"In considering the cost price the following elements must be taken into consideration:

(1) The cost per barrel (180 kilometers) f. o. b.; (2) freight to Chile; (3) maritime insurance; (4) customs expenses; (5) unloading; (6) commission and interest.

"These different elements enter as follows in the cost price:

Price per barrel f. o. b. Antwerp	$6.40
Freight by steamer (20 *francs* per ton)	3.60
Maritime insurance (§ per cent on 10 *francs*)	.06
Duty (1.08 *pesos* gold, of 18 *pence*, per barrel)	1.97
Unloading (0.25 *pesos* per barrrel, or 0.25×1.71)	.42
Commission and interest	.30

"Last December cement was sold for 1 *peso* gold the barrel, payable at sixty days. Now the price is 9.50 *pesos* gold, but there it has a tendency to increase. Sometimes, however, the price falls to 8.50 *pesos* gold, and even for very large orders to 8 *pesos* gold. But in this last case the cement is immediately unloaded and sent in wagons to the place of destination, and there are no heavy storage expenses to be paid.

"It would be useless to try to sell cement here by means of commission agents, for it is indispensable to have the article on the spot and in large quantities.

"While English and German cements are now imported almost exclusively in Chile, there is no reason why cements manufactured in other countries could not in time compete successfully with these English and German brands."

LOCAL STEAMSHIP SERVICE AT PUNTA ARENAS.

The "Times," of Valparaiso, states that the Chilean Government has entered into a contract with Messrs. BRAUN and BLANCHARD, of Punta Arenas, for a steamship service between that port and the Argentine colonies of Rio Gallegos, Santa Cruz, and San Julian. The contractors obligate themselves to put four boats into the service and to make fortnightly voyages between Punta Arenas and Rio Gallegos and

monthly voyages between Punta Arenas and the other two colonies. Government employees and cargo, as well as the mails, are to be carried free. The contract is to run from May 3 till the end of the current year, and the contractors are to receive for their services a subvention of $20,000.

THE BARILOCHE PASS.

Señor BARRIOS, a Chilean explorer, recently arrived from one of his expeditions at Santiago and has furnished the press of that city some particulars of the Bariloche Pass in the Andes Mountains. He confirms the theory that this passageway opens out into Argentine territory. Señor BARRIOS states that he journeyed up the Relancari and Valverda rivers to a very broken country. From the Tronador Volcano, at a height of 1,800 meters, he discovered a valley which is quite accessible, and to the west of the volcano came upon some hot springs having a temperature varying from 23° to 52° Centigrade. The waters of these springs are strongly impregnated with lime, but no other mineral substance is particularly noticeable in their composition. A lake was also discovered, the outlet of whose waters is into Lake Mascardi.

CABLE AT PUNTA ARENAS.

A correspondent of the "South American Journal" says it appears that the rising port of Sandy Point during the year will be placed in communication with the rest of the Republic. A syndicate from the United States offers to lay a cable without asking any assistance from the State, but only under the supervision of the Government.

STUDY OF VINICULTURE.

The "Diario Oficial" of Santiago, in its issue of May 1, 1900, publishes a decree authorizing the sending of an agricultural engineer to Europe to study the preparation, treatment, and manufacture of wine. The expenses of this expert will be borne by the Government. While abroad he will visit the principal factories of Spain and Portugal, and will observe and carefully study the conditions in those countries with a view of applying them to viniculture in the district of Maule, in the south of Chile. On the return of the engineer a report will be submitted to the Department of Industry and Public Works embodying his views and recommendations regarding these subjects.

PATAGONIAN EXPLORING EXPEDITION.

The expedition which had been sent out by the Chilean Government in January of this year to southern Patagonia returned to Santiago on March 7. The members of the party were Dr. K. REICHE, Dr. R. PÖHLMANN, and Mr. Z. VERGARA. After reaching Punta Arenas on the

Straits of Magellan, Dr. REICHE went overland to the Bay Ultima Esperanza, from which point he commenced his botanical investigations in the neighboring Cordilleras. The Argentine expedition under Dr. HAUTHAL was at work at the same time.

UNITED STATES PATENTS GRANTED CHILEAN CITIZEN.

The United States Patent Office issued two patents (Nos. 653,270 and 653,271) on July 10, 1900, to JUAN TONKIN, Th., of Iquique, for "wave-power."

COSTA RICA.

REMOVAL OF OBSTRUCTIONS TO NAVIGATION.

A few years ago the rivers entering the Gulf of Nicoya were navigable for a considerable distance, and especially was this true of the Tempisque and Las Piedras rivers, but little by little their channels have been obstructed by the remains of large trees and the constant deposit of mud and sand brought down by the currents, so that at the present time steamers can not reach the ports of Bolsón and Bebedero, respectively situated on the rivers referred to. This has also happened to the lagoon of Puntarenas, so that now only vessels of light draft can frequent it. The damage to the commerce of the Republic on this account has been very great, and steps have been taken at different times to remove these obstacles to navigation without definite results. With this object in view the Congress of the nation, on June 5, 1900, adopted the following decree:

"ARTICLE 1. The Executive shall proceed to secure plans for the cleaning of the channel of Punta Arenas and of the rivers Tempisque and Las Piedras, either by means of bids or through the intervention of the General Government.

"ART. 2. Within a period of six months from the publication of this decree the plans for these improvements shall be completed.

"ART. 3. The Executive is authorized to incur the expenses which may be necessary for the formation of these plans and for their immediate execution.

"ART. 4. The lagoon and rivers being cleaned and deepened, the Executive shall buy two steamers suitable for quick and regular service of communication with the Province of Guanacaste."

The foregoing decree is published in "La Gaceta," official newspaper of the Government, in its issue of June 7, 1900.

REDUCTION OF TARIFF ON LUMBER.

The decree of the 21st of June, 1898, placed a heavy duty on lumber for construction purposes imported from abroad into the district

of Limon. At the time this law was enacted Congress had in view the protection of the lumber industry of the district, inasmuch as the native lumber, having to pay railroad freight, could not compete with the foreign article. It was thought, therefore, that by placing a duty on foreign lumber the home product would be preferred, provided prices were equal. Experience demonstrated, however, that the native lumber of the district of Limon was not sufficiently abundant; nor was it preferred to the foreign article, as it can not be compared with pine, since laurel, which is the only native lumber that could take the place of pine, sells at such a high price in the interior of the country that it was not marketable at Limon.

From the foregoing facts it was seen that this duty on foreign lumber was not only not beneficial to the lumber industry of the Republic, but, on the contrary, was very detrimental to the building interests of the district of Limon. Such being the case, Congress repealed the law of June 21, 1898, and, under date of June 7, 1900, enacted the following decree:

"ARTICLE 1. Three months after the enactment of this law the customs duties fixed by decree number 21 of the 21st of June, 1898, on all kinds of lumber imported for exclusive use in the district of Limon, shall be reduced one-half.

"ART. 2. The money which the decree referred to may have produced on account of the increased duties shall be paid to the 'Junta de Caridad' (Board of Public Charities), in order that it may be immediately invested in the construction of a new hospital."

ESTIMATE OF FOREIGN COMMERCE.

In a communication addressed to this Bureau, dated at San José, Costa Rica, Señor Don MANUEL ARAGÓN, honorary corresponding member of the International Union of American Republics, gives the following information:

"The exportation of coffee of the crop 1899–1900 has now nearly terminated. The amount has exceeded that of 1898–99, not only in respect to the quantity of coffee exported, which will be about 16,000,000 kilograms, but also the average price obtained in the sales in all of the markets shows an increase up to the present time over the prices obtained in the sales of the previous year of 20 per cent.

"The exportation of other products, such as bananas, rubber, hides, skins, mother-of-pearl, and dye and cabinet woods, promises to exceed those of the year 1899.

"The importations of foreign merchandise will be approximately equal to those of last year. As was the case last year, the imports from the United States amounted to over 50 per cent of the total importations."

ECUADOR.

CAPITAL OF PRINCIPAL BANKS.

The "Registro Oficial" (Official Register) of Quito, in its issue of May 9, 1900, contains some interesting figures showing the condition of the principal banks of the Republic. The banking center of Ecuador is Guayaquil, and the principal banks located there are the Agricultural and Commercial Bank and the Bank of Ecuador. From the figures above referred to, it appears that on the 30th of April last the assets of the former bank were $13,773,940.15, while those of the latter were $7,151,837.16.

AWARD OF RAILROAD CONTRACT.

A press dispatch dated July 9, 1900, states that the firm of Messrs. J. P. McDonald & Co., of 35 Nassau street, New York City, had just been notified that it had been awarded the contract to build sections of the Guayaquil and Quito Railway in Ecuador for the Ecuadorian Association of Scotland. The contract price is $16,000,000. The road will be 300 miles in length, and will extend through the Andes Mountains. The present road of 57 miles will be used, but will have to be reconstructed. For the first 100 miles the work will be very heavy, being mostly side-hill and rock work, when an altitude of about 12,000 feet will be reached on the plateau of the Andes. The route will continue on this plateau for about two-thirds of the distance. It is proposed to build a first-class road in every detail, having a 42-inch gauge. About 80,000 yards of masonry work will be needed. Profiles and estimates may be seen at the company's office. Mr. McDonald expects to leave for Ecuador early in August and wishes to have the subcontractors go with him so that the work may be undertaken with the utmost facility.

At the May meeting of the "Engineering Association of the South," held at Nashville, Tennessee, a paper was read entitled "The Guayaquil and Quito Railway of Ecuador, South America," by Mr. John Y. Bayliss, engineer on location and construction. A vivid description was given of the great obstacles to be overcome in the construction of the road. This road rises 11,700 feet in 200 miles, and has 50 miles of continuous 4 per cent grade.

GUATEMALA.

NEW MINING LAW.

"El Guatemalteco," in its issue No. 61, dated May 7, 1900, publishes the following important decree:

"All mining enterprises established or to be established in Gautemala within two years shall have from this date and for the next fifteen years the following concessions:

"(1) All the machinery and utensils which are not manufactured in the country and are necessary for the discovery or operation of mines shall be exempt from fiscal and municipal duties. The invoices shall be certified by the Department of Public Works.

"(2) Mining properties shall only be subject to the taxes or duties called 'Territorial contribution,' which is 6 per 1,000. The exportation of all mineral products is free from any duty, fiscal or municipal.

"(3) The freight rates of national railroads shall not be augmented for mining enterprises; they shall remain as established as long as this depends upon the Government.

"(4) All employees and laborers in the active service of mines shall be exempt from any public employment, and also from military service in time of peace.

"(5) Mining enterprises are authorized to improve the actual roads and to construct new ones according to the law of expropriation and the law of railroads.

"(6) Local and departmental authorities shall lend all possible assistance to mining enterprises, and shall give the necessary protection to those already in operation.

"(7) In case there should be immigration for mining enterprises, all immigrants shall enjoy exemption from taxes and imposts stipulated in the immigration law in the second and third paragraphs of the eleventh article.

"(8) All the above concessions shall last for fifteen years, even if the fiscal and mining laws of the Republic should be reformed."

The Bureau of the American Republics has received an important communication from Señor Rafael Montúfar, Honorary Corresponding Member of the International Union of American Republics, in which he refers to the new mining law of Guatemala in the following terms:

"For a better understanding of the terms of the law referred to, I will say that mines in Guatemala, when they are of gold, silver, copper, platinum, mercury, lead, zinc, bismuth, cobalt, nickel, tin, antimony, arsenic, iron, manganese, molybdenum, and coal, belong exclusively to the nation, provided that works and operations for

their exploitation, which are required, would classify them as belonging to the mining industry.

"The nation also owns the salt mines, petroleum, and other fossil substances and combustible minerals that may be found on Government lands, even though these become, at some future time, private property.

"Mines form a kind of real property distinct and separate from that of lands or superficial surface, although the former and the latter may belong to the same owner. They are acquired by means of a procedure begun before the Department of Finance, or the "Jefatura politica" (Governor) of the district where the mines are located, by denouncement or request of concession, as the case may be. The spirit of the Spanish laws is that which stills governs with respect to this subject."

In the communication referred to, Señor MONTÚFAR also states that the Government of Guatemala has declared fresh fruits of the country free from all local exportation duties, thus modying the first article of the governmental decree which placed a duty on the exportation of bananas of 10 cents a bunch.

The foregoing decree was published on the 18th of last May in issue number 71 of the official publication, "El Guatemalteco."

NEW IMMIGRATION LAW.

The Bureau of the American Republics has received copies of the immigration, expropriation, railway, and labor laws of the Republic of Guatemala, the following being a summary of the first named:

The immigration law says that there shall not be contracted for as immigrants, nor shall there be accepted as such, citizens of the Celestial Empire, nor those from any other country who may be more than 60 years old. Neither shall there be accepted as immigrants persons who may have been convicted of any crime in their respective countries. With the object of encouraging immigration the Government of the Republic will grant to the immigrants who may come not under contract the following assistance and franchises:

"(1) The payment of their maritime passage from the port of embarkation. Should it be considered desirable the payment of the land passage from the place of the immigrant's former residence to the port of embarkation is also allowable.

"(2) Exemption from the payment of importation duties on jewelry for personal use, wearing apparel, furniture for domestic uses, agricultural instruments, tools, utensils of the arts or professions followed, seeds, and domestic animals, provided they are for immediate and daily use and are not considered to be articles of trade or commerce.

"(3) Exemption from the payment of consular fees, including the

passports and certificates with which they shall be provided, and in which shall be expressed their condition as emigrants.

"The immigrants belonging to the first and third classes shall be transported for account of the private companies and of the Government, respectively, to their respective destinations."

EXPORTATION TAX ON CATTLE.

"El Guatemalteco," official organ of the Republic, in its issue of June 11, 1900, publishes the following important decree relative to the exportation of cattle:

"ARTICLE I. The tax upon each head of bovine cattle which is exported from the ports or frontiers of the Republic is increased from this date to $70.

"ART. II. The second subdivision of the act of the 28th of July last remains in force and is as follows: The violators of this article are subject to the confiscation of their cattle, which shall be sold at public auction, and the product of the sale divided into two parts, viz: One in favor of the Government revenue, and the other in favor of those who shall bring about such confiscation."

HAITI.

PROPOSED GOLD BONDS.

The Bureau of the American Republics has received, through the Department of State, a copy of a proposed law of the Republic of Haiti making the bonds and interest of the sinking fund, as they fall due, payable in gold instead of paper currency as heretofore.

The proposed law, while it reduces the face value of the bonds, increases their intrinsic value, eliminates with respect to this security the violent fluctuations in exchange which have occurred during the past three years, and makes them a much more desirable class of bonds. The old bonds are to be exchanged for new ones at the rate of $66\frac{2}{3}$ cents on the dollar; that is to say, the holder of a one hundred dollar bond will receive in exchange for it another bond of a face value of $\$66\frac{2}{3}$.

ADOPTION OF THE GOLD STANDARD.

Under date of June 12, 1900, Hon. WILLIAM F. POWELL, United States Minister to Haiti, sends a communication from Port au Prince to the Department of State at Washington, in which he says he is informed that the Government of Haiti has adopted the gold standard. Furthermore, he states that the unit of value is to be the gold dollar of the United States.

HONDURAS.

MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT.

"El Pabellón de Honduras," semiofficial organ of the Republic, publishes in No. 57 of its regular edition the message that Gen. Terencio Sierra, President of the Republic, delivered to the National Congress at the opening of the special session on the 17th of May, 1900. Some of the paragraphs of this message are as follows:

"A matter of the greatest interest to the nation has caused the Government to call you together in a special session. On seeing you assembled in this place, it is my duty to salute you with that deference and consideration that is due to the representatives of the people gathered together in this case to solve a problem upon which all Hondureneans have placed the most flattering hopes for the welfare of the Republic.

* * * * * * *

"In 1897 the Government approved a (railroad) contract, the fulfillment of which had been begun by both parties, but whose operations were suspended in 1898. In 1899 the syndicate submitted other propositions to take the place of the first contract, which it considered impracticable. In my message to you of January 1 of the present year, I expressed the hope of reaching a reasonable and equitable settlement upon the bases under discussion, but the desired agreement not being arrived at, the representative of the syndicate submitted to the Government new conditions more worthy of consideration, and which, after a careful examination, were accepted. The Minister of Public Works will furnish you the particulars of the contract referred to.

"All the Republics of Central America, with the exception of our own, have railways which, starting from the interior of the respective countries, terminate at one of their ports. It is necessary, then, to pay particular attention to an enterprise which offers facilities for the development of our national wealth. The arrangement referred to embodies conditions that insures this object.

"The peace that we enjoy enables us to realize the advantages of all kinds of progress within the nation. The increase of immigration, the invetment of foreign capital, the demand for lands for new plantations, other propositions concerning railway and navigation companies, the exploitation of mines and forests, and, above all, the increase in production augur prosperous times for the Republic.

"A railway like that contemplated in the contract, then, will stimulate new industries, and, in addition, will protect those already established. Confidence in the business of the Republic has doubtless con-

tributed to the settlement of the differences that existed between the Executive and the syndicate. Even though the railway line referred to should only go to Comayagua, extending through a fertile territory and facilitating the shipment of national products, positive advantages would be obtained from it, since it would place the interior of the nation within easy and rapid communication with the Atlantic.

* * * * * * *

"I am confident that the National Congress will duly consider the proposed plans, and, having in view the welfare of the country, will approve the contract made with the syndicate, provided the same is deemed satisfactory."

BUDGET FOR 1900–1901.

The new customs tariff of Honduras, published in "La Gaceta" of May 13, will be put in force the 1st of next August.

Congress has fixed the budget for the year 1900–1901 at 2,423,000 pesos. The principal sources of the revenue are the following:

Customs	$970,000
Duties on alcohol	800,000
Lotteries and port dues	125,000
Stamp	75,000
Duties on liquors	60,000

IMPORTANT RAILWAY CONTRACT.

"La Gaceta," official newspaper of the Republic, in its number 1880, publishes the railway contract entered into between the Government of Honduras and Señor Marco Aurelio Soto, ex-President of the Republic, for the construction of a railway from the port of Trujillo to Olanchito, and for the navigation of the Aguan River and its tributaries. The more important articles of this agreement are the following:

"The concessionaire agrees to construct, at his own expense, a railroad of the Decauville or a better system between the places indicated. For the construction of this railway the Government cedes to the concessionaire a roadbed 150 English feet wide, regardless of whether the land it occupies be national or private property. In the latter case the Government will expropriate it, but will pay only the value of the land; the value of the buildings or other improvements that may be upon the lands shall be paid by the concessionaire. When the railway passes through cities, towns, villages, or habitations already established, the width of the roadbed already mentioned shall be reduced one-half.

"Within the period of one year from the date of the approval of this contract, the concessionaire shall make, at his own expense, a preliminary survey of the railway line, and shall submit in due form a

plan or map of said survey to the Executive for his approval. Upon the approval of the preliminary plan by the Executive, the concessionaire shall commence the work of construction of the railway within the six months following the date of the approval of the plan or map, and said railway shall be completed within two years thereafter, unless unavoidable circumstances or *force majeure*, legally proven by the concessionaire, should prevent its completion.

"The railway on being opened to public service shall be properly equipped and sufficiently provided with motive power, passenger and freight cars, tools and other necessary accessories.

"Government officials, employees, and workmen, civil as well as military, the Army, the Government mails, the official or private correspondence which the Government transmits, munitions of war, and funds of the Nation, shall be transported in regular trains free of charge.

"The concessionaire shall have the right to operate said railway, in whole or in part, while under construction and after being opened to public service, for the transportation of passengers and the hauling of freight, in conformity with the following conditions:

"1. The concessionaire shall prepare and publish its rules as well as its freight and passenger tariffs.

"2. The tariff shall not designate higher rates than those now charged by the present railroad line between Puerto Cortés and La Pimienta for the hauling of a ton of freight per mile or the transportation of a passenger per mile.

"3. The rates of the freight tariff on the products of Honduras shall be as low as possible consistent with a reasonable compensation for the service rendered, the risk assumed, and the capital invested, but in no case shall the concessionaire be obliged to transport said products or any other freight or passengers for less than the cost of the service plus 25 per cent.

"4. The public shall be advised of the rules and tariff of said railway by placing them in all of the stations on the line, and by publishing them in full once a month in the official newspaper. The changes in the tariff shall be published in the same manner.

"5. The concessionaire shall not be permitted to show any preference or favoritism to any person or company whatever, the tariff being applicable to all alike except as stated in article 7. It is understood that the concessionaire and all of the employees of the company shall be subject to the laws of Honduras, and shall enjoy the same civil rights as Hondureneans.

"At the expiration of fifty years, counting from the approval of the contract, the Government shall have the right to buy the railway and its accessories, one year's advice being given the concessionaire, in writing, of its intention so to do. Should the Government not deem

it advisable to purchase the railway at the time specified, it can do so at the expiration of any period of five years following.

"If the concessionaire should not complete the railway within the time and manner agreed, the rights granted him by this contract, inasmuch as they refer to that part of the line, shall be forfeited.

"For the construction and maintenance of the railway the Government grants to the concessionaire the following rights, exemptions, and privileges:

"1. The exclusive right of navigation in the Aguan river for twenty-five years from the approval of the contract.

"2. The right to the use of such timber and Government lands as may be necessary for the construction and maintenance of the railway, with the exception of mahogany, cedar, and any other cabinet dye-woods.

"3. The concessionaire shall also have the right to use the construction material which may be found upon Government lands, such as stone, lime, etc.

"4. The right to construct and maintain, at his own expense, telegraphic and telephonic lines for the use of the company.

"5. The free use of the motive power obtained from streams of water adjacent to the railway.

"6. The right to denounce and acquire the mines that may be discovered within a distance of 1,000 meters on each side of the roadbed of the main line and its branches.

"7. The concessionaire shall receive, after the railway mentioned has been constructed and opened to traffic, 6,500 hectares of Government lands.

"8. The use of the Government lands that may be necessary for the construction of docks, wharves, landings, offices, stations, shops, and warehouses for the use of the railway.

"9. Exemption from Federal and municipal taxes, regular or special, inasmuch as they relate to the construction and maintenance of the railway.

"10. Exemption in time of peace from military service and from military drill of its registered employees; and in time of war of those employees who, in the judgment of the Government, may be necessary to the operation of the road.

"11. The right to import into the country, free of customs duties and of fiscal and municipal taxes, the machinery, cars, rails, tools, dynamite and other explosives, and in general of all those materials necessary for the construction, equipment, maintenance, administration, and operation of the railway and of its branches; nevertheless this concession does not include articles whose importation is monopolized or prohibited by law.

"12. The right of importing into the country for employment upon

the works of the railway the workmen that may be necessary, with the exception of Chinese, coolies, and negroes; but these latter may be admitted under a special previous arrangement with the Government.

"The Government agrees not to grant any concession whatever for the construction of any railway line parallel to that of Trujillo to Olanchito within a distance of twenty-five miles from either side of the same.

"The Government grants to the concessionaire the right of preference in the construction of branch railways to such points as may be deemed desirable."

INCREASED TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES.

Congress was convened in extraordinary session the 17th of last May to deliberate upon a new convention, concluded the 5th of that month, between the Government and the Hondurian Syndicate. In 1897 a contract was concluded with this syndicate for the construction of the interoceanic railway. Work was suspended in 1898, and in 1899 the syndicate proposed the annulling of the contract, which it judged impracticable, and the substitution of another one; negotiations have just been terminated, and Congress will have to discuss the new contract, which has for object the leasing of the first section of the railway from Puerto-Cortes to La Pimienta and the construction of the new line, starting from the river Ulua and ending at the Bay of Fonseca.

The time does not seem far distant when Honduras, which was the first State of Central America to have a railroad, will see its territory covered by a good system of railroads and its rivers plied by numerous steamers. The Government has lately granted concessions (several of which are mentioned in the present issue of the MONTHLY BULLETIN) for the navigation by steam or any other motive power of the Patuca, Ulua, Humaya, Chamelecon, Sulaca, and Agnan rivers, as well as for the construction of a railway from the Ulua to the Guayape, in the rich Department of Yoro, and of another between the port of Trujillo and Olanchito, in the Department of Colon. A few weeks ago provisionary contracts were concluded for the establishment of lines between the ports of Omoa and Trujillo and from Omoa to the Rio Molagua, on the Guatemala frontier. All these railways will serve very important interests, and the one from Trujillo to Omoa, extending over nearly two-thirds of the coast of the Caribbean Sea, will give a greater impetus to the banana industry already flourishing in the northern part of Honduras.

The opening of the different ways of communication and the maintenance of peace will greatly aid in the development of the agricultural and mining industries, will favor the immigration of colonists

and foreign capital, and completely change the face of the country, making it one of the most prosperous States of Central America.

NAVIGATION AND MINING CONCESSION.

The "Pabellon" and "La Gaceta," of Tegucigalpa, both publish the text of a concession granted to EDWARD H. BURKE, representing THOMAS P. CHAMBERS, ALEXANDER CHAMBERS, and ROBERT ALEXANDER, of the State of Pennsylvania, United States. This grants the right for the construction of a railroad between the rivers Sulaca and Comagua and the exclusive right of navigating the rivers Uhia, Humaya, Chamelecon, Sulaco, and their tributaries for a period of twenty-five years; also the exclusive privilege of dredging said rivers for the gold that may be found in their channels. Besides these privileges and exclusive rights, there is a moderate land grant with a first claim on all mines which may be located within two years for a distance of 500 meters on each side of the line of their railroad and 1,000 meters on each side of the river Sulaco.

HONORARY CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF THE BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

The MONTHLY BULLETIN is pleased to announce that there has been added to the list of Honorary Corresponding Members of the Bureau of the American Republics the name of Señor Don E. CONSTANTINO FIALLOS, of Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

Señor FIALLOS is one of the ablest statesmen of that Republic, is a member of the President's Cabinet, and is widely and favorably known throughout the whole of Central America as a scholar and distinguished writer. He was educated at Columbia College, New York, is an accomplished linguist, and a civil engineer of national repute. He was an attaché of the Pan-American Congress in 1889, and about that time delivered an address upon Central America before the Unity Club of New York, which was widely quoted and favorably commented upon.

From time to time the Bureau will be favored with contributions from his pen relating to Honduras, which will be published in due course. An interesting sketch of his life and works will appear in a future edition of the BULLETIN.

MEXICO.

REELECTION OF PRESIDENT DÍAZ.

The electoral colleges of the Republic of Mexico met in the various State capitals on July 9, 1900, and cast their votes for the reelection of Gen. PORFIRIO DÍAZ as President. President DÍAZ will reenter

upon the performance of his official duties for four years from the 1st day of December, 1900.

NEW MAP OF MEXICO.

The Bureau of the American Republics will shortly publish a map of the United Mexican States, compiled from official and other sources, and giving information only found scattered about in a number of special maps not accessible to the general public. The map, which is on a scale of 50 miles to the inch, besides the physical and political geography of Mexico, indicates all the mining districts with the nature of the mines worked, the roadways and railways, telegraph lines, principal areas of culture, and other data of general interest. The principal authorities used in its compilation are:

(1) United States Navy hydrographic charts.

(2) Official map of Sonora, by C. E. Herbert. 1885.

(3) Carta General de la República Mexicana, formada en el Ministerio de Fomento. 1890.

(4) Carta Minera de la República Mexicana, fundada por disposición del Secretario de Fomento. 1893.

(5) Carta General del Estado de San Luis Potosí. 1894.

(6) Carta de Comunicaciones de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos, 1895, 1896, 1899.

(7) Carta Geográfica General de la República Mexicana.

FRENCH REPORT ON MEXICAN FOREIGN COMMERCE.

Mr. Charles Stephan, a member of the Board of Trade of France residing abroad, says, in a report on the foreign commerce of Mexico during the second quarter of 1899, the fear of a commercial crisis is gradually subsiding, now that the equilibrium between the imports and exports is gradually being restored.

"The imports of mineral products show the greatest increase, with machinery and implements closely following. The mineral products from abroad, in the order of their importance, include iron and steel, lime and Portland cement, talc, paints, gold, platinum, copper, tin, and gratings in wrought iron. The latter find a large sale, because the houses are low structures, necessitating the guarding of the windows from intruders.

"The imports of machinery and apparatus naturally denote progress in the local industries which employ these aids. The greater proportion of such commodities imported is, however, destined for the use of the numerous railways which are being built in every section of the country and for electrical installations, either for street illumination or for the propulsion of street cars, both of which are daily increasing and in which Mexico is more advanced than many older

countries. Chicago and Philadelphia companies hold a majority of the concessions for electric lighting and electric traction. Next in importance in importations to arc and incandescent lights come electric batteries, scientific instruments, and agricultural machinery. United States manufacturers practically monopolize this trade. They have established depots at various points in the Republic where their machinery can be seen and where they give practical demonstrations when desired; they also advertise, send traveling men, distribute catalogues in Spanish, etc.

"Mexico is above all an agricultural country which will yield great profits to companies undertaking its development. Several large German syndicates have been organized which send competent engineers and others able to appreciate the importance and wealth of the country who buy land for the syndicates which in turn sends colonists from Germany to develop their purchases.

"At first it seems astonishing in a country where the textile industry is as advanced as it is in Mexico, that the imports of fibers and their manufactures, either as cloth or clothing, should continue to increase. This is due to the growth in prosperity and consequently to the increased demands. To-day the representatives of the Mexican middle class are no longer satisfied with cotton and percale clothing, which they leave for the Indians. This explains the importance of the orders for clothing of good quality which are given in Europe. Nevertheless the local industry is gradually increasing the number of its manufactured articles, and the time is not far distant when even silks will be made in Mexico, and France will lose one of its most profitable markets. Besides this, the Government is greatly encouraging the cultivation of the silk worm, which has been entirely successful in several States, especially in Michoacan. While a Frenchman was the promoter of this industry, it would now appear that the United States will reap the benefits.

"This great increase in importations, due to competition and progress in the local industries, naturally results in decreased prices, and consequently in increased consumption, thereby removing all fears of a commercial crisis, wrongly inspired by the fact that at first the local production was believed to exceed the capacity for consumption.

"The exports of mineral products last year show a decrease. But it must not be thought by this that the mineral wealth of Mexico is exhausted. This momentary decline is due only to the change from local to foreign companies, the latter having bought gold-bearing lands that are now in the first stages of development, and consequently the yield is as yet unimportant. The exportation of copper has increased enormously, counterbalancing the decline in the exportation of silver, which, owing to decreased production is accountable for the falling off in the value of mineral exports produced during the quarter."

COTTON MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

"El Correo de Sonora," of Guaymas, State of Sonora, in its issue of June 20, 1900, contains an interesting article upon the cotton industry of Mexico, based on data furnished by Mr. Edward Garcynski, of which the following is an extract:

The State of Veracruz, due to the factories at Orizaba, occupies at the present time the first place in this important industry. The annual consumption of raw cotton in this State is 10,743,482 pounds, and the yearly sales of the manufactured article, as reported to the Treasury Department as a basis for taxation, amount to $6,664,983.

The State of Puebla now occupies the second place in the textile industry, but in a few years, on account of the great activity and large improvements now being made at Atlixco, will probably outstrip Veracruz and rise to the first place among the cotton manufacturing States of the Republic. In this State alone the consumption of raw cotton is 7,994,225 pounds annually, the yearly sales amounting to $3,931,724. These figures show that the cotton goods of this State do not bring as high prices as those of the State of Veracruz.

The third place belongs to the Federal District, where the annual consumption of raw cotton amounts to 4,862,756 pounds, and the annual sales to $2,812,511. It is doubtful, however, whether the Federal District will be able to maintain the third place in importance in this rapidly growing industry, as the numerous waterfalls in the near by State of Mexico makes that State especially suited to the development of this class of industry. These waterfalls are capable of generating an immense quantity of electrical power at the lowest possible cost, thereby attracting capital and making the operation of cotton mills both profitable and inexpensive as compared with less favored places.

The utilizing of the falls of Tenancingo for the generating of electrical power and the conducting of this force to the City of Mexico for use in that great manufacturing center has been a subject of discussion for a number of years, but up to the present time no satisfactory definite results have been accomplished. A factory could easily be established at the falls of Tenango, which has railroad connection with Toluca, the beautiful capital of the State of Mexico, and at some future time this will undoubtedly be done.

The other principal cotton manufacturing States, in the order of their importance, are as follows: Guanajuato, yearly consumption, 3,732,416 pounds; annual sales, $1,381,364. Coahuila, yearly consumption, 3,520,024 pounds; annual sales, $1,692,435. Jalisco, yearly consumption, 2,520,843 pounds; annual sales, $1,119,089.

The "Diario Oficial" of the City of Mexico, in its issue (No. 41), dated June 16, 1900, publishes a complete list of the cotton, yarn, and

cloth mills in operation in the Republic, together with the names of the proprietors and their post-office addresses. The stamp taxes which these 138 mills pay into the National Treasury every six months amount to $935,249.75, Mexican currency.

POWER OF ATTORNEY.

The MONTHLY BULLETIN is indebted to the courtesy of Mr. W. E. MERRISS, of New York City, for the following useful information regarding the procedure necessary to be followed in the legalization of powers of attorney made in the United States for use in Mexico, an extract of which is as follows:

"The first thing necessary to be done is to have the signature of the notary certifying to the power of attorney attested by the clerk of the court and the signature of the latter certified to by the Mexican Consul. The power of attorney is then sent to the City of Mexico, where the signature of the Mexican Consul in the United States must be attested by the Department of Foreign Relations, for which service a fee of $4.20 is charged. The English power of attorney must then be translated into Spanish. The original power and the translation are presented in court, and the court appoints an expert to certify to the correctness of the translation. The charges for the translation and its certification will be approximately $1.50 per page. The translation being certified to and correct, the court then orders the protocolization of the power before a notary. This requires about one page of the notary's protocol, and costs at the rate of $1 per page in stamps. The notary then issues a notarial deed, or *testimonio*, of the power, retaining the original and translation on his protocol. For this service a fee is charged, which varies in amount from $10 to $25, in addition to which there is a charge for revenue stamps of 50 cents for each leaf (not page) of the translation, and $2 per leaf for each leaf of the original; also $1 per leaf for each leaf of the *testimonio*. One typewritten page is equal to about three pages of manuscript.

"If the power of attorney is to be used at the place where it is issued, then the issuance of this *testimonio* completes it. If it is to be used elsewhere, then the notary's signature must be attested by the signatures of three notaries of the place, and these three signatures must be attested by the Governor of the Federal District if it is done in Mexico, or by the Governor of the State if it is done elsewhere, and the power is then valid in all parts of the Republic. This certification by the notaries and by the Governor of the Federal District, or by the Governor of the State, as the case may be, will cost $5.

"For the transfer of property the attorneys in fact will appear before a notary with a memorandum of the contract which they wish to sign. This contract in Spanish, with its necessary additions of form and phraseology, is spread upon the protocol of the notary, who

charges $1 per leaf for the space occupied in the protocol and an additional charge of from $20 to $40 for his fees. In order to make the document absolutely valid a certificate of freedom from incumbrance should be secured from the Public Registrar in the place where the property is located. The cost of this certificate will be from $10 to $20, in accordance to the search made, whether for five, ten, or twenty years back. In addition to this the notary must charge for revenue stamps at the rate of $7 per thousand upon the amount named in the transfer. The notary then issues a *testimonio* to one or both of the interested parties, as requested, and the charge for this is again $1 per leaf in revenue stamps.

"The *testimonio* should then be sent to the public registrar of the locality in which the property is situated in order that the deed may be recorded, which costs 50 cents in internal-revenue stamps. The document is then valid before the courts or any other authorities in the State where issued. If it is to be used elsewhere in the Republic, then it should be sent to the Governor of the State in order to have the signatures of the notary and recorder attested.

"The amounts named in the foregoing are Mexican currency."

PEÑOLES MINING COMPANY'S LOCOMOTIVES.

"Modern Machinery," of Chicago, in its issue of July 1, 1900, contains the following interesting article concerning locomotives now in use on the Peñoles Mining Company's railroad:

"In general practice a 90-foot grade is considered heavy, but a certain Mexican mine road has 13½ per cent grade, or 712.8 feet per mile. Of course it is not dependent on adhesion alone, but is combined with a rack rail. Three engines have been built for this road by the Baldwin Locomotive Works. The road is 2 feet 6 inches gauge, and runs from Mapimi, Mexico, back into the silver mining district of the adjacent mountains, and is used in getting the ore to the smelter. The grade varies from 9 to 13.6 per cent on the rack portion of the road, which is about 3 miles long, the Abt system of rack being employed.

"The engine weighs 26 tons in working order, and can push 18 tons up the maximum grade at 6 miles an hour. This load is usually made up of three cars, two empty and the third loaded with supplies. Coming down the mountain it can control a load of 36 tons on the worst grade. Two of the driving axles have clutches, which can lock the carrying wheels so the locomotive can be used as a regular engine for switching at the terminals."

COLONIZATION CONCESSIONS.

A correspondent of the South American Journal reports that the Department of Encouragement has granted Messrs. MacManus &

MACEDO a colonization concession, of which the following are the principal clauses:

Within five years, counted from the promulgation of the concession, the new concessionaires bind themselves to settle on their land in equal proportions at least 300 colonists in addition to those already established thereon. All the colonists are to be from other countries, but preference is to be given to colonists of Mexican origin—from the States of California and Colorado and the Territories of Arizona and New Mexico—in the United States. If the colonists are of a different nationality, said nationality must previously be approved by the Department of Fomento.

By "colonist" is understood any male or female over twelve years of age, and a colonist shall be said to have been established when he has commenced to cultivate the soil or to practice any trade or industry on the land devoted to the colonists.

The concessionaires bind themselves to provide each agricultural colonist, through gift or otherwise, with a plot of ground for cultivation not less than 5 hectares in area, as well as a lot upon which to construct a house.

The concessionaires also bind themselves to deed to the Government and municipal authorities in all the colonies that they may establish the land necessary for streets, plazas, drives, and cemeteries, as well as for the erection of public buildings, including schools, hospitals and prisons.

The concession carries, with the customary privileges as to exemption from specified taxes and certain import duties, freedom from military service, etc., as provided by the laws of the Republic.

The lands which are to be colonized under this concession are situated in the State of Chihuahua.

A dispatch to the "New York Commercial," dated City of Mexico, July 8, 1900, states that Baron DE MONCHEUR, the Belgian Minister to Mexico, made an extended trip a few months since through the agricultural regions of the Pacific Coast of the Republic of Mexico. He stated that the object of his trip was to select a location for the establishment of a colony of several thousand Belgian farmers. Further, that a rich agricultural district of the State of Jalisco has been decided upon as the territory upon which the colonists shall be located, and that the first installment of colonists will arrive from Belgium within the next few weeks.

THE LUMIJA PLANTATION.

The Lumija plantation, on the Tulija River, in the State of Chiapas, is reported to be one of the most fertile spots in the Republic of Mexico. This plantation is now being vigorously developed, and it is expected that within the present year about 250 acres will be planted

in coffee trees, 200 acres in rubber plants, and that 5,000 new lemon trees and 10,000 new orange trees will be set out. Ginger plants, vanilla, pineapples, and other tropical fruits and vegetation is native to this soil, and much space will be devoted to their cultivation.

PATENT BOOK-SEWING MACHINE.

A patent has been issued to WILLIAM P. HEALY, of the United States, covering a sewing machine to be used in the binding of books. The inventor of this machine is Mr. FREDERICK P. ROSBACK, who ceded his rights to Mr. HEALY.

EXPORTS OF HENEQUEN FROM PROGRESO.

There were 38,998 bales of henequen shipped from the port of Progreso, State of Yucatan, during the month of April last. The weight of this henequen was 6,284,740 kilograms, and the average price obtained was 34 cents, Mexican, per kilogram, or a total value of $2,136,811.60, Mexican silver. The following figures show the exports from Mexico, during the month of April, since 1896, inclusive:

Year.	Number of bales.	Weight in kilograms.
1896	30,479	5,048,165
1897	26,829	4,461,250
1898	38,415	6,338,453
1899	43,530	7,075,447

PURCHASES OF RIVER STEAMERS.

Three steamers, for use in the navigation of some of the larger rivers of the State of Veracruz, have been ordered in Chicago. These will be used for the betterment of the service on the Coatzacoalcos and other rivers. Plans, together with the wood and iron work, for the construction of five small steamers in the State of Veracruz will be sent from Chicago. It is also reported that the State of Tabasco will purchase a number of small steamers in the United States for use on the Usumacinta River.

PATENTS FOR UNITED STATES CITIZENS.

Messrs. C. S. BURT & Co., Limited, have been granted a patent for twenty years on an apparatus invented by them for the burning of green bagasse. Mr. HORACE F. BROWN has also obtained a patent for twenty years for improvements on ore-reduction furnaces. The decrees authorizing these patents are published in the "Diario Oficial" of June 6 of the present year.

PRODUCTION OF ORANGES IN JALISCO.

Coronel A. V. TEMPLE, Commercial Agent of the Mexican Central Railway, who visited the large orange plantations of Atotonilco and Ayo,

situated in the State of Jalisco, in the famous La Barca district, reports that the next orange corp in the places mentioned will be better than that which has just been gathered. From Atotonilco it is estimated that this year's shipments will amount to about 400 cars, while the shipments from Ayo probably will not be less than 125 cars. In other places in the State of Jalisco considerable quantities of this fruit will be gathered, a large amount of which has already been contracted for in the United States at better prices than those obtained last year.

COMMERCE OF THE PACIFIC STATES.

In a recent article regarding commercial developments in Mexico and Central America the "Iron Age" has the following with regard to western Mexico:

"The port of Mazatlan is rapidly coming to the front as the most important on the Pacific coast of Mexico. With a population of only 30,000, it does a business of many millions monthly in general imports and exports. Fully $1,000,000 in silver bars is shipped out monthly. These ingots are valued at $1,000 to $1,200 apiece, and are obtained principally from the now celebrated district of Culiacan and Tapia, in the Sierra Madre. The United States gets only a little over 25 per cent of the importations at Mazatlan, fully 70 per cent being represented by Germany. Lately steamer connection has been made with Germany, Chile, and even China, through the Kosmos and other German lines. There is little business between Mazatlan and the other portions of the Republic, the mountain ranges proving an insuperable barrier. Down the coast the next point of activity is not reached till we get to Salina Cruz, the western terminus of the Tehuantepec Railway. The Pearson Company are making preparations to dredge and generally deepen this harbor and that of Coatzacoalcos, on the Mexican Gulf. Practically no expense will be spared to make this interoceanic line a through route, where merchandise can be sent across the Isthmus and reshipped within twenty-four hours after disembarkation, and at a rate not exceeding $8 per ton. * * * To make the eastern approach more accessible, the same company have just purchased the Alvarado Railroad to run in connection with La Compania de Navegacion on the Papaloapam River. This company have over a dozen steamers, three new ones having just arrived from England. The tobacco districts of San Andres Tuxtla and El Valle Nacional are reached by the new line. It is in this district that the San Cristobal sugar plantations and refineries are situated, and it is here that a million and a half dollars have been spent in the latest sugar machinery. The Rio Mauso Company, a Scotch concern, have also spent £80,000 ($389,320) in machinery and general improvements on the plantation at Playa Vicinte. Americans in this section seem to have turned their attention more to rubber, ramie, and coffee culture. The soil could not be

more fertile, but all foreigners can not stand the moist heat of the region. The Vera Cruz and Pacific Railway has lately contracted with the Pennsylvania Steel Company, of Steelton, Pennsylvania, for nearly a quarter of a million dollars' worth of bridge material."

PATENT FOR PRESERVATION OF BOILERS.

Benjamin Peña, a citizen of Mexico, has applied for a patent from the Government on his discovery of a vegetable compound, on which he has worked for thirty years, for the preservation of boilers from calcareous erosion. A correspondent of the "South American Journal" says that two working plants, one in San Luis Potosi and the other in Durango, will soon be erected for the manufacture of this composition.

WAGON FACTORY AT IRAPUATO.

Messrs. Ramon Rivera Nieto and Refugio Agualera, well-known Mexican capitalists, who obtained a concession some time ago for the establishment of a coach and wagon factory at Irapuato, Mexico, will soon have it completed. These gentlemen have invested over $200,000 in the enterprise. Skilled workmen will be employed.

SALE OF A SUGAR PLANTATION.

One of the largest sugar plantations in Mexico, located near the Mexico, Cuernavaca and Pacific Railroad, in the State of Morelos, is reported to have been sold to a company with a capital of $2,000,000. This plantation has been in constant cultivation for eighty-five years, and has netted its owners an annual profit of $150,000. The new company proposes installing improved sugar machinery, and hopes to increase the net profits to not less than $500,000 annually.

DEVELOPMENT AT THE MONTEZUMA MINES.

The Montezuma Mining Company is making elaborate preparations for the development of its mines at Narcosari. This company has up to this time expended over $2,000,000 in erecting smelters and refineries and purchasing the necessary machinery for the successful working of its mines. The ore is of low grade, but it is known to exist in immense quantities, and the present heavy preliminary investment will return to the company increased many fold.

DISCOVERY OF COPPER.

It is reported from Casas Grandes (Chihuahua) that Mr. Carlos J. Gonzales, a merchant, has discovered copper deposits at Ascension yielding from 15 to 40 per cent of pure metal. He immediately denounced 1,000 *pertencia* in the vicinity where he made the discovery, which has created quite an amount of excitement in the region.

SALE OF THE MONTEREY FOUNDRY.

The large foundry at Monterey, recently established by a group of local financiers at a capital of 10,000 *pesos*, is about to be sold to an American syndicate. The negotiations for the sale have been conducted by the actual owners and Mr. T. R. MORGAN, representing the syndicate.

RAILWAY EXTENSION.

The extension of the railway line between Puebla and Tlacualpicán to Tiapa, passing through Chiautla and other important points of the State of Guerrero, is to be undertaken immediately.

The necessity for the extension of this line has for a long time made itself felt, due to the increased activity in the mining industry in the southern part of Puebla and in the State of Guerrero.

DISCOVERY OF A GOLD MINE.

It is reported that a gold and silver mine has been discovered in the chain of mountains forming the Sierra del Sauce, in the State of Durango. This mine is more than 1,000 square meters in extent.

NEW OIL WELLS.

Several years ago some capitalists of the State of Tabasco formed a company for the exploitation of the oil wells in the Macuspana region, but for some reason the enterprise was dropped.

Lately it has been taken up again by an European company and thousands of empty barrels have already arrived at San Juan Bautista, capital of the State of Tabasco, and will be used in this exploitation, which is to be begun immediately.

SCIENTIFIC CONGRESS.

A committee has just been formed to organize a great scientific congress in Mexico. This committee is presided over by Dr. LICÉAGA, and Mr. FRANCISCO DE LA BARRA is the secretary.

All the societies and constituted scientific bodies existing in Mexico will be invited to take part and to appoint delegates.

The principal object of this congress is to investigate the progress made in arts, sciences, and letters during the Nineteenth Century, and to give a new impetus to the continuation of this work.

UNITED STATES PATENTS FOR MEXICAN CITIZENS.

JOSÉ E. TALLET, of Matanzas, was granted a patent (No. 729,946) on a "cane-feeding device" by the Patent Office of the United States on June 26, 1900.

On July 3, 1900, Mr. Parish J. MacDonald, of Zacatecas, was granted a patent (No. 652,795) by the Patent Office of the United States on a "safety cut-off of water gauges."

NICARAGUA.

COMMERCE OF SAN JUAN DEL NORTE DISTRICT IN 1899.

Under date of May 10, 1900, Mr. William B. Sorsby, United States Consul at San Juan del Norte, made a report on the district under his supervision for the year ending June 30, 1899. The exports from Bluefields (almost entirely to the United States) amounted to $1,030,819, and consisted of the following commodities: Rubber, $387,989; bananas, $384,387; gold, $229,271; cocoanuts, $14,483; silver, $8,721; turtle meat and shells, $4,244; other supplies—for the greater part consisting of hides, ginger, pineapples, and sarsaparilla—$1,764.

The exports from San Juan del Norte (Greytown) amounted to $559,192, and consisted of products valued as follows: Coffee, $157,692; rubber, $138,241; silver, $103,788; gold, $73,936; hides and skins, $62,905; cocoa, $9,311; tortoise shells, $7,248; indigo, $5,461, and sugar, $610. The total value of these exports sent to the United States was $316,567. The greater part of the rubber, hides and skins, and silver was sent to the United States. Nearly all of the coffee, indigo, and cocoa, all of the tortoise shells, and a little more than half of the gold was sent to Europe. The grand total of the exports from the two ports of this district amounted to $1,590,011, of which $1,411,154 worth was sent to the United States.

The estimated total value of the imports at Bluefields during the year was $432,000, while the grand total of the imports at San Juan del Norte was $674,557, or $1,106,557 for the two.

PARAGUAY.

COMMERCE OF 1899.

Mr Cecil Gosling, British Consul at Asunción, has made a report to the Foreign Office of his Government with regard to the trade and commerce of Paraguay in 1899. He says a slight increase in the commerce of the Republic was noticeable in 1897 and 1898, and the upward trend would have been continued in 1899 but for the presence of the plague, in the extinction of which the Government very properly employed heroic measures. This, of course, interfered with all business affairs.

The exports from Asunción during the year amounted to $2,021,023.12 gold, the value of the principal articles being as follows: Yerba maté, $618,292.16; wood, oranges, and hair, $595,550.59; tobacco, $112,488.15; live stock, $5,300; horns, $4,865.75; miscellaneous transshipments, $243,218.47. To these figures must be added about 25 per cent more for exports from other parts of the country, for which the figures had not been made public. The exports in 1898 amounted to $4,414,922 gold, the decrease for 1899 being due to quarantine regulations.

The imports for 1899 at Asunción amounted to $2,147,837.66 gold, of which $1,619,590.40 was dutiable and $528,247.26 free. The imports from other parts of the country were not obtainable, but were estimated at 25 per cent of the total for Asunción. The imports in 1898 were valued at $5,216,972 gold.

Regarding special articles of import, it is stated that the hats sold at Asunción are of British manufacture, being of black, soft felt with a moderately broad brim, retailing at $15 (paper) each. The favorite knife is one supplied with a Sheffield blade and a horn handle studded with brass nails. Most of the bleached cotton goods and also the cashmeres come from England. It is reported that a United States firm has agreed to supply bleached cotton cloths at the same price as those of British manufacture, "but," the Consul adds, "the general opinion here is that though American cottons are superior to British in quality, there is not much fear of competition, owing to the high prices of the American goods." If United States cottons are superior, as the Consul acknowledges, and a manufacturer has agreed to duplicate British prices, as he reports, it would appear to the ordinary observer that the Paraguayans certainly would buy the better grades. Italian flannels made in Milan, of soft, gray material, are in considerable demand. Italian and Spanish firms control the wine and grocery trades. There are ten German business houses to one British in Asunción. The German population is from 1,000 to 1,200. This report says the investment of North American capital in Paraguay has been noted in the Paraguayan press and also in two United States newspapers, and it has been reported that some capitalists from the United States intend to visit the Republic for the purpose of making investigations and investments.

The most noteworthy feature of trade is that during the last two years business relations with Europe have been considerably increased, the greater part of the exports being shipped there direct, and not, as hitherto, to the River Plate for reshipment. The bulk of the foreign trade, both in imports and exports, is in the hands of the Germans. Customs duties are charged on gross weight, and exporters should be careful to pack their goods in thin paper. Goods should be dispatched and freight paid direct to Asunción via Montevideo.

The chief crops are mate, maize, rice, manioc, peanuts, tobacco,

sugar cane, castor beans, palm or "coco" nuts, and oranges. Some 325 tons of sugar were produced for export. A superior quality of rum is made from uncrushed sugar cane, and quantities have been sent to Germany. Tobacco is cultivated on a small scale; it is exported to Germany. Small shipments of cotton have been sent to Great Britain. Cotton seed from the United States has produced good plants. Oranges and bananas have been sent to Montevideo and Buenos Ayres in considerable quantities. The oil of the palm nut is used for making soap, shipments of which were made to England and Italy during the year. A Swiss firm in Asunción has in use a machine for cracking the nuts without bruising the kernel. Some of the native woods are capable of taking a high polish and are valuable. Considerable quantities of quebracho are shipped to Buenos Ayres and smaller lots to Germany.

The amount of paper currency in circulation at the end of the year 1899 was $9,865,000. The premium on gold in January was 650 per cent, in March it rose to 672, in April it was quoted at 800, in June at 730, in July and August 700, and at the end of the year 820. In November a new issue of $15,000,000 paper was authorized and the Government invited tenders for the same, the contract being secured by a New York company at a price of £5,881 ($28,619.89 United States gold).

The Banco Mercantil, one of the principal banking institutions, with a capital of $5,000,000, declared a dividend of 12 per cent at the close of the year. The railway receipts of the year were $1,247,973, the working expenses being 79.09 per cent. The number of passengers carried was 538,524, and 50,774 tons of goods were transported. The tramways in Asunción carried 870,546 passengers.

The industries in Asunción are two sugar factories, three rum distilleries, one brewery, one soap factory, one cigar factory, two cotton and woolen mills, one glass factory, and two tanneries. The population of the Republic was estimated, in 1899, at 550,000, of whom 60,000 live in Asunción. The number of immigrants during the year was 340; of these 113 were Italians, 74 Spanish, 46 British, and 37 French, the remainder being Germans, Argentinians, and Swiss.

INVESTIGATION OF COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH FRANCE.

The Government recently sent Señor Guillermo de los Rios, Minister of the Interior, to Paris for the purpose of studying the Exposition now in progress in that city. The Minister will endeavor to make such investigations as will increase the commercial relations between France and Paraguay.

WATER AND LIGHT FACILITIES IN ASUNCIÓN.

It is reported by the "Südamerikanische Rundschau" that the Paraguayan Government intends to equip the city of Asunción with

modern water and electric-lighting facilities. With this purpose in view an engineer from Buenos Ayres has been engaged to make the preliminary investigations.

ESTABLISHMENT OF TEXTILE FACTORIES.

A cablegram to the "New York Herald" of June 7, 1900, from Asunción, Paraguay, states that a syndicate formed in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, will establish large textile factories in that Republic.

PERU.

GENERAL AGRICULTURAL REVIEW.

The Government of Peru has just published an exceedingly interesting and important publication entitled "Las Irrigaciones de la Costa" (The Irrigation of the Coast). The author of this book is Señor Don Federico Moreno, a Peruvian writer of national reputation.

In the first chapter facts and figures are quoted to show that Peru has always been a large consumer of foreign products, her exportations for the last thirty years having been principally confined to the precious metals, guano, and sodium nitrate (saltpetre). This deficiency in agricultural production has caused the importation from neighboring countries of many of the necessaries of life, Chile, for instance, supplying Peru with forty-four important articles of daily use, the larger number of which could easily be produced, and in greater abundance, at home; in fact, her only agricultural productions in excess of the home demand, at the present time, are sugar, tobacco, and alcohol. The following table shows the gold value of the importations and exportations of the Republic, not including guano and saltpeter, for a term of years from 1857 to 1898 and refers only to the products of agriculture, mining, and stock raising:

Years.	Importations.	Exportations.	Years.	Importations.	Exportations.
1857	$13,756,648	$15,848,772	1893	$5,867,633	$9,542,277
1859	15,319,222	16,715,672	1894	5,872,360	7,479,314
1860	15,428,305	15,156,486	1896	8,752,574	12,731,831
1891	8,500,669	8,328,526	1897	9,002,024	15,512,691
1892	8,160,582	9,984,555	1898	9,648,636	15,137,597

In addition to the foregoing figures, other valuable comparative tables are given, among which is the following, showing the relative importation and exportation per inhabitant of some of the Latin-American Republics:

Countries.	Value in gold.	Gold value of exports and imports per inhabitant.	Total value per inhabitant.
Uruguay (792,800 inhabitants in 1895):			
Importation	$25,386,106	$32.02	
Exportation	32,543,644	41.05	
Total	57,929,750	73.07	$73.07
Costa Rica (262,709 inhabitants in 1895):			
Importation	5,833,427	22.20	
Exportation	9,619,094	36.52	
Total	15,442,521	58.72	58.72
Argentine Republic (4,042,900 inhabitants in 1896):			
Importation	94,855,732	23.46	
Exportation	118,936,382	29.42	
Total	213,792,570	52.88	52.88
Chile (2,963,687 inhabitants):			
Importation	54,483,616	18.38	
Exportation	72,040,420	24.31	
Total	126,524,036	42.69	42.69
Guatemala (1,800,000 inhabitants):			
Importation	6,937,000	3.85	
Exportation	20,342,000	11.29	
Total	27,261,000	15.14	15.14
Salvador (803,534 inhabitants):			
Importation	2,171,000	2.70	
Exportation	6,611,000	8.23	
Total	8,782,000	10.93	10.93
Mexico (12,080,725 inhabitants):			
Importation	30,287,489	2.50	
Exportation	79,343,287	6.57	
Total	109,630,776	9.07	9.07
Bolivia (2,270,000 inhabitants in 1894):			
Importation	4,607,371	2.03	
Exportation	15,885,256	6.99	
Total	20,492,627	9.02	9.02
Paraguay (480,000 inhabitants):			
Importation	2,222,000	4.63	
Exportation	1,835,000	3.82	
Total	4,057,000	8.44	8.44
Peru (3,000,000 inhabitants):			
Importation	9,002,024	3.00	
Exportation	15,512,691	5.17	
Total	24,514,715	8.17	8.17

Commenting upon the figures quoted and the conditions existing now and in former years, Señor MORENO points out in a clear, concise, and intelligent manner that the agricultural development of Peru has not been satisfactory.

Arguments are presented in Chapter II showing, in the opinion of the author, the causes that have hindered agricultural advancement in the nation, and he earnestly invokes the assistance of the Government

and the cooperation of all patriotic citizens in their removal. Attention is called to the fact that in all prosperous agricultural countries landed property is divided among many small owners, whereas in Peru it is held in immense tracts by comparatively few landed proprietors, who have neither the capital, energy, nor ability to cultivate properly even the twentieth part of their possessions.

To better illustrate the force of this argument he mentions that in the Province of Ica, district of Chincha, where landed property is held by many small owners, native and foreign, none of whom possess more than 50 hectares, all the productive land is in cultivation, the people are prosperous, and agriculture is in a highly flourishing condition. Another potent reason given is the lack of adequate irrigation facilities, and the Government is urged to encourage in every way possible the construction of irrigation ditches, so necessary to the growth and prosperity of the nation, and especially of those Provinces which border upon the Pacific Ocean.

Chapters III and IV are devoted to the prospective benefits that would be derived by Peru from the completion of the Isthmian canal between North and South America, due to the increased commercial facilities that would follow and to the natural impetus that would be given to trade by the opening of this international highway, and especially as concerns the Republics of the west coast of South America.

The coast region of Peru, comprising a strip of land measuring from 150 to 200 kilometers in width by 2,500 kilometers in length, the greater part of which can be easily irrigated with the waters of the sixty principal rivers that, originating in the Andes Mountains, flow into the sea, could by irrigation be made wonderfully fertile and productive. This done, immigration would quickly follow, nature would bounteously reward labor, and industry would transform the coast region of the Republic into a veritable paradise. Indeed, in this very region, aged by the hand of time, are found the remains of ancient roads and canals, walls and ditches, some of them moss-covered and crumbling, others in an almost perfect state of preservation—mute evidences of the glories of a former civilization, and incontrovertible proofs of what could now be accomplished by the magic force of industry and science intelligently applied by a progressive and ambitious people.

Chapter V takes up the subject of irrigation as applicable to different parts of the coast country and contains twenty estimates, made after thorough investigation by native and foreign engineers. Detailed data are given and the opinions of experts are cited as to the cost and feasibility of the various irrigation projects. This chapter is very practical and exceedingly interesting to anyone contemplating the securing of concessions or the operation of irrigation canals in any of the districts named.

Chapter VI treats of the four extensive agricultural zones of the

north and of the particular products for which each one is famous. These zones are Tumbes, noted for its tobacco; Piura and Pita, famous for their cotton; Lambayeque, Chiclayo, etc., celebrated for their rice; Trujillo and Pecasmayo, reputed for their sugar.

Chapters VII to XIX, inclusive, are devoted to the study of the different zones and Provinces, collectively and separately, and contain a vast amount of practical and useful information. The author describes in detail the kinds of crops best adapted to cultivation, discusses the different kinds of soils, their productiveness, the difficulties likely to be encountered by agriculturists, and presents with rare tact and ability the great future of agriculture in the coast lands of Peru that a proper system of irrigation would insure. In this article space will not permit more than a short summary of the important and instructive information contained in this book. Take, for example, the Department of Piura, a Province full of promise and interesting in many ways. It was here that the adventurer, Francisco Pizarro, conqueror of Peru, first landed on Peruvian soil, in 1531. Then, as now, was this, a wonderful agricultural region, adapted to the cultivation of nearly all the products of the intertropical and temperate zones. Many plants bear two and three crops a year. Sugar cane matures in ten or eleven months and produces for many years without replanting. Tobacco is also very productive, and is subject to eight cuttings a year. Coffee and cacao of superior quality grow almost without cultivation, but that which has given most fame to the valleys of Piura and Chira is cotton. Rough Peruvian cotton has long been celebrated in Europe as the first in quality and desirability of the cottons of the world.

It was during the war of the rebellion in the United States that planters from the North first began the cultivation of cotton in this district, stimulated as they were by the high prices which these articles commanded at that time abroad. Shortly after the close of that war the cultivation of cotton decreased on account of the fall in price, and was gradually almost entirely replaced by sugar cane and other crops which offered larger and more certain returns. The following table shows the cotton exports from Peru to England during the years 1876 to 1897, inclusive:

Year.	Quantity.	Year.	Quantity.
	Pounds.		*Pounds.*
1876	7,170,056	1886	5,434,552
1877	6,484,169	1887	8,971,760
1878	4,285,568	1888	6,175,008
1879	8,333,464	1889	7,727,664
1880	5,638,528	1890	7,511,280
1881	5,366,816	1891	9,076,704
1882	6,555,920	1892	12,000,000
1883	5,744,144	1893	20,000,000
1884	5,422,725	1896	11,172,788
1885	4,423,716	1897	11,172,946

Chapters XX and XXI are devoted to the question of European immigration and the means of attracting it, and embodies a plan for the solution of this problem so vital to the welfare of the Republic.

The last pages of the book, or supplement, are a collection of the various laws touching upon the question of irrigation. Here is found in a condensed form all the legislation relating to this subject, and this part of the book is of special interest to anyone desiring information in regard to the irrigation laws of Peru.

In conclusion, this work is unquestionably the best and most reliable which has yet been published regarding irrigation in Peru.

MINING INDUSTRIES OF THE REPUBLIC.

The different kinds of coal scattered over the territory of Peru constitute an inestimable reserve of wealth and revenue for the future of this country.

The two most important coal mines are situated in the northern part of the Republic, in the departments of Cajamarca and Libertad. The first, in the suburbs of Cajamarca, includes two carboniferous layers from 30 to 40 kilometers in extent; one between Hualgayoc and Chota, the other in the neighborhood of the River Marañon. These mines are 500 kilometers from the Amazon and 250 kilometers from the Pacific.

The second deposit is found in the Department of Libertad, 50 kilometers south of Huamachuco. Some of these veins can be traced for a distance of from 30 to 40 kilometers, and are from 6 to 10 meters in thickness. According to the reports of United States engineers, the coal is almost entirely free from impurities and is superior in quality to that of the Pennsylvania mines.

Important deposits of this combustible exist also in the Department of Junin (Cerro de Pasco, Huancayo); in certain localities it is converted into coke without any attempt being made to utilize the gas which it contains.

There is a large number of copper mines in the country in which work was suspended years ago on account of the decrease in the price of copper and the increase in the price of labor.

The new industrial applications of this metal, particularly in the making of telegraph and telephone wires, and the consequent increase in its price in England and America has made itself felt in Peru, and the exploitation of copper deposits in this Republic are becoming of more importance daily. Now, in view of the increased demand, capitalists have taken up the development of these abandoned mines and have formed new companies for the treatment and exploitation of this metal on a scale heretofore unknown. Besides this a great many of the silver ores contain a certain proportion of copper.

For the year 1899 the exports amounted to 1,421,119 kilograms,

distributed as follows: England, 1,374,959; Chile, 19,246; Germany, 15,273; France, 11,641.

The copper mines having been, or which are now, under development may be grouped as follows:

(1) Those in the suburbs of Ica upon which work was suspended in 1892, and which contain different varieties of minerals. During many years these mines furnished ores having an average yield of copper of 30 per cent, and might now offer handsome profits to foreign capital if the lack of water and fuel were not two obstacles, which, however, could be surmounted.

(2) The Cerro de Pasco region, already celebrated for its silver, lead, and coal mines, possesses the richest copper ores of the country. The mines here sometimes yield an average of 60 per cent, and it is thought a general average of 40 per cent can be obtained. This region will undoubtedly be the center of a very important business. The conditions in this section are entirely different from those existing in the Ica basin. Fuel, motive power, and labor are plentiful, and the extension of the Cerro de Pasco Railway will obviate the difficulty regarding transportation.

(3) The deposits of Yauli and Morococha (altitude, 4,000 meters) come second in productive importance. These deposits, as well as those of Ica, were abandoned for silver. To-day, with the increase in the price of copper, its exploitation has again become profitable. The average yield of the low-grade ores is from 10 to 15 per cent.

To these mines can be added the Acari deposits, in the Province of Camana. The attempts at exploitation made by the Acari Copper Mining Syndicate, Limited, have not been satisfactory. Nevertheless some Peruvian and foreign engineers are carefully investigating them.

Phosphates, which are to-day so sought after by agriculturists, were discovered in Peru about a year ago, and are being studied by the Government. These deposits are found in the suburbs of Ica, in the pampas of Ocujaje.

Lead, which is more often associated with silver and antimony, is the most abundant of the ores found in Peru. Galena is found here in all mineral lands and in all forms. In 1898 more than 8,000 kilograms of lead were exported to Ecuador and 837,000 kilograms of silver-lead to Europe and the United States. The exploitation of the salt mines and salines has been carried on for the last three years under the control of the Government. Mines of rock salt are found in some of the northern and southern departments, as well as in the central regions. The "Cerro de la Sal," in the department of Junin, has long been and is now being worked by the Indians.

Nickel is found in the Province of La Mar, in sufficient quantities to be exported, as soon as there are better means of communication between this province and the coast.

MANUFACTURE OF LOCOMOTIVES AT AREQUIPA.

The newspaper "La Voz del Sur," of Arequipa, publishes an article by Mr. J. G. Barclay, mechanical engineer, which says that since 1891 there have been constructed or reconstructed with new boilers in the shops of that city 24 locomotives. The most notable of these are six powerful engines of the same type built for the freight service of the Mollendo division. These locomotives are of the six-wheel coupled pattern, with forward trucks having four wheels. The water supply is carried in side tanks, there being required only a small tender erected upon four wheels. As a part of the water supply is contained in the engine, the tender weighs 30 per cent less, which increases the hauling capacity of the locomotive in the moving of trains; and, in fact, said locomotives draw 25 per cent more weight, and consequently 7 per cent is due to the decrease in the weight of the tender.

In the construction of the engines referred to the patterns of locomotives used in the United States were largely followed. All the parts of the engines were forged or cast in the shops at Arequipa, where there have been constructed, in addition, three steamers, each measuring more than 100 feet from stem to stern, as well as coaches, railway cars, etc.

THE PERUVIAN BUILDING AT THE PARIS EXPOSITION.

The Peruvian building at the Paris Exposition was officially inaugurated June 7th. This building, which is situated in the Rue des Nations, was designed by Mr. Fernand Gaillard, a French designer, and partakes of the Spanish-Lusitanian style of architecture of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries. It is rectangular in shape and is surmounted by a dome and two square towers, from each of which floats the Peruvian flag.

The building contains numerous and interesting samples of the national products. On the ground floor are the exhibits of vicuna, llama, and alpaca wools, coffee, different kinds of corn, cacao, seeds, resins, gums, quinquina woods, cocoanuts, leaves, tobacco, etc. The mineral collections are on the second floor. They include gold, silver, copper, and lead ores. The development of mines was formerly somewhat neglected on account of the lack of means of communication, the exploitation of the guano deposits taking its place. These latter are, however, beginning to be of less importance, and the development of the gold and silver mines, so renowned in all times, is being taken up again.

SALVADOR.

RECENT TARIFF CHANGES.

Mr. JOHN JENKINS, United States Consul at San Salvador, has forwarded to the Department of State, at Washington, translations of the following decrees, giving the equivalent rates in United States gold values:

"The Executive Power resolves that the following articles, not specified in the present tariff, shall be dutiable as follows:

	Rate.	United States gold equivalent.
Woven cotton cloth, white, mixed with horse hair, for stiffening linings or other purposes.....per kilogram..	$0.40	$0.174
The same material, colored, with the same mixture .....do....	.60	.261
Straw, palm leaves, or rushes for the making of hats, unmanufactured, plain or colored .....per kilogram..	.10	.043
The same material, worked into bands or cords or plaited.....do....	.60	.261

"Some doubts having arisen as to the customs duties to be applied to certain articles of tinned iron—such as water jugs, candlesticks, and similar articles for domestic or other uses, which by reason of their construction and consistency bear a resemblance to those manufactured from sheet tin—and it being desirable to avoid misinterpretations, injurious to the merchant as well as to the exchequer, the Executive Power resolves that in the future the articles enumerated above and those that by reason of their form and the material of which they are made bear a resemblance to them will be classified as tinware, the duty of 40 cents (17.4 cents gold) per kilogram being applied to these and to all other articles of the same material."

This decree took effect May 9, 1900.

UNITED STATES.

TRADE WITH LATIN AMERICA.

STATEMENT OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The following is the latest statement from figures compiled by the Bureau of Statistics, United States Treasury Department, showing the value of the trade between the United States and the Latin-American countries. The report is for the month of May, 1900, with a comparative statement for the corresponding month of the previous year; also for the eleven months ending May, 1900, compared with the corresponding period of the fiscal year 1899. It should be explained

that the figures from the various custom-houses, showing imports and exports for any one month, are not received at the Treasury Department until about the 20th of the following month, and some time is necessarily consumed in compilation and printing, so that the complete returns for May, for example, are not published until some time in July.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

Articles and countries.	May—		Eleven months ending May—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Chemicals:				
Logwood (*Palo campeche; Páu campeche; Campeche*)—				
Mexico	$2,406	$319	$21,338	$13,560
Coal, bituminous (*Carbón bituminoso; Carvão bituminoso; Charbon de terre*):				
Mexico	20,922	7,306	219,308	120,341
Cocoa (*Cacao; Coco ou cacao crú; Cacao*):				
Central America		2,201	8,597	11,877
Brazil	3,748	35,310	632,932	983,081
Other South America	211,642	80,867	1,246,802	1,263,607
Coffee (*Café; Café; Café*):				
Central America	1,091,602	362,757	4,927,028	3,957,309
Mexico	491,433	284,942	2,450,908	2,976,499
Brazil	3,002,762	1,246,572	32,343,871	33,305,196
Other South America	824,546	450,060	6,537,482	4,196,573
Cotton, unmanufactured (*Algodón en rama; Algodão em rama; Coton, non manufacturé*):				
South America	12,953	12,812	133,474	275,419
Fibers:				
Sisal grass (*Henequen; Henequen; Hennequen*)—				
Philippine Islands	619,774	682,915	3,333,646	4,296,389
Mexico	981,867	1,775,805	8,361,243	10,825,269
Fruits:				
Bananas (*Plátanos; Bananas; Bananes*)—				
Central America	207,855	306,888	1,587,553	2,076,925
South America	123,415	101,290	586,205	925,705
Oranges (*Naranjas; Laranjas; Oranges*)—				
Mexico	155	51	137,190	184,510
Fur skins (*Pieles finas; Pelles; Fourrures*):				
South America	5,638	17	132,261	113,208
Hides and skins (*Cueros y pieles; Coutos e pelles; Cuirs et peaux*):				
Central America	21,490	49,632	247,315	458,222
Mexico	198,074	182,270	1,756,534	2,216,851
South America	850,037	725,615	8,997,305	9,933,699
India rubber, crude (*Goma elástica; Borracha crua; Caoutchouc brut*):				
Central America	82,514	58,371	783,959	732,456
Mexico	24,669	20,854	126,980	201,281
Brazil	1,608,942	1,098,069	16,126,975	16,920,201
Other South America	79,830	52,644	882,394	857,022
Lead, in pigs, bars, etc. (*Plomo en galápagos, barras, etc.; Chumbo em linguados, barras, etc.; Plombs en saumons, en barres, etc.*):				
Mexico	210,515	167,439	1,769,095	2,317,925
Sugar, not above No. 16 Dutch standard (*Azúcar, no superior de la escala holandesa; Assucar não superior ao No. 16 de padrão hollandez; Sucre, pas au-dessus du type hollandais No. 16*):				
Central America	28,125	11,154	103,651	81,996
Mexico	17,881	418	42,729	40,754
Cuba	3,680,127	3,662,210	13,805,875	16,022,983
Brazil	140,149	243,424	810,276	1,359,167
Other South America	142,038	131,481	5,089,136	5,126,658
Hawaiian Islands	2,346,637	2,298,127	14,383,997	19,055,774
Philippine Islands			969,323	925,335

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	May—		Eleven months ending May—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Tobacco, leaf (*Tabaco en rama; Tabaco em folha; Tabac en feuilles*):				
Mexico	$7,306	$1,452	$228,383	$79,600
Cuba	463,252	380,004	4,480,925	7,219,753
Wood, mahogany (*Caoba; Mogno; Acajou*):				
Central America	50,005	1,189	364,122	271,695
Mexico	44,134	61,087	342,976	395,972
Cuba	15,444	43,608	23,047	171,415
South America		151	14,759	24,242
Wool (*Lana; Lã; Laine*):				
South America—				
Class 1 (clothing)	61,467	170,070	284,553	2,053,903
Class 2 (combing)			106	48,600
Class 3 (carpet)	15,602	143,765	328,167	757,379

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE.

Agricultural implements (*Instrumentos de agricultura; Instrumentos de agricultura; Machinos agricolos*):				
Central America	$176	$232	$6,078	$6,427
Mexico	28,363	50,706	201,873	385,731
Santo Domingo		44	591	3,037
Cuba	10,641	14,268	31,692	163,686
Porto Rico	240	1,216	2,239	6,469
Argentine Republic	75,200	65,609	1,453,234	1,748,828
Brazil	707	3,209	33,327	29,928
Colombia	99	46	1,535	1,380
Other South America	19,287	12,731	272,825	279,668
Animals:				
Cattle (*Ganado vacuno; Gado; Bétail*)—				
Central America	165		3,485	450
Mexico	5,060	13,733	90,870	138,888
South America		150	5,193	640
Hogs (*Cerdos; Porcos; Cochons*)—				
Mexico	2,861	1,831	61,486	65,670
Horses (*Caballos; Cavallos; Chevaux*)—				
Central America	338		6,028	300
Mexico	8,175	8,122	78,054	114,470
South America			3,839	1,830
Sheep (*Carneros; Carneiros; Moutons*)—				
Mexico		1,439	11,492	15,894
South America		750	7,770	7,233
Books, maps, engravings, etc. (*Libros, mapas, grabados, etc.; Livros, mappas, gravuras, etc.; Livres, cartes de géographie, gravures, etc.*)—				
Central America	10,204	4,810	40,419	52,415
Mexico	7,331	9,962	55,876	106,014
Santo Domingo	900	442	10,472	2,150
Cuba	7,788	13,592	39,091	70,469
Porto Rico	2,228	2,434	14,885	13,334
Argentine Republic	2,352	3,497	18,045	28,787
Brazil	2,752	10,785	43,987	58,843
Colombia	403	525	47,060	62,326
Other South America	4,958	9,558	117,841	57,748
Breadstuffs:				
Corn (*Maíz; Milho; Maïs*)—				
Central America	4,584	3,049	34,077	39,656
Mexico	13,173	24,649	47,769	222,006
Santo Domingo	88	170	256	373
Cuba	45,553	81,403	202,290	512,447
Porto Rico	63	2,418	63	6,547
South America	1,343	2,825	21,127	68,396
Wheat (*Trigo; Trigo; Blé*)—				
Central America	1,763	3,199	30,210	11,814
Mexico		9	5,143	2,047
South America	433	129,405	190,826	244,468

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	May—		Eleven months ending May—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Breadstuffs—Continued.				
Wheat flour (*Harina de trigo; Farinha de Trigo; Farine de blé*)—				
Central America	$68,646	$77,041	$921,045	$761,745
Mexico	8,909	11,943	120,623	134,504
Santo Domingo	4,828	20,437	132,390	128,857
Cuba	144,901	95,260	1,528,973	1,841,422
Porto Rico	28,422	182,700	444,212	771,421
Brazil	264,348	151,460	3,103,331	2,116,238
Colombia	31,046	13,401	371,925	242,252
Other South America	96,408	185,815	1,256,395	1,398,441
Carriages, cars, etc., and parts of (*Carruages, carros y sus accesorios; Carruagens, carros e partes de carros; Voitures, wagons et leurs parties*):				
Central America	848	2,198	36,302	22,618
Mexico	35,174	71,220	415,535	914,048
Santo Domingo	----	414	21,687	18,520
Cuba	19,272	16,028	117,220	185,089
Porto Rico	594	2,155	5,011	32,677
Argentine Republic	16,898	15,725	513,905	322,059
Brazil	1,058	1,706	104,303	162,683
Colombia	1,303	5,136	23,960	23,245
Other South America	2,597	15,505	49,424	60,584
Cycles, and parts of (*Bicicletas y sus accesorios; Bicyclos e accessorios; Bicyclettes et leurs parties*):				
Central America	869	21	5,602	2,584
Mexico	3,278	1,948	46,082	23,076
Santo Domingo	----	28	253	300
Cuba	1,965	4,891	15,031	147,507
Porto Rico	344	130	2,689	2,506
Argentine Republic	22,150	18,854	204,051	158,307
Brazil	3,407	1,386	52,006	26,292
Colombia	1,638	56	8,288	6,269
Other South America	7,556	3,454	49,910	61,118
Clocks and watches (*Relojes de pared y de bolsillo; Relogios de parede e de bolso; Pendules et montres*):				
Central America	295	416	2,590	4,046
Mexico	1,457	4,129	25,318	27,047
Argentine Republic	632	1,633	22,064	21,522
Brazil	6,261	6,414	64,358	60,224
Other South America	7,104	9,047	84,900	74,422
Coal (*Carbón; Carvão; Charbon*):				
Central America	1,576	3,457	12,114	23,514
Mexico	127,404	216,920	1,130,893	1,615,382
Santo Domingo	----	3,101	11,019	15,318
Cuba	63,454	78,400	628,642	676,152
Porto Rico	2,100	4,796	45,098	44,950
Brazil	18,687	20,706	149,432	109,542
Colombia	2,454	----	34,459	38,973
Other South America	4,798	18,431	161,743	115,420
Copper (*Cobre; Cobre; Cuivre*):				
Mexico	19,271	3,734	266,843	569,705
Cotton, unmanufactured (*Algodón no manufacturado; Algodão não manufacturado; Coton, non manufacturé*):				
Mexico	5,819	74,181	1,039,409	745,654
South America	----	----	----	8,155
Cotton cloths (*Tejidos de algodón; Fazendas de algodão; Coton manufacturé*):				
Central America	54,584	78,483	489,094	701,432
Mexico	55,463	36,405	449,759	440,710
Santo Domingo	16,338	23,561	152,937	99,683
Cuba	82,154	28,501	351,947	432,065
Porto Rico	38,075	45,239	104,419	154,828
Argentine Republic	8,523	7,717	173,434	102,240
Brazil	38,391	24,186	495,474	370,682
Colombia	37,357	18,535	339,296	242,033
Other South America	105,970	177,321	1,293,439	1,018,975
Wearing apparel (*Ropa de algodón; Roupa de algodão; Vêtements en coton*):				
Central America	25,342	39,913	200,179	404,225
Mexico	36,866	52,429	363,475	455,391

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	May—		Eleven months ending May—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Cotton cloths—Continued.				
Wearing apparel—Continued.				
Santo Domingo	$55	$7,867	$24,965	$26,841
Cuba	16,925	11,433	98,294	157,493
Porto Rico	5,831	3,390	22,512	27,470
Argentine Republic	2,541	629	62,612	16,785
Brazil	3,950	4,112	39,559	39,945
Colombia	3,481	2,916	40,677	44,423
Other South America	2,958	8,146	47,802	65,260
Fruits and nuts (*Frutas y nueces; Frutas e nozes; Fruits et noisettes*):				
Central America	2,128	3,029	25,040	34,206
Mexico	4,894	5,281	71,942	74,980
Santo Domingo	40	110	1,769	2,807
Cuba	4,152	2,621	59,170	78,269
Porto Rico	497	1,914	4,241	13,566
Argentine Republic	1,985	1,379	16,082	6,831
Brazil	963	469	16,521	19,350
Colombia	1,049	1,119	7,622	9,602
Other South America	2,060	6,960	21,370	24,812
Instruments:				
Electric and scientific apparatus (*Aparatos eléctricos y científicos; Apparelhos electricos e scientificos; Appareils électriques et scientifiques*)—				
Central America	3,820	4,119	76,904	59,642
Mexico	48,882	30,156	389,947	397,113
Argentine Republic	27,589	19,947	210,361	247,567
Brazil	5,942	30,631	107,335	192,618
Other South America	9,888	50,347	109,977	207,410
Iron and steel, manufactures of:				
Steel rails (*Carriles de acero; Trilhos de aço; Rails d'acier*)—				
Central America			33,627	13,877
Mexico	41,510	142,093	497,644	645,019
South America	29,768	4,262	246,780	206,144
Builders' hardware, and saws and tools (*Materiales de metal para construcción, sierras y herramientas; Ferragens, serras e ferramentas; Matériaux de construction en fer et acier, scies et outils*)—				
Central America	8,558	10,643	75,824	96,726
Mexico	43,505	50,474	320,873	460,729
Santo Domingo	742	1,969	10,526	12,180
Cuba	32,395	26,468	224,100	321,650
Porto Rico	4,220	4,970	14,288	29,305
Argentine Republic	13,259	37,232	199,065	271,350
Brazil	21,188	13,842	203,336	270,732
Colombia	6,593	3,463	97,802	55,147
Other South America	24,116	28,896	218,947	254,617
Sewing machines and parts of (*Máquinas de coser y accesorios; Machinas de coser e accessorios; Machines à coudre et leurs parties*)—				
Central America	1,277	3,157	18,160	27,925
Mexico	44,680	31,141	256,991	267,110
Santo Domingo	36	604	2,246	3,117
Cuba	2,575	9,494	8,202	71,266
Porto Rico	732	358	2,479	2,346
Argentine Republic	737	15,629	119,516	148,987
Brazil	11,138	9,849	100,949	127,904
Colombia	6,101	664	60,693	12,970
Other South America	12,626	15,724	119,011	148,787
Typewriting machines and parts of (*Máquinas de escribir y accesorios; Machinas de escribir e accessorios; Machines à écrire et leurs parties*)—				
Central America	47	343	2,165	3,116
Mexico	3,917	12,601	39,904	59,135
Santo Domingo			188	374
Cuba	3,551	2,707	18,748	31,715
Porto Rico	323	658	3,946	3,209
Argentine Republic	2,214	3,986	30,068	35,618
Brazil	60	1,320	5,485	11,604
Colombia	334		3,656	2,407
Other South America	4,381	1,579	23,335	21,834

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	May—		Eleven months ending May—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Leather, other than sole (*Cuero, distinto del de suelo; Couro não para solas; Cuirs, autres que pour semelles*):				
Central America	$1,955	$4,935	$10,222	$26,792
Mexico	1,439	2,313	9,772	39,070
Santo Domingo	109	610	1,534	2,507
Cuba	1,339	3,382	9,082	34,627
Porto Rico	1,195	312	7,173	2,936
Argentine Republic	4,875	7,164	32,045	62,096
Brazil	4,019	9,288	40,731	93,537
Colombia	1,092	63	3,231	1,989
Other South America	2,567	3,733	27,886	39,620
Boots and shoes (*Calzado; Calçados; Chaussures*):				
Central America	12,541	12,000	94,876	145,559
Mexico	34,920	32,485	188,142	327,019
Colombia	3,612	4,003	29,360	46,685
Other South America	2,198	8,540	35,852	42,758
Naval stores:				
Rosin, tar, etc. (*Resina y alquitrán; Resina e alcatrão; Résine et goudron*)—				
Central America	1,039	1,528	12,824	12,258
Mexico	888	679	8,077	6,438
Santo Domingo	73	475	3,714	2,382
Cuba	965	422	8,403	13,925
Porto Rico	211	113	1,204	1,685
Argentine Republic	.....	929	73,037	123,053
Brazil	11,026	6,658	212,883	131,278
Colombia	363	1,248	12,239	10,140
Other South America	6,741	9,929	76,212	90,698
Turpentine, spirits of (*Aguarrás; Agua-raz; Térébenthine*)—				
Central America	550	1,303	3,353	6,999
Mexico	448	266	4,019	3,755
Santo Domingo	26	34	517	425
Cuba	4,169	2,768	30,685	41,077
Porto Rico	555	609	3,836	3,482
Argentine Republic	3,383	26,019	34,246	145,941
Brazil	2,628	1,948	47,248	58,629
Colombia	634	92	6,312	3,502
Other South America	11,125	8,430	40,257	60,829
Oils, mineral, crude (*Aceites minerales, crudos; Oleos minéraes, crús; Huiles minérales, brutes*):				
Mexico	38,475	69,190	335,548	386,676
Cuba	7,605	27,867	166,773	380,709
Porto Rico	.....	.....	.....	19,519
Oils, mineral, refined or manufactured (*Aceites minerales, refinados ó manufacturados; Huiles minérales, raffinées ou manufacturées*):				
Central America	6,091	19,684	121,594	145,250
Mexico	26,967	19,025	166,890	188,942
Santo Domingo	346	7,951	38,991	51,775
Cuba	4,208	1,894	120,531	64,155
Porto Rico	4,196	33,022	56,177	57,374
Argentine Republic	105,528	80,693	673,432	1,270,914
Brazil	92,174	173,290	1,420,045	1,757,840
Colombia	9,393	13,961	109,249	131,921
Other South America	173,636	175,762	813,927	1,245,755
Oils, vegetable (*Aceites vegetales; Oleos vegetaes; Huiles végétales*):				
Central America	1,309	1,152	4,753	6,760
Mexico	26,412	119,540	417,679	903,813
Santo Domingo	3,581	10,334	26,614	47,790
Cuba	4,027	1,185	16,728	33,135
Argentine Republic	2,337	6,211	26,036	51,149
Brazil	18,071	40,665	185,049	238,310
Other South America	9,324	25,000	88,717	130,933
Paraffin and paraffin wax (*Parafina y cera de parafina; Paraffina e cera de paraffina; Paraffine et cire de cette substance*):				
Central America	3,869	1,522	29,039	29,321
Mexico	35,024	20,451	220,267	324,210
Brazil	877	690	11,471	15,813
Other South America	294	7,492	6,457	42,425

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	May—		Eleven months ending May—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Provisions, comprising meat and dairy products:				
Beef, canned (*Carne de vaca en latas; Carne de vacca em latas; Bœuf conservé*)—				
Central America	$1,381	$2,199	$18,778	$27,996
Mexico	1,212	967	17,148	18,859
Santo Domingo	51	.....	117	90
Cuba	356	134	13,228	5,402
Argentine Republic	225	460	1,352	832
Brazil	782	844	16,376	31,771
Colombia	841	1,245	4,521	9,268
Other South America	1,731	1,072	11,598	19,435
Beef, salted or pickled (*Carne de vaca salada ó en salmuera; Carne de vacca salgada ou em salmoura; Bœuf, salé ou en saumuré*)—				
Central America	2,946	2,922	31,121	37,057
Mexico	.....	664	580	2,553
Santo Domingo	880	329	3,777	3,805
Cuba	5,975	673	31,270	15,381
Porto Rico	150	423	1,075	1,927
Brazil	89	8	2,486	4,366
Colombia	1,095	3,511	12,521	20,797
Other South America	11,601	24,005	160,405	174,213
Tallow (*Sebo; Sebo; Suif*)—				
Central America	13,140	11,478	84,343	71,789
Mexico	2,570	3,282	31,589	22,852
Santo Domingo	66	543	15,822	13,292
Cuba	45	.....	19,137	2,277
Porto Rico	.....	.....	347	467
Brazil	1,898	1,507	36,788	58,373
Colombia	1,854	88	12,062	9,259
Other South America	14,369	1,321	33,254	52,471
Bacon (*Tocino; Toucinho; Lard fumé*)—				
Central America	1,357	3,051	16,079	25,209
Mexico	2,982	999	15,218	21,125
Santo Domingo	206	192	1,583	2,156
Cuba	80,278	47,990	548,206	720,320
Porto Rico	6,963	9,188	66,792	63,895
Brazil	14,120	8,160	408,405	124,653
Colombia	57	151	1,554	2,723
Other South America	2,673	2,687	16,376	11,134
Hams (*Jamones; Presunto; Jambons*)—				
Central America	1,791	2,129	20,765	28,737
Mexico	2,310	2,764	28,982	41,562
Santo Domingo	608	1,242	6,938	7,240
Cuba	59,941	57,340	486,975	633,090
Porto Rico	723	5,880	11,204	36,516
Brazil	276	905	3,473	4,724
Colombia	1,875	1,946	13,865	17,980
Other South America	7,064	4,253	77,678	67,682
Pork (*Carne de puerco; Carne de porco; Porc*)—				
Central America	4,006	9,678	56,993	75,780
Santo Domingo	816	697	4,784	6,808
Cuba	6,090	20,373	25,177	376,136
Porto Rico	17,255	20,509	156,640	205,218
Brazil	40	9	5,880	1,570
Colombia	881	2,464	8,103	14,178
Other South America	19,978	30,481	220,583	200,039
Lard (*Manteca; Banha; Saindoux*)—				
Central America	17,437	15,187	145,781	179,932
Mexico	14,015	23,946	155,180	410,860
Santo Domingo	2,530	4,803	23,253	25,458
Cuba	161,855	192,883	1,283,588	1,936,243
Porto Rico	27,960	75,871	228,532	287,136
Argentine Republic	477	799	3,483	5,405
Brazil	111,018	54,534	1,108,869	725,411
Colombia	10,037	10,110	83,429	130,553
Other South America	68,867	95,386	568,930	710,797
Oleo and oleomargarine (*Grasa y oleomargarina; Oleo é oleomargarina; Oléo et oléomargarine*)—				
Central America	222	903	2,324	8,578
Mexico	60	.....	731	982
Porto Rico	2,885	2,300	20,249	18,761
Colombia	377	760	9,072	8,950
Other South America	3,445	301	20,085	14,927

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	May—		Eleven months ending May—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Provisions, comprising meat and dairy products—Continued.				
Butter (*Mantequilla; Manteiga; Beurre*)—				
Central America	$3,825	$3,755	$42,222	$47,991
Mexico	3,590	4,607	46,767	42,517
Santo Domingo	841	2,253	10,244	15,778
Cuba	4,283	1,498	94,340	44,125
Porto Rico	257	222	7,738	2,513
Brazil	21,195	19,196	157,387	168,299
Colombia	1,094	1,748	13,394	14,229
Other South America	18,566	9,427	124,089	120,651
Cheese (*Queso; Queijo; Fromage*)—				
Central America	1,203	1,617	15,993	22,550
Mexico	2,197	1,939	18,068	23,454
Santo Domingo	375	1,000	4,457	7,754
Cuba	4,732	3,095	73,747	40,057
Porto Rico	3,387	6,848	24,385	30,509
Brazil			638	90
Colombia	807	611	7,222	7,680
Other South America	499	1,202	12,345	11,163
Seeds (*Semillas; Semillas; Semence*)—				
Central America	1,139	186	4,447	3,560
Mexico	302	1,094	15,394	19,946
Santo Domingo	17	66	206	777
Cuba	204	294	3,526	4,196
Porto Rico	100	122	497	459
Argentine Republic	439	35	7,794	1,886
Brazil	36		1,035	262
Colombia	3	83	1,352	1,120
Other South America	575	339	2,288	3,390
Sugar, refined (*Azúcar refinado; Assucar refinado; Sucre raffiné*):				
Central America	1,369	4,889	17,601	33,760
Mexico	8,555	5,343	25,248	22,835
Santo Domingo	41	30	1,116	725
Colombia	1,098	252	13,598	9,809
Other South America	131	108	2,042	1,841
Tobacco, unmanufactured (*Tabaco no manufacturado; Tabaco não manufacturado; Tabac non manufacturé*):				
Central America	3,691	3,358	23,375	29,593
Mexico	4,808	8,412	131,511	159,665
Argentine Republic	2,345	4,991	22,425	23,394
Colombia	506	260	5,485	12,361
Other South America	7,359	16,451	87,320	102,348
Tobacco, manufactures of (*Manufacturas de tabaco; Manufacturas de tabaco; Tabac fabriqué*):				
Central America	4,689	5,172	50,706	52,554
Mexico	9,231	902	18,313	6,530
Cuba	13,917	20,817	146,072	177,001
Argentine Republic			4,176	23,982
Brazil		60	500	457
Colombia	1,030	437	5,382	5,850
Other South America	8,904	11,823	80,094	55,827
Wood, unmanufactured (*Madera no manufacturado; Madeira não manufacturado; Bois brut*):				
Central America	691	8,019	27,388	24,546
Mexico	21,926	17,969	251,445	222,449
Cuba	3,151	6,623	36,507	52,593
Argentine Republic	4,577	3,621	18,099	22,504
Brazil		6,856	4,524	6,856
Colombia	1,588	807	22,187	8,008
Other South America		300	26,192	73,942
Lumber (*Maderas; Madeiras; Bois de construction*):				
Central America	6,477	2,666	56,631	43,261
Mexico	63,950	107,446	712,417	1,047,111
Santo Domingo	4,212	7,199	30,636	34,694
Cuba	87,470	135,605	695,033	1,045,032
Porto Rico	11,629	24,291	56,527	177,684
Argentine Republic	74,208	77,740	912,671	1,104,111
Brazil	6,710	14,006	390,940	350,232
Colombia	9,962	7,024	45,300	64,553
Other South America	73,716	51,296	472,343	499,939

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	May—		Eleven months ending May—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Furniture (*Muebles; Mobilia; Meubles*):				
Central America	$3,258	$5,378	$33,376	$44,651
Mexico	24,758	38,614	221,224	371,218
Santo Domingo	542	1,073	7,234	9,670
Cuba	19,769	125,063	78,472	502,830
Porto Rico	3,532	4,560	19,453	31,232
Argentine Republic	2,246	3,159	59,935	89,926
Brazil	3,329	2,838	29,474	36,719
Colombia	2,768	1,445	26,361	17,175
Other South America	9,390	5,769	64,577	58,038

INCREASED COMMERCE OF PORTO RICO IN MAY.

The Chief of the Bureau of Statistics of the Treasury Department of the United States calls attention to the fact that the exports to Porto Rico during May more than doubled as compared with the corresponding month in 1899, while the imports from that island increased nearly 100 per cent. The exports to Porto Rico from the United States in May, 1899, amounted to $305,564, and in May, 1900, to $696,479. The imports into the United States from Porto Rico in May, 1899, were valued at $647,179, and in May, 1900, were worth $1,103,867. This increase is the more remarkable because it has been understood that the people of Porto Rico had little to sell and little with which to buy, since the hurricane of August, 1899, had gone far toward impoverishing the people.

CUSTOMS DISTRICT OF PORTO RICO.

The Treasury Department of the United States has issued a circular regarding the collection of revenue in the island of Porto Rico. In part, the instructions of the Department are as follows:

"In view of the provisions of the act of Congress approved April 12, 1900, * * * Porto Rico, as described in said act, is hereby constituted a customs collection district, with San Juan * * * as the port of entry in said district, and Ponce, Mayaguez, Arecibo, Aguadilla, Humaçao, Arroyo, and Fajardo as subports of entry in said district of Porto Rico, and customs officers shall be stationed at said subports with authority to enter and clear vessels, receive duties, fees, and other moneys, and perform such other services and receive such compensation as, in the judgment of the Secretary of the Treasury, the exigencies of the customs service and commerce may require."

TRADE AT CEBU, P. I.

The British Vice-Consul at Cebu reports that the China Steam Navigation Company has commenced to run a regular steamer from Hong-Kong to Cebu via Manila and Iloilo, and that there seems a good pros-

pect of this enterprise giving favorable returns. Hemp was exported from Cebu last year to the value of $3,151,910; sugar, $770,503; copra, $241,953. The total shipments exceeded by $1,456,000 those of the year 1898. The imports, consisting for the greater part of petroleum, rice, salt, and coal, were valued at $1,055,286.

URUGUAY.

FOREIGN COMMERCE IN 1898.

According to a report prepared by Mr. LAROUSSIE, Chancellor of the French Legation at Montevideo, the general trade of Uruguay in 1898 reached 55,061,277 *pesos*, which represent an increase of 6,229,488, *pesos* over the preceding year. In this amount imported articles figure for 24,784,361 *pesos* and exported products for 30,276,916 *pesos*, or a difference of 5,492,555 *pesos* in favor of the exports. Since 1875 the balance has always been in favor of the exports; prior to that time the imports exceeded the exports by from 3,000,000 to 5,000,000 *pesos*.

The principal countries which have contributed to this general commercial movement (amounts expressed in *pesos*) are as follows: England, 9,647,123; Argentine Republic, 8,606,985; France, 8,154,639; Brazil, 7,727,920; Belgium, 6,771,947; Germany, 5,121,964; United States, 2,916,508; Italy, 2,856,847; Spain, 2,213,689. The other countries figure for less than 350,000 *pesos*.

In 1897 France held third place after Brazil and the Argentine Republic, with 6,929,792 *pesos*, or 1,224,874 less than during the year under review. On the other hand, England only occupied fourth place, with a total trade of 6,598,932 *pesos*.

The export trade reached 30,276,916 *pesos*. The following indicates the contributive part in *pesos* of each class of articles in the grand total: Products of stock raising, 26,243,597; agricultural products, 3,315,543; live stock, 336,926; other products of the soil, 279,811; merchandise for supplying ships, 96,101; various articles, 4,938.

In this amount the products of stock raising and of the *saladeros*—wool, skins, hides, salted meats—figure for more than 26,000,000 *pesos*. This is a normal figure and varies very little from one year to another.

The agricultural products contributed for a sum of 3,315,543 *pesos*, the highest amount ever reached, for generally the commerce in agricultural products does not exceed 2,000,000 *pesos*.

By various articles are meant such articles as cheese shipped to Paraguay and the Argentine Republic, gold from the mines, old zinc, copper, iron and bronze, and rags.

The principal patrons of Uruguay are, according to their importance:

	Pesos.	Per cent.
Brazil	5,855,348	19.34
France	5,516,889	18.22
Belgium	5,399,282	17.83
Argentine Republic	5,318,270	17.56
England	2,884,329	9.52
Germany	2,810,333	9.28
United States	984,040	3.25
Italy	577,063	1.90
Spain	236,282	.78

The other buyers figure for sums less than 200,000 *pesos*.

Among the products of stock raising, special mention must be made of wool, which represents more than 10,000,000 *pesos;* of *tasajo* or salted and dried meat, 5,474,856 *pesos;* and of hides, 4,700,912 *pesos*.

The principal buyers of wool with, the value of their purchases expressed in *pesos*, were France, 2,798,074; Belgium, 2,639,131; Germany, 2,189,807; England, 343,855. In 1898, the United States only bought 100,244 *pesos* worth, whereas in 1897 the purchases of that country reached 1,315,555 *pesos*. The United States importers prefer the ordinary wool, which is used for making carpets.

The trade in salted and dried hides was less important than for the preceding year, France still occupying first place. All of the skins and hides shipped from Uruguayan ports do not come entirely from the Republic. Some come from the *saladeros* of the Cuareim (Brazil) and from the Argentine Republic (Provinces of Entre Rios and Corrientes). This is also the case with the meat salted and dried in the sun, designated under the name of *carne tasajo* or simply *tasajo*. The important *saladeros* of Cuareim contribute about one-sixth of the total exports from Uruguay.

Brazil is the principal buyer of this article; in fact, of the total shipments, representing a value of 5,474,856 *pesos*, this country's imports amounted to 4,299,574 *pesos*. Since the Hispano-American war Cuba has ceased to be an outlet for this product. Two thousand tons only have been sent to this destination, valued at about 208,000 *pesos*. The consumption of this article in the United States is insignificant, only figuring for a value of 105,000 *pesos*.

The value of the principal agricultural products exported in 1898 were (in *pesos*): Wheat, 2,405,716; wheat flour, 601,214; corn, 170,101; bran, 26,916; fresh fruits, 15,920. The average price of wheat was 11.80 *pesos* per 100 kilograms, which is considered very remunerative. The trade in these different articles is carried on principally with the Argentine Republic for fruit and vegetables, with Brazil for flour, and with Antwerp for corn.

The imports in 1898 reached 24,784,361 *pesos*. During the preceding year they only amounted to 19,512,216 *pesos*, showing an increase of

5,272,145 *pesos* in favor of 1898. The value of the principal imports, in *pesos*, was as follows: Beverages in general, 2,666,358; provisions, cereals, and vegetables, 4,475.358; tobacco and cigars, 212,390; tissues of all kinds, 4,736,111; clothing and ready-made articles, 1,617,244; agricultural machinery, tools, etc., 6,282,109; various articles, 2,700,940; live stock, 2,093,851.

The countries from which Uruguay obtains its principal supplies and the value of the total furnished by each, were as follows:

	Pesos.	Per cent of total.
England	6,762,794	27.29
Argentine Republic	3,288,715	13.27
France	2,637,750	10.64
Germany	2,311,631	9.33
Italy	2,279,784	9.20
Spain	1,977,407	7.98
United States	1,932,468	7.80
Brazil	1,872,572	7.55
Belgium	1,372,665	5.54

England is the great furnisher of machinery and tools for industry and agriculture, figuring for over 2,573,496 *pesos* in a total of over 6,000,000 *pesos*. The United States follows with 1,113,500 *pesos* worth, Germany with 678,000 *pesos* worth, Belgium 568,000 *pesos* worth, and the Argentine Republic with 556,000 *pesos* worth.

As regards agricultural implements, the United States leads in this trade, importing machinery and implements of all kinds for a value of 144,000 *pesos*. The American plows are, generally speaking, the only ones used here, the "Collins" make being almost exclusively employed; it is light and at the same time solid. The reapers are also of American make. However, the English make, "Hornby," competes successfully with them. As to threshers, the English make is preferred. The selling price of a thresher with an engine of 8 horsepower varies from 2,850 to 3,000 *pesos*; if of 10 horsepower it is increased 10 per cent.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

The "Süd Amerikanische Rundschau" says that the Uruguay and Central Railway proposes to run a line between the port of Montevideo and Sauce, and from that point a steamship line to Buenos Ayres, which would reduce the time of travel between Montevideo and Buenos Ayres to six and a half hours.

A German house in Montevideo is reported to have asked for a concession for a railway from Nico Perez to Artigas, with a branch to Treinta y Tres.

VENEZUELA.

DEATH OF SEÑOR DON MIGUEL JOSÉ ROMERO.

The Bureau of the American Republics regrets to learn of the untimely death of Señor Don Miguel José Romero, one of its Honorary Corresponding Members in Venezuela, which occurred in Caracas a few days ago.

During Señor Romero's stay in the United States he devoted all of his time to the study of agriculture, having been commissioned by the Venezuelan Government for that purpose, with the object of bettering the agricultural condition of his native country, where, unfortunately, shortly after his return, he died.

He was a delegate from Venezuela to the Atlanta Exposition, the International Commercial Congress at Philadelphia, and the National Congress of Agriculture, and had just been appointed a member of the Venezuelan Commission to the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo.

TARIFF RATES ON RUM, WHEAT, AND DRUGS.

Mr. Eugene Plumacher, United States Consul at Maracaibo, has forwarded to the Department of State at Washington translations of decrees affecting the importation into Venezuela of rum, wheat, and certain drugs.

The first of these prescribe that after April 20, 1900, the introduction through the custom-houses of the Republic of sugar-cane liquors or rum of foreign manufacture was to be temporarily permitted; such articles to pay as an import duty, even if introduced from the Antilles, the amount prescribed for those liquors comprised in article 5 (1.50 *bolivars* per kilogram, or 28.9 cents per 2.2046 pounds).

The second provided that from May 15, 1900, wheat in grain imported through the custom-houses of the Republic should be taxed according to the third class of the import tariff (30 *centavos* per kilogram, or 5.8 cents per 2.2046 pounds); and that the amount stipulated in the war tax on flour should also be levied on this article.

The third stipulated that after April 23, 1900, the substances called paste (extract of *campeche*), boric acid, and borax, or extract of soda, not comprised in the tariff, should also be included in the third class, whenever introduced through the custom-houses of the Republic.

MANUFACTURE OF WHISKY AT PUERTO CABELLO.

Mr. Luther T. Ellsworth, United States Consul at Puerto Cabello, informs the Department of State at Washington that the Venezuelan Government has extended for nine months the time in which William H. Volkmar, a citizen of the United States residing in Puerto Cabello,

must commence the manufacture of whisky in order to comply with the contract under which he obtained the concession. Mr. VOLKMAR is required to deposit with the Minister of Fomento $3,088 as a guaranty that the manufacture will actually be commenced before the expiration of the extension.

COMMERCE OF PUERTO CABELLO IN APRIL.

The United States Consul at Puerto Cabello reports that the exports from his consular district during April, 1900, aggregated $455,578, while during the same month the imports, consisting for the greater part of grocers' sundries, dry goods, and drugs, amounted to $86,950. The United States leads in the import list, having sent $33,255 worth of goods to Puerto Cabello. The exports to the United States amounted to $23,954.

ENGLISH STUDY OF UNITED STATES INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

The "London Times" is printing an excellent series of articles on "American Engineering Competition," prepared by a special correspondent, and treating, from a British point of view, the relative merits of the output of American and English manufactories. One of the recent papers deals with the very important subject of locomotives, and while of prime importance to the English reader, is also of value to the trade of all countries, showing as it does the esteem in which American development in this line is held by its foremost industrial rival.

The writer says that "in competing with British-made locomotives in neutral markets, the American system gives the maker a considerable advantage in the matter of price. So far as Great Britain and the United States are concerned, it may be said that each type is well suited for its respective field, but when we come to those neutral markets where locomotives are most likely to be imported, we see that the British maker, who sticks, with British pertinacity, to his own home ideals, is likely to go to the wall, in countries—our colonies for instance—of railways more approximating to the earlier roads of America than to the solid construction of our own land.

"It has been more than whispered that in the past British makers have shown what may be described as obstinacy rather than pertinancy. They have been apt to think themselves masters of the situation, and to tell their customers exactly what they propose to do rather than to consult their wishes. * * * Still, at the present time Great Britain leads the world in its foreign trade in locomotives, but it will be seen that we do not hold our supremacy on a very certain footing,

for one of our annual totals has already been exceeded by an American total, though not in the same year. * * * As is well known, the chief British railways have extensive shops for the manufacture of railway engines, these doing a large part of their own work. In the United States the same conditions do not prevail, the railroad companies as a whole more largely depending for their supply on locomotive firms. * * * The American private firms do, therefore, an enormous trade, and what is of more importance, the demand is fairly constant. Our own export trade is of a fluctuating character, * * * and, unfortunately for our locomotive makers, the home demand is apt to ebb and flow in unison with the foreign trade. The year 1899 is an example, for, while the foreign demand has been comparatively high the home railways have been asking contractors for more locomotives than they could supply. The consequence has been the importation of American-built engines into England whilst we were sending large numbers of British-built engines abroad."

Much of the remainder of this article is devoted to a description of the visit of the correspondent to the celebrated Baldwin Locomotive Works in Philadelphia, where, by the courtesy of the proprietors, three days were spent, with freedom to go everywhere, see everything, and ask any questions he pleased.

Another article deals with the subject of transit communication, in which the street passenger service, of cities in Great Britain and the same service in cities of the United States are compared. But, it is stated the American street car is so far superior to the English omnibus and the tram car of that country, that comparison is hardly possible. This, the writer says, is due to the greater progress in America than in England of electric traction, adding that "the Americans have hundreds of miles of electric railways to our tens, and many of the lines in this country are feeble and ill equipped compared with the powerful installations of America. In 1899 there were about 15,000 miles of electric railway track and about 40,000 cars running in the United States. At the same time in England we probably did not have 300 miles of line in operation. Wherever one goes in the more settled States, and also in many parts of those not thickly populated, as he approaches a town of any size, there are the electric railways, radiating for miles out into the surrounding district. * * * Inside the cities the influence of electric traction is as fully marked. The cars go everywhere. If a man wants to settle some business a mile or two away he finds out by telephone whether the person is at home and then steps outside to enter a car. When once in the car he knows it will keep on going at a good speed, and he will cover the mile to and the mile back in ten minutes or so." This is compared with a trip of the writer of a quarter of a mile in a London omnibus, which took seven minutes, and also with the important quick

traffic in London, which is done in hansom cabs. The system followed in the city of Boston is also described, where railway lines in the heart of the city are underground, as well as the elevated railway system of Chicago, the former rather than the latter system being considered more favorable for London streets.

In view of the extent of the electric traction system in the United States, the writer is not suprised that electric apparatus manufactured in that country so far surpasses that made elsewhere. He gives a description of several establishments, one located in Milwaukee, which had on its books over $6,000,000 in orders at the time of his visit; and of another in Pittsburg which manufactured, each day, 40 motors for street cars, and employs 5,000 men in its electrical factory.

In another article, regarding machine tools, the manufactories of New England, and of various cities of the Central and Western States are described, resulting in the expressed opinion that "in the United States there is incomparably more for us to learn than anywhere else in the world."

As the outgrowth of his investigations, the writer advocates that "the Council of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers should pass a by-law that no one shall be admitted to membership until he had visited a certain number of American workshops. In view of the progress in America of bridge-building methods and other constructive work, the same thing may be said of the Institution of Civil Engineers."

GUTTA-PERCHA AND SUBMARINE CABLES.

Mr. Karl Supf, of Berlin, contributes an article to a recent issue of the "Kolonial Zeitung" upon the question of gutta-percha and its importance in the construction of submarine cables, affording, as it does, the only means of insulation of the cable. Mr. Supf urges that the German Colonial Society should be encouraged to raise gutta-percha in the German-African colonies on a large scale. The possibility of this has been demonstrated in the work entitled "Die Gutta-percha and Kautschuk Expedition nach den Süd-see Kolonien" (Gutta-percha and Caoutchouc Investigation in the Colonies of the South Sea). The following statistics in regard to the cables of the world are taken from the writings of Dr. Thomas Lenschau (Deutsche Kabellinien):

The total length of submarine cables throughout the world is 300,000 kilometers, of which England owns 200,000. The remainder are divided as follows: France, 40,000; United States, 30,000; Denmark, Germany, Spain, Japan, Italy, Netherlands, and others, 30,000.

The prospective cables are given as follows in kilometers: England—

South Africa, 16,000; South Australia, 15,000—a total of 31,000. France—different projects, 30,000. United States—Pacific cable, 15,000. Germany—(1) Africa, 12,500; (2) Teneriffe Fayal, 1,600; (3) Cape Verde, 3,100; (3*b*) Boavista (Trinidad, Rio de Janeiro, Trinidad, Buenos Ayres), 10,000—a total of 17,200 (for 1, 2, and 3) or of 24,100 (for 1, 2, and 3*b*). Guam—New Guinea, 2,300; and Kiautschou—Shanghai, 1,000.

Each kilometer of cable requires 80 kilograms of gutta-percha, which would mean a total of 80,000 kilograms, and which, at an average price of 9 *marks*, would require an outlay of 73,000,000 *marks* ($17,347,000).

The supply of gutta-percha, Mr. SUPF says, is not sufficient to meet the demand. The exports from Singapore amounted during the period from 1885–1896 to 31,000,000 kilograms, an average yearly export of 2,500,000 kilograms.

The cultivation of gutta-percha in British and Dutch India is of too recent a date to form any estimate of their possibilities. All attempts to substitute caoutchouc for gutta-percha in insulating submarine cables have been in vain. In view of these facts, an expedition to thoroughly study the question will start from Germany in November, 1900. The funds necessary have been partially collected from manufacturers and others interested in the subject.

RAILWAYS OF THE WORLD.

The "Archiv für Eisenbahnwesen," a German railway journal, recently published a table showing the total length of railway lines in the world. According to this publication the grand aggregate of railway track would encircle the earth nineteen times, or, in other words, the total railway mileage of the world at the beginning of the year 1899 was 466,500 miles. In this total Europe is credited with 167,500 miles; North America with 213,000; South America, 27,000; Asia, 33,000; Africa, 11,000, and Australasia with 14,500.

The United States alone, at the date named, had 186,800 miles, or nearly 20,000 miles more than all Europe. Railroad building did not progress so rapidly in 1898 as in some former years, the total increase throughout the world being given as 11,800 miles, which is less than the new construction in certain periods of twelve months in the United States. Taking in retrospect the years from 1875 to 1899, it is seen that the growth in railways has been marvelous. The length of European lines increased from 83,600 miles in the former period to 167,400 in the latter, or a little more than 100 per cent. In the same number of years the growth of United States lines was from 72,385 miles to 186,800, or 158 per cent.

With respect to the total railway mileage and the popuiation per mile the great nations show great differences. The following list of the principal countries, arranged in the order of greatest mileage, shows the number of miles of railway per 1,000,000 inhabitants:

Country.	Mileage.	Miles per 1,000,000 inhabitants.
United States	186,800	2,645
Germany	30,776	563
Russia	26,400	248
France	25,897	670
British India	21,970	76
Austria	21,805	484
Great Britain and Ireland	21,528	534
British North America	16,860	3,210
Argentine Republic	9,822	2,080
Italy	9,759	310
Brazil	8,718	509
Mexico	8,498	627
Spain	8,102	445
Sweden	6,359	1,247
Belgium	3,781	571
Japan	2,948	68
Chile	2,662	830
Switzerland	2,302	758
Egypt	2,085	174

INTERNATIONAL MARINE CONGRESS.

An international congress on mercantile marine will be held in Paris, France, in connection with the exposition, beginning August 4, 1900. The proceedings will take place in the building specially constructed for such congresses. The object of the assemblage will be the discussion of various questions and developments connected with the mercantile marine of all nations. Interesting papers are expected from prominent professional and practical authorities. All questions bearing on the mercantile marine will be open for discussion. The president of the congress will be Mr. Charles Roux, a member of the Chamber of Deputies, who is an expert in all marine matters. The Secretary-General is Mr. Dal Piaz, 6 Rue Auber, Paris, to whom all communications should be addressed. The chambers of commerce of the important cities of the United States have been invited to send delegates to represent them at the congress.

TRADE OPPORTUNITIES IN LATIN AMERICA.

The "Board of Trade Journal" of Great Britain contains the following data with reference to bids for a coastal steam service for the islands of Trinidad and Tobago. The steamship service is to commence on February 10, 1901, and to extend over a period of five years. The service around the island of Trinidad must be weekly,

and the steamers employed must not be of a less burden than 500 tons gross register. The weekly steam service around the island of Tobago must proceed to Port of Spain twice each week, and, if required, to call at Toco once a week, so as to make connection with the Trinidad service. The steamers employed for the Tobago service must not be of less than 300 tons gross register. Each steamer must be able to make more than 9 knots an hour. They must be fitted with accommodations for the transportation of passengers and mail, and special provision will be required for the safe custody of prisoners. Conditions of contract may be obtained by application to the Colonial Secretary of British Guiana. Bids for the service, marked "Postal Steam Service," are to be received at the Colonial Secretary's office at Trinidad until noon on the 1st of October, 1900.

The "Deutsch Export Zeitung," in its advices to exporters, calls attention to the lack of modern agricultural machinery and implements in eastern Brazil. The different kinds of sowers, reapers, cultivators, etc., the "Zeitung" says are entirely unknown. This does not apply to all of the Republic of Brazil, but includes especially the States of Bahia and Sergipe. Attention is also called by this journal to opportunities for the sale of sugar machinery in Cuba, San Domingo, and Porto Rico. It is stated that all the sugar mills in Cuba are to be thoroughly repaired.

A recent British report states that for large and extensive plants of machinery for the manufacture of cane sugar there is a good outlet in the Province of Tucumán, Argentine Republic. Also that in the northern part of the Argentine Republic and in Paraguay there is a great demand for small sugar mills for working by cattle, capable of producing from 30 gallons per hour upward. It is also said that a considerable demand for cooking ranges and oil stoves has developed in the Argentine Republic within the last few years.

Messrs. Valera, Cuneo, Hermanos and Ca, of San Fernando, Argentine Republic, have obtained a concession from the Government of Buenos Ayres for an electric tramway to run from that city to Martinez, San Isidro, and San Fernando. Definite plans are to be presented within two months, and the work is to be commenced within eight months. Everything that is required for the above tramway will be imported. The company obtaining the concession controls the electric-lighting station at San Fernando.

In the course of a recent report to the Department of State at Washington, Mr. Eugene Seeger, Consul-General of the United States at Rio de Janerio, speaks of the opportunities offered to young men from the United States. He says that "conditions prevailing

in Southern Brazil justify me in recommending that rich country to the especial attention of enterprising young men and investors of the United States." Mr. SEEGER has more especial reference to agricultural development.

The Government of Ecuador invites proposals for the furnishing of materials destined for the construction of an iron building to be used for the customs service in Guayaquil. The plans and conditions of the contract are to be had by addressing the authorities at Guayaquil.

The French Chargé d'Affaires at Lima, Peru, reports to his Government that "any manufacturer who would place milk cans upon this market would obtain very good results. Hitherto they have not been used in this country."

A German consular report states that there is a demand in Chile for rope and twine, especially in connection with the manufacture of girths, twine for sewing nitrate sacks, machine packings, etc.

TRADE WITH SPANISH AMERICA.

The Consul-General of Nicaragua at San Francisco, California, reports that during the month of May, 1900, there were exported from that port to Nicaragua 3,623 packages of merchandise, valued at $19,135.15. The principal articles of export were flour, groceries, rice, tallow, and manufactured goods.

The Acting Consul-General of Mexico at New York reports the imports from Mexico through that port during the month of May last as follows: Henequen, 36,252 bales; coffee, 13,585 sacks; hides, 2,588 bundles; hides, loose, 6,543; ixtle fiber, 2,786 bales; goatskins, 412 bundles; deerskins, 316 bundles; rubber, 164 bales; tobacco, leaf, 2,140 bales; cigars, 70 boxes; broom root, 2,265 bales; chicle gum, 658 bales; fustic, 9,632 pieces; tecali marble, 581 pieces; hair, 36 bales; lead bullion, 41,747 bars; metals, 204 boxes; ore, 52,770 sacks; sarsaparilla, 425 packages; vanilla, 23 boxes; alligator skins, 62; heron plumes, 2 boxes; bones, 2,057 packages; honey, 211 barrels; cedar, 1,986 logs; mahogany, 2,535 logs; jalap, 62 sacks; copper, 4,201 bars; garlic, 814 packages; rope, 750 packages; hemp, 43 bales.

During the same month 18 steamships, carrying 133,366 packages, were cleared, and 18 steamships, bringing 185,920 packages, were entered.

The Consul-General of Venezuela at New York announces that during the month of May, 1900, there were exported from that port to

Venezuela 36,080 packages, weighing 2,393,097 kilograms, valued at $294,123.11, as against 54,824 packages, weighing 3,260,892 kilograms, valued at $273,286.91, exported in May, 1899. These figures show an increase in the value of exportations, as compared with the same month of the previous year, of $20,836.20.

The Mexican Consul at San Francisco reports that during the month of May, 1900, the total exports of American merchandise from that port to the Republic of Mexico amounted to $189,528. In addition to this there were shipped to Mexican ports merchandise of foreign origin, such as rice, spices, seeds, etc., valued at $4,782. The shipment of Mexican dollars to Hongkong during the month amounted to $289,348, and to Japan, $6,590.

The principal importations, together with their values, were as follows: Argentiferous ores, $61,337; silver bullion, $127,920; silver dollars, $52,384; gold bullion, $19,316; gold coin, $6,597; hides, $19,409; sundry articles, $16,249.

The Mexican Consul at San Diego, Cal., announces the exports to Mexico through his consulate during the month of May, 1900, to have been 7,304 packages, valued at $21,061.75. The imports through this port into the United States for the same month were valued at $11,005. This amount is made up of the following items: Gold bullion, $5,750; wool, $3,306; sundry products, $1,949.

The Mexican Vice-Consul at Pascagoula, Miss., reports the exports to Mexico during the month of June, 1900, as follows: To Campeche, lumber and merchandise valued at $1,615; to Alvarado, lumber valued at $1,755; to Tlacotalpam, lumber valued at $1,413; to Progreso, lumber valued at $2,768; to Vera Cruz, lumber valued at $2,095. Total, $9,646.

The Acting Consul-General of Bolivia at New York announces that the exports to Bolivia during the month of June, 1900, were as follows: Via Antofagasta, 1,131 packages, valued at $20,109.45; via Mollendo, 333 packages, valued at $12,455.09; via Puerto-Suarez, 62 packages, valued at $2,085.54. A grand total of 1,526 packages, valued at $34,649.54.

The Consul of Haiti reports that the exports through that port of merchandise to the Republic of Haiti from April 2 to June 22, 1900, amounted to $3,742.37. The imports from Haiti from April 21 to June 11 consisted of logwood, valued at $77,820, and two tons of guiacum, invoiced at $400, making a total importation of $78,220.

BOOK NOTICES.

Books and pamphlets sent to the Bureau of the American Republics, and containing subject-matter bearing upon the countries of the International Union of American Republics, will be treated under this caption in the Monthly Bulletin.

"A Través del Amazonas" (Through the Amazons), by Ballesteros. National Printing Office of La Paz, 1899.

This is a report by the author to the Argentine Geographical Society of his journey made in 1896, from La Paz, along the Beni and Maderia Rivers, to Pará. The pamphlet contains a description, on the lines of geography and history, of the discovery of the countries of the east Cordilleras, and the countries of the Upper Purus. The importance which this territory has reached in late years is seen from the increase of its inhabitants from a few hundreds to 10,000 and increase of customs receipts to £120,000. Upon the completion of the railroad, which is being constructed by a French house, between Acre and Madre de Dios, it is expected that there will be a large increase in the production of rubber, which now amounts to about 2,000 tons, and it is hoped will reach 20,000 tons, yearly. The most interesting part of the report is a detailed description of the route which the author followed, from La Paz to Sorata, 150 kilometers, and from there to Mapiri, 200 kilometers, in five days. The river Mapiri, which is navigable from Rurenabaque for 300 kilometers, is from this point impassable for a distance, but 8 leagues farther, at Reyes and Porto Salinas, the Beni presents no difficulty, and it is possible to reach Riberalta, a distance of 799 kilometers, in from 16 to 20 days. The direct road to that point leads through many swamps, and it is impossible, in the rainy season, to transport animals by it. It takes 40 days to make the journey. Riberalta, at the mouth of the Madre de Dios, was founded in 1894, and has already 2,000 inhabitants.

The "Blue Book of American Shipping," now in press and will soon be issued by the Marine Review Publishing Company, Cleveland, Ohio. It will contain a detailed description of all the war ships and merchant vessels belonging to the United States. The introduction says, among other things, the following:

"The development in iron and steel shipbuilding, which was noted in the last issue of the Blue Book, continues with unabated energy. New shipyards are springing up along the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. The New York Ship Company is building a new plant at Camden, N. J., which will be one of the largest in the country. Work is being rushed and the company expects to bid for the new battle ships and

cruisers to be built by the United States Navy. At New London, Conn., the Eastern Shipbuilding Company is erecting an immense plant. The works of this company are primarily established to build two cargo carriers for the Pacific trade for JAMES J. HILL, of the Great Northern Railway. These carriers will be 34,000 tons and will exceed in size anything afloat. Something of their size may be appreciated when it is said that they will be bigger than the *Lucania* and *Campania* put together and will have about 5 acres of deck space."

This book treats of a live subject, and the advance sheets prove that it will contain a vast amount of extremely interesting and useful information.

An interesting and useful publication, issued in Berlin, is known as the "Pan-American Atlas." The special mission of this atlas appears to be to impress upon the people of Germany the extent to which the race is distributed over the earth and the great importance of the German people. The latest issue of this publication shows where the German people are located in all parts of the world and their number. In 1895 the population of Germany was 49,000,000, and at that time there were 39,475,000 people of German birth and their descendants living outside of the Empire. Of this number, 10,000,000 were credited to the United States; 400,000 to Canada; 493,000 to South and Central America and the West Indies; 106,000 to Australia and New Zealand, and nearly 300,000 to South Africa. According to the statistician who compiled this table, there are at present 2,993,000 native-born Germans in the United States. The State of New York, with 553,000, heads the list, but proportionately Wisconsin, with 283,000, has the largest number. Next to New York, Illinois has the largest native-born German population, 336,000. It is interesting to note the percentage of native German citizens in some of the leading cities of the United States. In eleven cities the percentage is given as follows: Milwaukee, 66; Hoboken, 57; Detroit, 43; Cincinnati and Buffalo, 41 each; Cleveland and Jersey City, 40 each; New York, 38; Chicago and Newark, 37 each, and Boston, 3.

No. 3 of Volume XXXII of the Bulletin of the Geographical Society (New York) contains an article from the pen of Mr. HERBERT M. WILSON, of the United States Geological Survey, entitled "Porto Rico; its Topography and Aspects." The writer was sent from the United States in company with Mr. ROBERT T. HILL, "probably the highest authority on West Indian geology" (upon whom devolved duties relating to geological and mineralogical matters), to examine the interior of the island with a view to commencing a topographic survey. Both gentlemen paid considerable attention to the forestry and agriculture of the country and recorded their observations "not only in notebooks, but in over 800 photographs taken in various por-

tions of the interior." The writer gives particulars regarding the location and size of the island, its soil, climate, topography, forests, products, people, customs, etc., and grows enthusiastic over "the restful repose of its highly cultivated scenery." The article is embellished with a road map of Porto Rico arranged on a scale of 10 miles to the inch.

Mr. WILLIAM E. CURTIS has written an article for the National Geographic Magazine (Washington) with the title "The Road to Bolivia." The first part of this very interesting paper was published in the June number of the magazine, and dealt mainly with the scenes and incidents connected with the journey from the United States to Bolivia. The second installment, published in the July number, is descriptive of the Republic of Bolivia and its principal cities, the people (especially the descendants of the Incas and the Indians) and their customs, the ancient ruins, and the magnificent church edifice at Copacabama. For each number of the magazine Mr. Curtis has furnished a number of fine illustrations.

Mr. O. CHRISTOPHERSEN has recently issued at Buenos Ayres the second edition of his "River Plate Navigation and Shipping." This work has been brought thoroughly up to date, and contains full information concerning port regulations, documents required, pilotage, berths, tonnage, steamers, sailing ships, port charges, wharfage, agency commission, and in fact everything that is necessary to be known about navigation and shipping. The book is printed in English and is embellished with seven maps.

"Zur Geographie der Puna de Atacama" (Geography of the Puna de Atacama), by L. DARAPSKY, Berlin, 1899. Results are given in this work of several years' investigations along the northern Chilean coast in the Puna de Atacama between Salar de la Punta Negra and the Salar de Arizaro, on the one side, and the Volcano de Agua Negra on the other side, as well as easterly as far as the Salar de Antofalla. The book contains four illustrations and two maps, one 1:500,000, and one 1:5,000,000, and also a profile sketch 1:100,000.

The Bulletins of the Department of Foreign Affairs of Italy (Bollettino del Ministero degli Affari Esteri) for the months of April and May, 1900, contain interesting reports on South American matters. In the April number Mr. GARROU, Italian Vice-Consul, has a paper on "Stock breeding and the Meat Industry of the Plata;" and the Italian Consul at Florianopolis, Brazil, reports on "The Italians in the Southern Portion of the State of Santa Catarina."

"Boletin de Agricultura" (Agricultural Bulletin) of Guatemala, a new weekly publication devoted entirely to the agricultural interests

of the Republic. The periodical will contain original and selected articles upon the agricultural crops of the country, and will give particular attention to the subjects of horticulture, floriculture, fertilizers, description and application of useful plants, stock raising, apiculture, agricultural statistics, etc.

"Producción Comercial, Finanzas, é Intereses Generales de la República Argentina" (Commercial Production, Finances, and Subjects of General Interest of the Argentine Republic) is the title of a voluminous work that has recently been published at Buenos Ayres, by Señor Carlos Klett. This book contains over 1,700 pages, 250 engravings, a map of the Republic, and numerous statistical tables, and is the most complete effort upon the Argentine Republic that has yet appeared.

"Mapa de Río Negro" (Map of Negro River). This map was designed by Engineer Gunardo Lange, and covers the valleys of the Negro River as well as the lower part of the Colorado River. It also embodies the territorial divisions and property register of Rio Negro Province, and contains reliable and interesting geographical data of this promising part of the Argentine Republic.

"Die Anthropophagie der südamerikanischen Indianer" (The cannibalism of the South American Indians), by Theodor Koch. Special pamphlet of the "International en Archiv für Ethnographie," 1899. This book is an interesting study of the habits of the more important Indian races from the Antilles to Patagonia.

"El Diario del Hogar," of the City of Mexico, has commenced publishing in parts, consisting of sixteen pages each, the history entitled, "Historia Antigua y de la Conquista de México" (History of Ancient Mexico and of the Conquest), by Señor Lic. Don Manuel Orozco y Berra.

"Directorio General de Panamá" (General Directory of Panama), Panamá, Republic of Colombia. The publication has 2 maps, 40 photo-engravings, several statistical tables, a complete directory of the city, tariffs and time tables of the transportation companies, and a large collection of useful and interesting data regarding the Isthmus.

"Tratado de Geografía Política, Civil é Histórica del Zulia" (A Treatise on the Political, Civil, and Historical Geography of Zulia), by Señor Wilfrido Arocha, Maracaibo, Venezuela. This work contains a valuable map of the State and a large amount of general information.

"Mis Paisanos" (My Countrymen), by Señor Rosendo Perdomo published at the capital of the State of Barquisimiento, Republic of

Venezuela. The book treats of a number of Venezuelan writers in a correct, pleasing, and entertaining style.

"El Derecho," a new scientific and literary monthly, has just made its appearance in Buenos Ayres. The first issue contains a variety of interesting and instructive articles on a number of important subjects.

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS PUBLISHED IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

The following lists of newspapers and periodicals have been furnished by the United States Ministers and by the Honorary Corresponding Members of the International Union of American Republics.

The character and date of issue, as far as possible, of all publications are given.

From time to time lists from the other Republics will appear in the MONTHLY BULLETIN, and when all have been received, the complete directory will be issued as a separate publication.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Ayacucho:
- Pueblo, El. (Weekly.)
- Reacción, La. (Weekly.)
- Unión, La. (Semiweekly.)

Azul:
- Imparcial, El. (Daily.)
- Pueblo, El. (Triweekly.)
- Revista del Sud, La. (Daily.)

Bahia Blanca:
- Nueva Provincia, La. (Daily.)
- Opinión, La. (Daily.)
- Porteño, El. (Daily.)

Balcarce:
- Porteño, El. (Weekly.)

Baradero:
- Imparcial, El. (Weekly.)

Bolivar:
- Progreso, El. (Semiweekly.)

Bragado:
- Unión, La. (Semiweekly.)

Buenos Aires:
- Agricultura, La. (Weekly.)
- Argentinisches Tageblatt. (Daily.)
- Boletín Industrial. (Weekly.)
- Boletín Oficial, El. (Daily.)
- Bolsa de Comercio. (Semimonthly.)
- Bric-á-Brac. (Weekly.)

Buenos Aires—Continued.
- Campo y Sport. (Weekly.)
- Caras y Caretas. (Weekly.)
- Comercial, El. (Weekly.)
- Comercio, El. (Semimonthly.)
- Correo Español, El. (Daily.)
- Courrier de la Plata. (Daily.)
- Deutsche La Plata Zeitung. (Daily.)
- Diario del Comercio. (Daily.)
- Diario, El. (Daily.)
- Economista Argentino, El. (Weekly.)
- Ferro-Carriles Argentinos. (Weekly.)
- France, La. (Daily.)
- Handels Zeitung. (Weekly.)
- Herald, The. (Daily.)
- Illustración Sud Americana. (Semimonthly.)
- Ingenieria, La. (Semimonthly.)
- Life and Work. (Monthly.)
- L'Italiano. (Daily.)
- Mensajero, El. (Weekly.)
- Nacion, La. (Daily.)
- País, El. (Daily.)
- Patria degli Italiani. (Daily.)
- Plata Post, La. (Weekly.)
- Plaza, La. (Weekly.)
- Prensa, La. (Daily.)

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC—Continued.

Buenos Aires—Continued.
Review of the River Plate. (Weekly.)
Revista Argentina. (Semimonthly.)
Revista Comercial. (Weekly.)
Revue Illustrée. (Semimonthly.)
Saint Andrew's Gazette. (Monthly.)
Semana Rural. (Monthly.)
Southern Cross. (Weekly.)
Sport and Pastime. (Weekly.)
Standard, The. (Daily.)
Tiempo, El. (Daily.)
Times of Argentina, The. (Weekly.)
Tribuna, La. (Daily.)
Tribunal de Comercio, El. (Weekly.)
Vasconia, La. (Weekly.)
Voz de la Iglesia, La. (Daily.)
Weekly Herald. (Weekly.)
Weekly Standard. (Weekly.)
Wochenblatt. (Weekly.)

Caseros:
Eco, El. (Weekly.)
Mundo Caseros, El. (Weekly.)

Catamarca:
Ambato, El. (Semiweekly.)
Ley, La. (Triweekly.)

Chacabuco:
Mentor, El. (Semiweekly.)

Chascomús:
Argentino, El. (Daily.)
Libertad, La. (Triweekly.)
Radical, El. (Triweekly.)

Chilecito:
Redacción, La. (Weekly.)

Chivilcoy:
Democracia. (Daily.)
Nacional, El. (Daily.)

Colon:
Entre Ríos, El. (Semiweekly.)
Municipio, El. (Semiweekly.)

Concordia:
Amigo del Pueblo, El. (Daily.)
Porvenir, El. (Triweekly.)
Reacción, La. (Triweekly.)

Córdoba:
Libertad, La. (Daily.)
Patria, La. (Daily.)
Principios, Los. (Daily.)

Corrientes:
Corrientes. (Semiweekly.)
Litoral, El. (Semiweekly.)

Dolores:
Patria, La. (Daily.)
Tarde, La. (Daily.)

Esperanza (Santa Fé):
Unión, La. (Semiweekly.)

General Acha:
Capital, La. (Weekly.)

Gualeg'chú:
Noticiero, El. (Triweekly.)

Gualeguay:
Comercio, El. (Triweekly.)
Trabajo, El. (Semiweekly.)

Juarez:
Paz, La. (Weekly.)

Jujuy:
Norte, El. (Semiweekly.)

Junin:
Mentor, El. (Semiweekly.)

La Paz (Entre Ríos):
Imparcial, El. (Weekly.)

La Plata:
Buenos Aires, El. (Daily.)
Día, El. (Daily.)
Mercurio, El. (Daily.)
Provincia, La. (Daily.)
Tribuno, El. (Daily.)
Verdad, La. (Semiweekly.)

Las Flores:
Trabajo, El. (Weekly.)

Lomas:
Unión, La. (Daily.)

Lujan:
Razón, La. (Semiweekly.)

Mar Chiquita (Buenos Aires):
Liberal, El. (Weekly.)

Mar del Plata:
Comercio, El. (Semiweekly.)
Pueblo, El. (Weekly.)

Melincué:
Opinión, La. (Weekly.)

Mendoza:
Andes, Los. (Daily.)
Debate, El. (Daily.)

Mercedes:
Oeste, El. (Daily.)
Orden, El. (Daily.)

Monteros:
Acuerdo, El. (Weekly.)
Eco del Sud, El. (Weekly.)

Necochea:
Combate, El. (Semiweekly.)
Quequen, El. (Semiweekly.)

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC—Continued.

Nogoyá:
- Autonomista, El. (Semiweekly.)
- Progresista, El. (Semiweekly.)

Nueve de Julio:
- Porvenir, El. (Semiweekly.)

Olavarria:
- Patria, La. (Semiweekly.)

Paraná:
- Entre Ríos. (Daily.)
- Libertad, La. (Daily.)
- Provincia, La. (Daily.)
- Razón, La. (Daily.)

Pergamino:
- Comercio, El. (Daily.)
- Imparcial, El. (Triweekly.)

Posadas:
- Verdad, La. (Weekly.)

Quilmes:
- Eco, El. (Weekly.)
- Quilmero, El. (Weekly.)
- República, La. (Weekly.)

Rafaela:
- Bien Público, El. (Weekly.)
- Liberal, El. (Weekly.)

Rauch:
- Imparcial, El. (Weekly.)

Río Cuarto:
- Pueblo, El. (Semiweekly.)
- Tribuno, El. (Semiweekly.)

Rojas:
- Porvenir, El. (Semiweekly.)

Rosario:
- Capital, La. (Daily.)
- Día, El. (Daily.)
- Mensajero, El. (Daily.)
- Municipio, El. (Daily.)
- República, La. (Daily.)

Rosario Tala:
- Tala, El. (Semiweekly.)

Saladillo:
- Concordia, La. (Weekly.)

Salta:
- Cívico, El. (Daily.)

San Juan:
- Provincia, La. (Daily.)
- Unión, La. (Daily.)

San Luis:
- Pueblo, El. (Semiweekly.)
- Reforma, La. (Weekly.)

San Nicolás:
- Norte de Buenos Aires, El. (Daily.)

San Pedro:
- Debate, El. (Weekly.)

San Vicente:
- Reforma, La. (Weekly.)

Santa Fé:
- Nueva Época, La. (Daily.)
- Provincia, La (Daily.)
- Santafecino. (Weekly.)

Santiago del Estero:
- Liberal, El. (Daily.)

Tandil:
- Eco, El. (Semiweekly.)
- Patria, La. (Semiweekly.)

Trenque Lauquen:
- Independiente, El. (Weekly.)
- Boletín Semanal, El. (Weekly.)

Tres Arroyos:
- Pueblo, El. (Weekly.)

Tucumán:
- Nacional, El. (Daily.)
- Orden, El. (Daily.)
- Provincia, La. (Daily.)

25 de Mayo:
- Imparcial, El. (Semiweekly.)

Uruguay:
- Combate, El. (Triweekly.)
- Juventud, La. (Semiweekly.)
- Radical, El. (Daily.)

Victoria (Entre Ríos):
- Voz, La. (Semiweekly.)

Villa Libertad:
- Justicia, La. (Weekly.)
- Progreso, El. (Weekly.)

Villa Mercedes (San Luis):
- Imparcial, El. (Semiweekly.)
- Libertad, La. (Weekly.)
- Nacional, El. (Weekly.)

Zárate:
- Eco de Zárate, El. (Weekly.)
- Opinión, La. (Semiweekly.)

BOLIVIA.

Beni:
- Eco Liberal de Trinidad, El.

Cochabamba:
- Comercio, El.
- Heraldo, El. (Daily.)

Cochabamba—Continued.
- Reforma, La.
- Siglo XX, El.

La Paz:
- Boletín Oficial, El. (Daily.)

BOLIVIA—Continued.

La Paz—Continued.
- Comercio de Bolivia, El.
- Comercio, El. (Daily.)
- Imparcial, El. (Daily.)
- Nacional, El. (Daily.)
- Radical, El.
- Revista Económica y Financiera. (Monthly.)
- Telégrafo, El. (Daily.)
- Unión, La.

Oruro:
- Evolución, La.
- Ley, La.
- Vapor, El.

Potosí:
- Tiempo, El.

Santa Cruz de la Sierra:
- Correo del Plata, El.
- Estrella del Oriente, La. (Semiweekly.)
- Ley, La.

Sucre:
- Capital, La. (Weekly.)
- Industria, La. (Daily.)
- Lucha, La.
- Prensa, La.

Tarija:
- Pensamiento, El.
- Regeneración, La.
- Trabajo, El.

CHILE.

Ancud:
- Voz de Ancud, La. (Political and commercial; weekly.)

Angol:
- Colono, El. (Daily.)
- Época, La. (Daily.)
- Misionero Franciscano, El. (Religious; monthly.)

Antofagasta:
- Industrial, El. (Daily.)
- Norte, El. (Daily.)
- Semana, La. (Literary; weekly.)

Arauco:
- Arauco, El. (Political; weekly.)

Arica:
- Morro de Arica, El. (Semiweekly.)

Buín:
- Buín, El. (Monthly; humorous.)
- Chicotito, El. (Semimonthly.)
- Opinión Liberal, La. (Political and commercial; weekly.)
- Presidente Errázuris, El. (Political; weekly.)

Bulnes:
- Liberal, El. (Political and commercial; weekly.)
- Progreso, El. (Weekly.)

Calera de Tango:
- Boletín de la Ilustre Municipalidad de la Calera de Tango. (Irregular.)

Cañete:
- Agricultor, El. (Trimonthly.)
- Comercio, El. (Weekly.)

Carrizal Alto:
- Imparcial, El. (Weekly.)

Casablanca:
- Heraldo de Casablanca, El. (Weekly.)

Castro:
- Chiloé, El. (Political; monthly.)

Cauquenes:
- Agricultor, El. (Weekly.)
- Boletín Meteorológico de las Observaciones hechas en el Liceo de Cauquenes. (Daily.)
- Boletín Municipal. (Weekly.)
- Polo, El. (Weekly.)
- Roto, El. (Political; weekly.)

Chañaral:
- Constitucional, El. (Weekly.)

Chillán:
- Chillán, El. (Daily.)
- Discusión, La. (Daily.)
- Igualdad, La. (Political; semiweekly.)

Collipulli:
- Voz del Pueblo, La. (Political and commercial; weekly.)

Concepción:
- Crónica Médica, La. (Semimonthly.)
- Diario Comercial, El. (Daily.)
- País, El. (Daily.)
- Sur, El. (Daily.)
- Trabajo, El. (Weekly.)

Constitución:
- Bandera, La. (Weekly.)

CHILE—Continued.

Constitución—Continued.
Idea, La. (Weekly.)
Maule, El. (Political, commercial, and literary; weekly.)
Copiapó:
Amigo del País, El. (Daily.)
Atacameño, El. (Political, literary, and industrial; daily.)
Constitucional, El. (Daily.)
Revista, La. (Educational; monthly.)
Coquimbo:
Aurora, La. (Semiweekly.)
Cóndor, El. (Semiweekly.)
Coronel:
Cuatro de Marzo, El. (Political, literary, and commercial; weekly.)
Esmeralda, La. (Political, literary, and commercial; weekly.)
Curanipe:
Gaviota, La. (Semimonthly.)
Curicó:
Ferrocarril del Sur, El. (Daily.)
Justicia, La. (Triweekly.)
Provincia, La. (Semidaily.)
Florida:
Puchacay, El. (Political; weekly.)
Freirina:
Minero, El. (Mining; semiweekly.)
Gregorio:
Prensa, La. (Political; weekly.)
Higuera:
Hijo del Pueblo, El. (Weekly.)
Huara:
Imparcial, El. (Commercial; semiweekly.)
Illapel:
Hora, La. (Political; weekly.)
Iquique:
Correo de Perú, El. (Organ of the Peruvian colony; weekly.)
Eco de Bolivia, El. (Semiweekly.)
Heraldo del Norte, El. (Daily.)
Jornal, El. (Daily.)
Liberal Democrático, El. (Political; semiweekly.)
Lucha, La. (Semiweekly.)
Nacional, El. (Daily.)
Obrero, El. (Semiweekly.)
Padre Chueca, El. (Humorous; weekly.)
Patria, La. (Daily.)
Tarapacá, El. (Daily.)
Lautaro:
Campeón, El. (Literary and commercial; daily.)
Los Andes:
Aliancista, El. (Political; semiweekly.)
Eco de los Andes, El. (Semiweekly.)
Restauración, La. (Semiweekly.)
Los Angeles:
Progresista, El. (Political and literary; semiweekly.)
Pueblo, El. (Political, literary, and commercial; weekly.)
Lota:
Prensa, La. (Political; weekly.)
Limache:
Limache, El. (Weekly.)
Linares:
Luz del Pueblo, La. (Semiweekly.)
Maipo:
Republicano, El. (Weekly.)
Maipú:
Boletín de la Comuna de Maipú.
Malloa:
Malloíno, El. (Weekly.)
Melipilla:
Alianza, La. (Weekly.)
Constitución, La. (Political and commercial; weekly.)
Melipillano, El. (Weekly.)
Tribunal, El. (Trimonthly.)
Molina:
Lontué, El. (Semiweekly.)
Mulchen:
Bureo, El. (Political; weekly.)
Horizonte, El. (Weekly.)
Nacimiento:
Causa, La. (Political; weekly.)
Nacimentano, El. (Political, literary, and commercial; weekly.)
Nancagua:
Planeta, El. (Weekly.)
Nueva Imperial:
Democracia, La. (Political; weekly.)
Imperial, El. (Literary and commercial; weekly.)
Pueblo, El. (Weekly.)
Radical, El. (Political; weekly.)
Ñuñoa:
Adelanto, El. (Political, literary, and commercial; weekly.)

CHILE—Continued.

Ñuñoa—Continued.
Boletín Oficial de la Municipalidad de Ñuñoa. (Irregular.)
Comuno Autónoma, La. (Political and literary; weekly.)
Heraldo, El. (Weekly.)

Osorno:
Damas, El. (Political; weekly.)
Liberal, El. (Political; weekly.)
Obrero, El. (Political; weekly.)
Voz de Osorno, La. (Political; semiweekly.)

Ovalle:
Eco, El. (Weekly.)
Constitución, La. (Semiweekly.)
Tamaya, El. (Semiweekly.)
Trueno, El. (Weekly.)

Parral:
Democracia, La. (Weekly.)
Parral, El. (Political, literary, and commercial; weekly.)

Peñaflor:
Boletín de la Municipalidad de Peñaflor. (Irregular.)

Penco:
Voz de Penco, La. (Political; semiweekly.)

Petorca:
Voz de Petorca, La. (Political, literary, and commercial; weekly.)

Pisagua:
Pisagua, El. (Semiweekly.)
Pueblo de Pisagua, El. (Semiweekly.)

Puente Alto:
Boletín Oficial de la Municipalidad de Puente Alto. (Monthly.)

Puerto Montt:
Die Post. (Weekly.)
Reloncaví, El. (Weekly.)

Puntarenas:
Magallanes, El. (Semiweekly.)
Porvenir, El. (Weekly.)

Putaendo:
Alba, El. (Weekly.)

Quillota:
Correo de Quillota, El. (Semiweekly.)
Lealtad, La. (Semiweekly.)
Quillotano, El. (Political, literary, and commercial; semidaily.)

Quirihue:
Arturo Pratt, El. (Political, literary, and commercial; weekly.)
Liberal de Itata, El. (Political and commercial; weekly.)

Rancagua:
Patriota, El. (Political; semiweekly.)
Progreso, El. (Weekly.)
Voz del Pueblo, La. (Weekly.)

Renca:
Comuna de Renca, La. (Monthly.)

Rengo:
Caupolicán, El. (Political, literary, and commercial; weekly.)
Colchagua, El. (Political, literary, and commercial; weekly.)
Liberal, El. (Political; weekly.)

San Antonio:
Tiempos, Los. (Political and commercial; weekly.)

San Bernardo:
Aurora, La. (Political, literary, and commercial; weekly.)
Boletín de la Municipalidad de San Bernardo. (Irregular.)

San Carlos:
Alianza Literal, La. (Political and commercial; weekly.)
Boletín Municipal. (Monthly.)
Boletín Municipal de la Comuna de San Fabián de Alico. (Monthly.)
Derecho, El. (Political; weekly.)
Localidad, La. (Weekly.)

San Felipe:
Aconcagua, El. (Commercial, literary, and advertising; weekly.)
Estrella, La. (Political, religious, and literary; semiweekly.)
Hijo del Pueblo, El. (Political; weekly.)
San Felipeño, El. (Semiweekly.)
Unión Liberal, La. (Biweekly.)

San Félix:
Cuerno, El. (Political; weekly.)
Estrella, La. (Political, religious, and literary; semiweekly.)

San Fernando:
Justicia, La. (Semiweekly.)
Tiempo, El. (Weekly.)
Verdad, La. (Weekly.)

CHILE—Continued.

San Francisco de Limache:
Independiente, El. (Semiweekly.)

San Gregorio:
Prensa, La. (Political; weekly.)

San Ignacio:
Huemul, El. (Weekly.)

San Javier:
Bien Público, El. (Semiweekly.)
Estrella, La. (Weekly.)

Santa Rosa de los Andes:
Pensamiento, El. (Semidaily.)

Santiago:
Actos de la "Société Scientifique du Chili." (Bimonthly.)
Ají, El. (Humorous; weekly.)
Alfiler, El. (Weekly.)
Americano, El. (Semiweekly.)
Amigo del Pueblo, El. (Trimonthly.)
Anales de la Universidad de Chile.
Anales del Instituto de Ingenieros. (Monthly.)
Artesano, El. (Educational; monthly.)
Boletín de la Estadística Industrial de la República de Chile. (Irregular.)
Boletín de las Noticias. (Irregular.)
Boletín de la Sociedad de Fomento Fabril. (Monthly.)
Boletín de la Sociedad Nacional de Agricultura. (Weekly.)
Boletín de la Sociedad Nacional de Minería. (Monthly.)
Boletín de Servicio de los Ferrocarriles del Estado. (Semimonthly.)
Cadena de Unión, La. (Masonic; monthly.)
Chileno, El. (Daily.)
Chileno Industrial, El. (Commercial; weekly.)
Comercio, El. (Social; semimonthly.)
Comuna, La. (Political; weekly.)
Corvo, El. (Political; weekly.)
Democracia, La. (Independent; daily.)
Diario, El. (Political; daily.)
Diario Oficial de la República de Chile. (Official; daily.)
Don Quijote. (Triweekly.)

Santiago—Continued.
Educador, El. (Educational; monthly.)
Escuela, La. (Educational; semimonthly.)
Ferrocarril del Lúnes, El. (Political, literary, and theatrical; weekly.)
Ferrocarril, El. (Daily.)
Flores Chilenas. (Weekly.)
Gaceta de los Tribunales. (Legal; daily.)
General Pililo, El. (Triweekly.)
Grito del Pueblo, El. (Socialistic; weekly.)
Igualdad, La. (Labor; weekly.)
Illustración, La. (Weekly.)
Independiente, El. (Political and literary; weekly.)
Instituto Nacional, El. (Weekly.)
La France. (Organ of the French colony; semiweekly.)
Ley, La. (Political; daily.)
Liberal Democrático, El. (Daily.)
Libertad Electoral, La. (Daily.)
Llano de Maipo, El. (Official; semimonthly.)
Lucha, La. (Weekly.)
Luz del Pueblo, La. (Political and literary; weekly.)
Magisterio, El. (Educational; weekly.)
Mes Ilustrado, El. (Literary; monthly.)
Nacional, El. (Weekly.)
Noticiero Español, El. (Organ of the Spanish colony; weekly.)
Nueva República, La. (Daily.)
Obrero, El. (Semimonthly.)
Ópera, La. (Theatrical; irregular.)
Our Young People. (Monthly.)
Padre Padilla, El. (Religious; triweekly.)
Porvenir, El. (Daily.)
Progreso Médico, El. (Monthly.)
Revista Chilena de Higiene. (Irregular.)
Revista Cómica, La. (Weekly.)
Revista de Industrias é Invenciones Nuevas Universales. (Monthly.)

CHILE—Continued.

Santiago—Continued.
- Revista de Instrucción Primaria. (Official; monthly.)
- Revista Forense Chilena. (Legal; monthly.)
- Revista Ilustrada, La. (Monthly.)
- Revista, La. (Weekly.)
- Revista Médica de Chile. (Monthly.)
- Revista Militar de Chile. (Monthly.)
- Semana, La. (Weekly.)
- Soldado, El. (Military; semi-monthly.)
- Sport Chileno, El. (Monthly.)
- Tambor, El. (Weekly.)
- Unión Médica, La. (Semiannnually.)
- Unión Obrera, La. (Weekly.)
- Verdad, La. (Masonic; semi-monthly.)
- Voz de Alarma, La. (Weekly.)
- Voz del Pueblo, La. (Weekly.)
- Voz de San Antonio, La. (Illustrated; monthly.)

Serena:
- Coquimbo, El. (Trimonthly.)
- Luz, La.
- Reforma, La. (Triweekly.)

Tacna:
- Tacneño, El. (Daily.)
- Tacora, El. (Daily.)
- Voz del Sur, La. (Daily.)

Talca:
- Actualidad, La. (Daily.)
- Libertad, La. (Daily.)

Talcahuano:
- Opinión, La. (Semidaily.)

Taltal:
- Comercio, El. (Industrial and commercial; daily.)
- Comuna Autónoma, La. (Political; semidaily.)
- Diario de Avisos, El. (Daily.)
- Liberal Democrático, El.
- Pueblo, El. (Daily.)

Temuco:
- Cantín, El. (Semiweekly.)
- Cristiano, El. (Weekly.)
- Cruz del Sur, La. (Religious; weekly.)
- Frontera, La. (Literary, commercial, and agricultural; semidaily.)
- Justicia, La. (Political; weekly.)
- Libertad, La.

Temuco—Continued.
- Progreso, El. (Political, literary, and commercial; weekly.)
- Razón, La. (Political; semiweekly.)

Teno:
- Comuna, La. (Official; monthly.)

Tocopilla:
- Tiempos, Los. (Semiweekly.)
- Loa, El. (Semiweekly.)

Tome:
- Héroe, El. (Political, literary, and commercial; weekly.)
- Huáscar, El. (Weekly.)
- Independiente, El. (Weekly.)

Traiguén:
- Comercio, El. (Semidaily.)
- Frontera, La. (Semidaily.)
- Orden, El. (Semiweekly.)
- Traiguén, El. (Political; triweekly.)

Unión:
- Orden, El. (Political and commercial; weekly.)
- Roca, La. (Weekly.)

Valdivia:
- Alianza Liberal, La. (Political; semiweekly.)
- Correo de Valdivia, El. (Daily.)
- Libertad, La. (Semiweekly.)
- Progreso, El. (Political and commercial; semidaily.)
- Valdivia's Deutsche Zeitung. (Weekly.)

Vallenar:
- Constitucional, El. (Semiweekly.)
- Liberal, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Trabajo, El. (Official; weekly.)

Valparaíso:
- Alianza Liberal, La. (Daily.)
- Avisador de Material Mecánico en Venta. (Supplementary to "La Revista de Industrias;" monthly.)
- Boletín de Actas del Centro Científico y Literario de Valparaíso. (Scientific and literary; irregular.)
- Boletín de Sesiones de la Sociedad Científica de Valparaíso. (Monthly.)
- Boletín Militar de Chile. (Monthly.)
- Chilian Times, The. (Mercantile and shipping gazette for the west coast of South America; semiweekly.)

CHILE—Continued.

Valparaíso—Continued.
- Deutsche Nachrichten. (Triweekly.)
- Ferrocarrilito, El. (Weekly.)
- Heraldo, El. (Daily.)
- Heraldo Evangélico, El. (Religious; weekly.)
- L'Italia. (Daily.)
- L'Italia Ilustrata. (Weekly.)
- Mercurio, El. (Daily.)
- Moncul, El. (Triweekly.)
- Nueva Nación, La. (Daily.)
- Obrero de Imprenta, El. (Weekly.)
- Patria, La. (Daily.)
- Progreso, El. (Monthly.)
- Pueblo, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Revista de Marina. (Monthly.)
- Revista Literaria. (Monthly.)
- Revista Popular, La. (Weekly.)
- Roto Chileno, El. (Weekly.)
- Tiempo, El. (Daily.)
- Trabajo, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Turnerische Nachrichten Ober Süd-America. (Monthly.)

Valparaíso—Continued.
- Unión, La. (Daily.)
- Universo, El. (Political; daily.)
- Valparaíso Review, The. (Monthly.)

Vichuquén:
- Buen Consejo, El. (Weekly.)
- Vanguardia, La. (Political; weekly.)

Victoria:
- Mariluán, El. (Political, commercial, and literary; semiweekly.)
- Victoria, El. (Political; semiweekly.)

Vicuña:
- Unión, La. (Political; semiweekly.)
- Voz de Elqui, La. (Political; semiweekly.)

Yumbel:
- Comercial, El. (Weekly.)
- Tribuna, La. (Political; weekly.)
- Yumbel, El. (Literary and commercial; weekly.)

Yungay:
- Deber, El. (Weekly.)
- Montaña, La. (Weekly.)

COSTA RICA.

Liberia:
- Heraldo de Cañas, El. (Weekly.)

Puntarenas:
- Pacífico, El. (Weekly.)

San José:
- Boletín Judicial. (Official; daily.)
- Eco Católico, El. (Weekly.)

San José—Continued.
- Gaceta, La. (Official; daily.)
- Heraldo, El. (Daily.)
- Prensa Libre, La. (Daily.)
- Progreso, El. (Daily.)
- República, La. (Daily.)
- Tiempo, El. (Daily.)

ECUADOR.

Ambato:
- Revista de la Escuela Literaria del Tunguarahua. (Monthly.)

Azogues:
- Union Liberal, La.

Babahoyo:
- Avispa, La.
- Guirigay, El.
- Impulso, El.
- Justicia, La.
- Registro Municipal, El.

Cuenca:
- Centinela, El. (Weekly.)
- Horizonte, El. (Weekly.)

Daule:
- Gaceta Municipal, La. (Monthly.)

Esmeraldas:
- Faro, El. (Weekly.)
- Municipio, El. (Monthly.)

Guaranda:
- Luchador, El. (Weekly.)
- Municipio, El. (Monthly.)

Guayaquil:
- Boletín del Observatorio Astronómico y Meteorológico. (Monthly.)
- Boletín de Medicina y Cirujía. (Monthly.)
- Comercio, El. (Biweekly.)
- Crepúsculo, El. (Weekly.)
- Filántropo, El. (Monthly.)
- Fin del Siglo. (Weekly.)
- Gaceta Médica, La. (Weekly.)
- Gaceta Municipal, La. (Weekly.)
- Gorro Frigio, El. (Weekly.)
- Grito del Pueblo, El. (Daily.)
- Nación, La. (Daily.)
- Patria, La. (Monthly.)
- Revista Comercial, La. (Monthly.)

ECUADOR—Continued.

Guayaquil—Continued.
- Salsa Picante, La. (Weekly.)
- Telégrafo, El. (Daily.)
- Tiempo, El. (Daily.)

Loja:
- Republicano, El. (Weekly.)
- Revista de la Sociedad Samaniego. (Monthly.)

Portoviejo:
- Ayuntamiento, El. (Monthly.)
- Faro, El. (Weekly.)
- Municipio, El.

Quito:
- Anales de la Universidad, Las. (Monthly.)
- Boletín Eclesiástico, El. (Monthly.)
- Corona del Rosario, La. (Monthly.)

Quito—Continued.
- Dairio, El. (Daily.)
- Industrial, El. (Weekly.)
- Municipio, El. (Monthly.)
- Progreso, El. (Monthly.)
- Registro Oficial, El. (Daily.)
- Revista de San Antonio, La. (Monthly.)
- Sanción, La. (Weekly.)
- Sastre Quiteño, El.

Riobamba:
- Revista Municipal, La. (Monthly.)
- Templo del Corazón de Jesus, El. (Semimonthly.)

Tulcán:
- Combate, El. (Weekly.)
- Revista del Norte, La. (Weekly.)

GUATEMALA.

Antigua:
- El Mártir del '85. (Political; annual.)

Guatemala City:
- Año Nuevo, El. (Literary; annual.)
- Boletín Científico, El. (Scientific; monthly.)
- Boletín Masónico, El. (Masonic; monthly.)
- Derecho, El. (Legal; monthly.)
- Diario de Centro América, El. (General news; daily.)
- El 9 de Febrero. (Political; annual.)
- El 15 de Marzo. (Political; annual.)
- El 2 de Abril. (Political; annual.)
- Escuela de Derecho, La. (Legal; monthly.)
- Escuela de Medicina, La. (Medical; monthly.)
- Familia Cristiana, La. (Religious; weekly.)
- Gaceta de los Tribunales, La. (Legal; monthly.)
- Guatemala Herald, The. (General news; daily.)
- Guatemalteco, El. (Official; daily.)
- Intercontinental, The. (General news; daily.)
- Juventud Literaria, La. (Literary; semimonthly.)
- Juventud Médica, La. (Medical; monthly.)
- Liberal, El. (Political; daily.)

Guatemala City—Continued.
- Pabellón del Rosario, El. (Religious; semimonthly.)
- República, La. (General news; daily.)
- Revista Militar, La. (Military; semimonthly.)
- Revista Municipal, La. (Municipal; monthly.)
- Semana Católica, La. (Religious; weekly.)
- Sport, El. (Sports; semimonthly.)

Jalapa:
- Eco de Jalapa, El. (Monthly.)

Quezaltenango:
- País, El. (Political; daily.)

Retalhuleu:
- Demócrata, El. (Political; semimonthly.)
- Legionario, El. (Political; semimonthly.)
- Luz, La. (Political; semi-monthly.)

San Felipe (Retalhuleu):
- Criterio Público, El. (Political; monthly.)

San Marcos:
- Demócrata de San Marcos, El. (Political.)

Sololá:
- Impulso, El. (Monthly.)

Totonicapán:
- Revista de Totonicapán, La. (Monthly.)

HAITI.

Cape Haitien:
- Bulletin des Nouvelles. (Daily.)

Port-au-Prince:
- Bulletin du Jury Medical, Le. (Quarterly.)
- Glaneur, Le. (General news; daily.)
- Journal des Etudiants, Le. (Monthly.)
- L'Avenir. (Political; weekly.)
- Moniteur, Le. (Official; biweekly.)
- Nouvelliste, Le. (General news; daily.)
- Revue de Legislation, Le. (Monthly.)
- Revue du Corps Enseignant, Le. (Monthly.)
- Ronde, La. (Literary; monthly.)
- Soir, Le. (General news; daily.)

HONDURAS.

Catacamas:
- Cometa, El. (General news; weekly.)

Choluteca:
- Pacífico, El. (General news; weekly.)

Comayagua:
- Pueblo, El. (General news; weekly.)

Danli:
- Piloto, El. (General news; weekly.)

Puerto Cortés:
- Látigo, El. (General news; weekly.)

San Pedro:
- Estrella del Norte, La. (General news; weekly.)

Santa Bárbara:
- Propaganda, La. (General news; weekly.)

Santa Rosa:
- Occidental, El. (General news; weekly.)

Tegucigalpa:
- Boletín Legislativo, El. (Official; daily.)
- Diario de Honduras. (General news; daily.)
- Gaceta Judicial. (Official; weekly.)
- Gaceta, La. (Official; daily.)
- Instrucción Primaria, La. (Official; monthly.)
- Juventud, La. (Literary; weekly.)
- Pabellón de Honduras, El. (Semi-official; weekly.)
- Paz, La. (Political and general news.)

Trujillo:
- Gaceta Municipal. (Municipal; bimonthly.)

Tuscarán:
- Eco de el Paraíso, El. (General news; weekly.)

MEXICO.

AGUASCALIENTES.

Aguascalientes:
- Bohemia, La. (Literary; semimonthly.)
- Católico, El. (Religious; semimonthly.)
- Correo del Centro, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Ideal, La. (Literary and scientific; semimonthly.)
- Instructor, El. (Literary and scientific; semimonthly.)
- Progreso Cristiano, El. (Religious; monthly.)
- Republicano, El. (Official; weekly.)
- Vigía, El. (Political; semimonthly.)

BAJA CALIFORNIA (LOWER CALIFORNIA).

Ensenada:
- Lower Californian, The. (Political; weekly.)

La Paz:
- Boletín Oficial. (Official; weekly.)
- Crisálida, La. (Political; weekly.)
- Opinión Pública, La. (Political; weekly.)

CAMPECHE.

Campeche:
- Aspiración del Estado, La. (Literary and political; weekly.)
- Periódico Oficial. (Official; semiweekly.)

MEXICO—Continued.

CAMPECHE—continued.

Campeche—Continued.
Reproductor Campechano, El. (Literary and political; weekly.)
Isla del Cármen:
Periódico Oficial. (Official; weekly.)

CHIAPAS.

Tapachula:
Semanario de Soconusco, El. (Political; weekly.)
Tuxtla-Gutierrez:
Periódico Oficial. (Official; weekly.)
Porvenir de Chiapas, El. (Political; weekly.)
Semanario Judicial, El. (Legal; weekly.)

CHIHUAHUA.

Chihuahua:
Boletín Judicial. (Legal; monthly.)
Boletín Municipal. (Municipal; monthly.)
Enterprise, The. (Literary; weekly.)
Gaceta Minera, La. (Mining; weekly.)
Idea Libre, La. (Political; semiweekly.)
Luz Chihuahuense, La. (Musical; semimonthly.)
Mefistófeles. (Advertising; weekly.)
Norte, El. (Political and literary; semiweekly.)
Obrero Escolar, El. (Educational; monthly.)
Periódico Oficial. (Official; weekly.)
Propagador, El. (Religious; weekly.)
Renacimiento, El. (Political; weekly.)
Revista Católica, La. (Religious; weekly.)
Chinipas:
Voz de Arteaga, La. (Literary; weekly.)
Ciudad Juárez:
Agricultor Mexicano, El. (Agricultural; monthly.)
Observador del Norte, El. (Political; weekly.)
Revista Internacional, La. (Industrial and commercial; weekly.)
Hidalgo del Parral:
Hijo del Parral, El. (Political; weekly.)

CHIHUAHUA—continued.

Jiménez:
Despachador, El. (Literary; weekly.)
Nigromante, El. (Political; weekly.)
Santa Rosalía Camargo:
Eco de Camargo, El. (Literary; weekly.)

COAHUILA.

Ciudad Porfirio Díaz:
Frontera de Coahuila y Texas, La. (Miscellaneous; monthly.)
International Review, The. (Literary; weekly.)
Monitor Fronterizo, El. (Literary; trimonthly.)
Razón Social, La. (Political; weekly.)
Ciudad Romero Rubio:
Minero, El. (Literary; weekly.)
Monclova:
Progreso, El. (Miscellaneous; semiweekly.)
Revista del Norte, La. (Literary; weekly.)
Parras de la Fuente:
Gaceta de Parras, La. (Literary and political; weekly.)
Saltillo:
Bautista de Coahuila, El. (Religious; monthly.)
Boletín Escolar, El. (Educational; semimonthly.)
Expositor Bíblico, El. (Religious; monthly.)
Fé Católica, La. (Literary and political; weekly.)
Juventud, La. (Literary and political; weekly.)
Municipio, El. (Official; semimonthly.)
Periódico Oficial. (Official; weekly.)
Sol, El. (Political; weekly.)
Torreon:
Martillador, El. (Political; semimonthly.)

COLIMA.

Colima:
Amigo del Hogar, El. (Miscellaneous; semimonthly.)
Boletín Religioso. (Religious; weekly.)

MEXICO—Continued.

COLIMA—continued.

Colima—Continued.

Educación Contemporánea, La. (Educational; semimonthly.)
Estado de Colima, El. (Official; weekly.)
Magisterio Colimense, El. (Educational; semimonthly.)
Nota de Precios. (Commercial; monthly.)
Opinión Libre, La. (Political; semimonthly.)
Revista del Mercado. (Commercial; monthly.)
Revista de Precios. (Commercial; monthly.)

DISTRITO FEDERAL (FEDERAL DISTRICT).

Mexico:

Abogado Cristiano, El. (Religious; monthly.)
Agente de Novedades. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)
Album Bohemio. (Political and literary; weekly.)
América Artística, La. (Arts and literature; weekly.)
Anales de la Sociedad Mexicana Cirujía. (Medical; monthly.)
Anarquista, El. (General news; weekly.)
Anglo Americano, El. (Literary; weekly.)
Anunciador Médico Farmacéutico, El. (Medical; monthly.)
Apostolado de la Cruz, El. (Religious; weekly.)
Aurora, La. (Musical; weekly.)
Bandera Cristiana, La. (Religious; monthly.)
Bandera del Apostolado, La. (Religious; monthly.)
Bazar de la Moda. (Fashions; monthly.)
Bien Social, El. (Miscellaneous; semimonthly.)
Boletín Bibliográfico. (Bibliography; monthly.)
Boletín de Bouret. (Advertising; monthly.)
Boletín de la Cofradía del Divino Rostro. (Religious.)

DISTRITO FEDERAL—continued.

Mexico—Continued.

Boletín de la Junta Directiva. (Religious; monthly.)
Boletín de la Mexicana. (Life insurance; monthly.)
Boletín de la Mutua. (Life insurance; monthly.)
Boletín de la Sociedad Agrícola. (Agricultural; weekly.)
Boletín de la Sociedad Fraternal del Ejército Mexicano. (Military; semimonthly.)
Boletín de las Hijas de María. (Religious; monthly.)
Boletín Financiero y Minero. (Financial; daily.)
Boletín Judicial. (Legal; daily.)
Boletín Masónico. (Semimonthly.)
Boletín Mercantil. (Commercial.)
Boletín Salesiano. (Religious; semimonthly.)
Bolsa Mercantil. (Financial; daily.)
Catecismo, El. (Religious; weekly.)
Christian Work, The. (Religious; monthly.)
Ciencia Jurídica, La. (Legal; semimonthly.)
Codigo de Procedimientos Civiles. (Legal; weekly.)
Codigo Federal de Procedimientos Civiles. (Legal; weekly.)
Colono, El. (Colonization; semimonthly.)
Combate, El. (Political; daily.)
Cometa, El. (Political; weekly.)
Cómico. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)
Continente Americano, El. (Political; semiweekly.)
Convención Radical, La. (Political and literary; semimonthly.)
Correo de España, El. (Political; semimonthly.)
Correo de Mexico, El. (Political; weekly.)
Correo Español, El. (Organ of Spanish colony; daily.)
Courrier Français, Le. (Political; daily.)
Crónica Médica Mexicana. (Medical; monthly.)
Cruz, La. (Religious; weekly.)

MEXICO—Continued.

DISTRITO FEDERAL—continued.

Mexico—Continued.

Cuba Libre. (Political; weekly.)
Derecho Militar Mexicano. (Military law; monthly.)
Deutsche Zeitung. (General news; daily.)
Diablito Bromista, El. (Political; weekly.)
Diario del Hogar. (Political and general news; daily.)
Diario Oficial. (Official; daily.)
Economista Mexicano, El. (Financial; weekly.)
Eco Pedagógico, El. (Educational; semimonthly.)
Ejército Mexicano, El. (Military; semiweekly.)
Enseñanza Moderna, La. (Educational; weekly.)
Enseñanza Objetiva, La. (Educational; daily.)
Escolar, El. (Educational; weekly.)
Escuela de Agricultura, La. (General news; semimonthly.)
Escuela Nacional, La. (Educational; semimonthly.)
España Artística. (General news; weekly.)
Español, El. (Organ of Spanish colony; semiweekly.)
Evangelista Ilustrado, El. (Religious; semimonthly.)
Evening Telegram, The. (General news; daily.)
Evolución Escolar, La. (Educational; weekly.)
Evolución, La. (Educational; semimonthly.)
Farmacéutico Universal, El. (Medical; monthly.)
Farmacia, La. (Pharmaceutical; semiweekly.)
Faro, El. (Religious; weekly.)
Federación, La. (Political; monthly.)
Fraternal, La. (Life insurance; semiweekly.)
Frégoli. (General news; weekly.)
Gaceta de Policía, La. (Daily.)
Gacet-a Eclesiástica, La. (Religious; semiweekly.)

DISTRITO FEDERAL—continued.

Mexico—Continued.

Gaceta Médica, La. (Medical; monthly.)
Gaceta Municipal, La. (Municipal; monthly.)
Gedeón. (General news; weekly.)
Globo, El. (Political; daily.)
Guiador Infantil, El. (Educational; monthly.)
Guía Passé Partout. (Guide; monthly.)
Guía Práctica de Derecho. (Legal; weekly.)
Hacendado Mexicano, El. (Agricultural; semimonthly.)
Heraldo, El. (Advertising; monthly.)
Hermana de la Caridad, La. (Religious; weekly.)
Hijo del Ahuizote, El. (Political and general; weekly.)
Hijo del Pueblo, El. (Political; weekly.)
Historia de Santa Mónica. (Biographical; weekly.)
Hogar Católico, El. (Religious; monthly.)
Homeopatía, La. (Medical; monthly.)
Ilustración Veterinaria. (Veterinary; trimonthly.)
Imparcial, El. (Political; daily.)
Kolonist, Der. (Colonization; semimonthly.)
Latino Americano, El. (Political and general; semimonthly.)
L'Echo du Mexique. (Organ of French colony; daily.)
Ley, La. (Legal; weekly.)
Libro de Cocina, El. (Culinary art; monthly.)
Lucha, La. (Political; monthly.)
Luz, La. (Political and religious; monthly.)
Manual del Notariado. (Legal.)
Mexican Financier, The. (Financial; weekly.)
Mexican Herald, The. (General news; daily.)
Mexican Sportsman, The. (Sporting matters; weekly.)

MEXICO—Continued.

DISTRITO FEDERAL—continued.

Mexico—Continued.

México Actual. (General news; weekly.)
México Artístico. (Arts; weekly.)
México y Barcelona. (History; weekly.)
Mexique, Le. (Commercial; semimonthly.)
Mimí. (Educational; weekly.)
Moda Elegante, La. (Fashions; weekly.)
Monitor Filatélico, El. (Weekly.)
Mosco, El. (General news; weekly.)
Movimiento Comercial, El. (Commercial; daily.)
Mundo, El. (Political; daily.)
Mundo Ilustrado, El. (Political and general; weekly.)
Municipio Libre, El. (Official; daily.)
Nacional, El. (Political; daily.)
Nigromante, El. (Miscellaneous; semimonthly.)
Nuevo Monitor, El. (General news; weekly.)
Padre Nuestro, El. (Religious; weekly.)
País, El. (Political; daily.)
Patita, La. (General news; weekly.)
Patria, La. (Political; daily.)
Popular, El. (Political; daily.)
Porvenir, El. (Political and general; weekly.)
Prensa Mexicana, La. (General news; daily.)
Progreso de México, El. (Political and general; daily.)
Proyecto de Obras de Notaría. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)
Raza de Covadonga, La. (Political; daily.)
Reina del Hogar, La. (Literary; weekly.)
Repatriación, La. (Political; semiweekly.)
Revista Agrícola. (Agricultural; semiweekly.)
Revista de Anatomía. (Medical; semimonthly.)
Revista de Instrucción Pública. (Educational; monthly.)

DISTRITO FEDERAL—continued.

Mexico—Continued.

Revista de México, La. (Miscellaneous; semimonthly.)
Revista Dental Mexicana, La. (Dentistry; monthly.)
Revista Latino-Americana. (Political and general; semimonthly.)
Revisto Médico-Quirúrgica. (Medical; semiweekly.)
Revista Moderna. (Literary; weekly.)
Semana Católica, La. (Religious; weekly.)
Semana Mercantil, La. (Commercial; weekly.)
Tandas, Cuernos y Pelotas. (Amusements; weekly.)
Toreo, El. (Sports; weekly.)
Toreo Ilustrado, El. (Sports; weekly.)
Tornillo, El. (Weekly.)
Trader. (Miscellaneous; daily.)
Tribuna, La. (Religious; daily.)
Two Republics, The. (Political; daily.)
Unión, La. (Political and literary; weekly.)
Universal, El. (Political; daily.)
Universo, El. (General news; weekly.)
Verdad Histórica, La. (Historical; semimonthly.)
Vid, La. (Viticulture; monthly.)
Voz de México, La. (Political and religious; daily.)
Weekly News, The. (General news; weekly.)

DURANGO.

Ciudad Lerdo:

América Independiente, La. (Political; weekly.)
Avisador, El. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)
Voz de Lerdo, La. (Political; weekly.)

Durango:

Boletín Municipal, El. (Official; semimonthly.)
Centinela, El. (Political; weekly.)

MEXICO—Continued.

DURANGO—continued.

Durango—Continued.
- Domingo, El. (Religious; weekly.)
- Estado de Durango, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Evolución, La. (Miscellaneous; semiweekly.)
- Porvenir, El. (General news; weekly.)
- Revista de Policía, La. (Official; monthly.)
- Unión, La. (Political; weekly.)

GUANAJUATO.

Celaya:
- Patriota, El. (Political; weekly.)

Guanajuato:
- American Medical Missionary, The. (Medical; monthly.)
- Barretero, El. (Miscellaneous; semiweekly.)
- Boletín Escolar Guanajuatense. (Miscellaneous; monthly.)
- Boletín Meteorológico Agrícola. Astronomical and agricultural; weekly.)
- Fraternidad, La. (Fraternal; semimonthly.)
- Guanajuatense, El. (Political; weekly.)
- México Tidings. (Medical; trimonthly.)
- Opinión Libre, La. (Political; weekly.)
- Periódico Oficial. (Official; semiweekly.)
- Pípila, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Unión Mercantil, La. (Mercantile; semimonthly.)

Irapuato:
- Apologista, El. (General news; weekly.)
- Pensamiento, El. (Educational; weekly.)
- Propaganda Católica, La. (Religious; weekly.)

León:
- Boletín Médico. (Medical; semiweekly.)
- Floricultor Mexicano, El. (Literary; monthly.)
- Pueblo Católico, El. (Religious; weekly.)

GUANAJUATO—continued.

Pénjamo:
- Mosquito, El. (Political; semimonthly.)
- Soldado Cristiano, El. (Religious; semimonthly.)

San Francisco del Rincón:
- Heraldo, El. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)

Santa Cruz:
- Antorcha, La. (Literary; monthly.)

Silao:
- Independiente, El. (Literary; semimonthly.)

GUERRERO.

Chilapa:
- Propagador de la Fé, El. (Religious; semimonthly.)

Chilpancingo:
- Aurora del Siglo XX, La. (Literary; weekly.)
- Periódico Oficial. (Official; weekly.)

HIDALGO.

Pachuca:
- Minero de Pachuca, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Obrero, El. (Literary; weekly.)
- Periódico Oficial. (Official; semiweekly.)
- Reconstructor, El. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)

JALISCO.

Autlan:
- Motor, El. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)

Encarnación de Díaz:
- Escolar, El. (Miscellaneous; daily.)
- Pigmeo, El. (Religious; weekly.)
- Títere, El. (Religious; weekly.)

Guadalajara:
- Adalid Católico, El. (Religious; monthly.)
- Amigo de la Verdad, El. (Religious; monthly.)
- Avisador Comercial, El.
- Calendario de Rodríguez. (Commercial; annually.)
- Colección de Documentos Eclesiásticos. (Religious; semimonthly.)
- Correo de Jalisco, El. (Political; weekly.)

MEXICO—Continued.

JALISCO—continued.

Guadalajara—Continued.
- Correo, El. (Miscellaneous; daily.)
- Diario de Jalisco, El. (Political; daily.)
- Estado de Jalisco, El. (Official; trimonthly.)
- Estudiante, El.
- Expositor Bíblico, El. (Miscellaneous; daily.)
- Flor de Lis, La. (Literary; semimonthly.)
- Gaceta de Guadalajara, La. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)
- Gaceta Mercantil, La. (Mercantile; semimonthly.)
- Josefino, El. (Religious; monthly.)
- Juan Panadero. (Political; semiweekly.
- Libertad, La. (Political; semiweekly.)
- Linterna de Diógenes, La. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)
- Lista de Precios. (Commercial; monthly.)
- Litigante, El. (Legal; semimonthly.)
- Mercurio, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Nota de Precios. (Mercantile; monthly.)
- Noticioso, El.
- Perla Tapatía. (Political; weekly.)
- Regeneración, La. (Political; daily.)
- Reproductor Católico, El.
- Revista del Mercado. (Commercial; monthly.)
- Siglo XX, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Sociedad de San Vicente de Paul. (Religious; monthly.)
- Tapatío, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Telégrafo, El.
- Testigo, El. (Religious; semimonthly.)
- Voz de Cuba, La.

Lagos de Moreno:
- Defensor del Pueblo, El. (Political; semimonthly.)

San Juan de los Lagos:
- Eco Social, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Voz de las Niñas, La. (Educational; semimonthly.)

MEXICO.

Chalco:
- Nigromante, El. (Political; semimonthly.)

Tepotzotlan:
- Grano de Arena, El. (Religious; weekly.)

Toluca:
- Atalaya, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Boletín de Higiene. (Medical; monthly.)
- Boletín del Instituto Científico y Literario. (Literary; weekly.)
- Chinantecatl, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Cosmopolita, El. (General news; weekly.)
- Diario de Toluca. (Political; daily.)
- Domingo, El. (Literary; weekly.)
- Eco de Toluca, El. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)
- Gaceta Oficial, La. (Official; semiweekly.)
- Juventud, La. (Political; weekly.)
- Lira, La. (Political; weekly.)
- Tribuna, La. (Political; weekly.)

MICHOACAN.

Angamacutiro:
- Valentín. (Miscellaneous; semimonthly.)

Morelia:
- Anunciador, El. (Mercantile; semimonthly.)
- Boletín Eclesiástico. (Religious; monthly.)
- Centinela, El. (Political and literary; weekly.)
- Chispa, La. (Political; weekly.)
- Crepúsculo, El. (Literary; monthly.)
- Crisantemo. (Literary; semimonthly.)
- Libertad, La. (Political and literary; weekly.)
- Lira, La. (Literary; semimonthly.)
- Nota de Precios. (Commercial; monthly.)
- Periquillo, El. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)
- Porvenir de Michoacan, El. (Political; monthly.)
- Razón Liberal, La. (Political; weekly.)

MEXICO—Continued.

MICHOACAN—continued.

Morelia—Continued.
- Revista Católica, La. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)

La Piedad de Cabadas:
- Párvulo, El. (Literary; semimonthly.)
- Minuto, El. (Political; semimonthly.)

Tacámbaro:
- Baturrillo, El. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)
- Sombra de Morales, La. (Political; semimonthly.)

Zamora:
- Correo de Zamora, El. (Political; semimonthly.)
- Granuja, El. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)

MORELOS.

Cuernavaca:
- Semanario Oficial. (Official; weekly.)

NUEVO LEÓN.

Galeana:
- Eco de Galeana, El. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)

Lampazos:
- Minero Lampacense, El. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)

Linares:
- Trueno, El. (Literary; weekly.)

Monterey:
- Cooperación, La. (Commercial; monthly.)
- Defensa, La. (Religious; daily.)
- Espectador, El. (Daily.)
- Espejo de la Moda, El. (Fashions; monthly.)
- Go. (Religious; semimonthly.)
- Grand Album. (Fashions; monthly.)
- Infancia, La. (Educational; semimonthly.)
- Metropolitana, El. (Fashions; monthly.)
- Monterey Globe, The. (General news; daily.)
- Monterey Journal, The. (General news; daily.)
- Obrero, El. (Miscellaneous; semimonthly.)

NUEVO LEÓN—continued.

Monterey—Continued.
- Periódico Oficial. (Official; semiweekly.)
- Revista Pedagógica, La. (Educational; semi-monthly.)
- Times, The. (Literary and commercial; weekly.)
- Voz de Nuevo León, La. (Political and literary; weekly.)

OAXACA.

Oaxaca:
- Amigo del Hogar, El. (Religious; daily.)
- Anunciador de Oaxaca, El. (Advertising; weekly.)
- Boletín de la Agencia Agrícola Minera. (Agricultural and mining; weekly.)
- Periódico Oficial. (Official; semiweekly.)
- Publicación Para la Enseñanza de Psicología y Lógica. (Philosophical; monthly.)
- Unión Escolar, La. (Educational; semimonthly.)
- Voz de la Verdad, La. (Religious; weekly.)

Tehuantepec:
- Eco del Istmo, El. (Political; weekly.)

PUEBLA.

Puebla:
- Amigo de la Verdad, El. (Religious; weekly.)
- Aprendiz de Tipografía, El. (Typographical; monthly.)
- Boletín Municipal. (Official; weekly.)
- Correo Infantil, El. (Educational; weekly.)
- Democracia, La. (Political; weekly.)
- Escolar Metodista, El. (Educational; weekly.)
- Estudio, El. (Educational; semiweekly.)
- Hogar Cristiano, El. (Religious; weekly.)
- Laurence, El. (Legal; weekly.)
- Manual de Procedimientos Civiles y Penales. (Legal; weekly.)

MEXICO—Continued.

PUEBLA—continued.

Puebla—Continued.
- Observador Judicial, El. (Legal; weekly.)
- Periódico Oficial. (Official; semiweekly.)
- Por Qué de Todas las Ceremonias de la Iglesia, El. (Religious; weekly.)
- Registro del Comercio, El. (Commercial; semimonthly.)
- Reproductor Eclesiástico, El. (Religious; weekly.)
- Revista de Puebla, La. (Political; daily.)
- Tratado de Derecho Mercantil. (Commercial; weekly.)

QUERÉTARO.

Querétaro:
- Sombra de Arteaga, La. (Official; weekly.)

SAN LUIS POTOSÍ.

Catorce:
- Eco de Catorce, El. (Advertising; weekly.)

Matehuala:
- Católico Convertido, El. (Religious; monthly.)

San Luis Potosí:
- Boletín de la Inspección de Salubridad. (Sanitary; weekly.)
- Contemporáneo, El. (Miscellaneous; semiweekly.)
- Estandarte, El. (General news; daily.)
- Novedades, Las. (Political; weekly.)
- Periódico Oficial. (Official; weekly.)
- Potosino, El. (Scientific; weekly.)
- Siglo Futuro, El. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)

SINALOA.

Culiacan:
- Clarin, El. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)
- Estado de Sinaloa, El. (Official; weekly.)
- Gaviota, La. (Literary; weekly.)
- Monitor Sinaloense, El. (Political and literary; weekly.)

Mazatlan:
- Correo de la Tarde, El. (Commercial; daily.)

SINALOA—continued.

Mazatlan—Continued.
- Prensa, La. (Political and literary; daily.)

Rosario:
- Liberal, El. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)
- Sur de Sinaloa, El. (Political and literary; weekly.)

SONORA.

Alamos:
- Estudiante, El. (Educational; semiweekly.)

Altar:
- Progreso, El. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)

Guayamas:
- Comercio, El. (Commercial; weekly.)
- Domingo, El. (Literary; weekly.)
- Imparcial, El. (Political; semiweekly.)
- Razón Social, La. (Political; weekly.)
- Tornillo, El. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)

Hermosillo:
- Constitución, La. (Official; weekly.)
- Heraldo, El. (Mining; weekly.)
- Sol, El. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)

Magdalena:
- Educación, La. (Educational: semiweekly.)
- Voz del Estado, La. (Political; weekly.)

Moctezuma:
- Precursor, El. (Political; semiweekly.)

Nogales:
- Estado de Sonora, El. (Political; weekly.)

Torin:
- Yaqui, El. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)

TABASCO.

Cunduacán:
- Voz de la Chontalpa, La. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)

San Juan Bautista:
- Bandera Roja, La. (Miscellaneous; trimonthly.)
- Bohemia Tabasqueña, La. (Literary; weekly.)

MEXICO—Continued.

TABASCO—continued.

San Juan Bautista—Continued.
- Boletín Municipal. (Official; weekly.)
- Criterio Público, El. (Political; semiweekly.)
- Fé Razonada, La. (Religious; semimonthly.)
- Héroe de la Paz, El. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)
- Lucha, La. (Miscellaneous; monthly.)
- Monitor, El. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)
- Observador, El. (Religious; weekly.)
- Periódico Oficial. (Official; semiweekly.)
- Rábano, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Voz del Pueblo, La. (Political; weekly.)

TAMAULIPAS.

Ciudad Guerrero:
- Unión Fronteriza, La. (Political; weekly.)

Ciudad Mier:
- Observador, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Unionista, El. (Weekly.)
- Verdad, La. (Political; weekly.)

Ciudad Victoria:
- Periódico Oficial. (Official; triweekly.)
- Ramo de Olivo, El. (Religious; monthly.)

Matamoros:
- Banda, La. (Musical; semimonthly.)
- Correo Musical, El. (Musical; semimonthly.)
- Cronista, El. (Political; triweekly.)
- Guitarrista, El. (Musical; semimonthly.)
- Laúd, El. (Musical and literary; semimonthly.)
- México Musical. (Musical; semimonthly.)
- Mundo de la Música, El. (Musical; monthly.)
- Orquesta, La. (Musical; weekly.)
- Pianista, El. (Musical; semimonthly.)
- Sol de Mayo, El. (Political; triweekly.)

TAMAULIPAS—continued.

Nuevo Laredo:
- Zona Libre, La. (Political; weekly.)

Tampico:
- Boletín de Meteorología. (Scientific; monthly.)
- Popular Costeño, El. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)
- Porvenir, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Voz del Pueblo, La. (Political; semiweekly.)

TEPIC.

Ixtlan del Río:
- Viva León XIII. (Religious; monthly.)

Rosa Morada:
- Telégrafo, El. (Miscellaneous; semimonthly.)

Tepic:
- Lucifer, El. (Miscellaneous; semiweekly.)
- Orden, El. (Literary; weekly.)
- Tepiqueño, El. (Miscellaneous; semiweekly.)
- Territorio de Tepic, El. (Political; weekly.)

VERACRUZ.

Altotonga:
- Lazo de Unión. (Political; weekly.)

Alvarado:
- Defensor del Pueblo, El. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)

Coatzacoalcos:
- Campeon, El. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)

Córdoba:
- Boletín Municipal, El. (Official; semimonthly.)
- Juventud Cordobesa, La. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)

Huatusco:
- Voz del Pueblo, La. (Political; semimonthly.)

Jalapa:
- Foro Veracruzano, El. (Legal; weekly.)
- Manual del Comerciante. (Commercial; monthly.)
- México Intelectual. (Literary and scientific; semimonthly.)

MEXICO—Continued.

VERACRUZ—continued.

Jalapa—Continued.
- Periódico Oficial. (Official; triweekly.)
- Voz de la Verdad, La. (Political; weekly.)
- Voz del Obrero, La. (Political; semimonthly.)
- Voz Popular, La. (Political; weekly.)

Orizaba:
- Cosmopolita, El. (Political and literary; weekly.)
- Gaceta Proveedora, La. (Commercial; weekly.)
- Monitor Veracruzano, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Reproductor, El. (Political and literary; weekly.)
- Sembrador, El. (Floricultural; monthly.)
- Siglo Que Acaba, El. (Literary; weekly.)

Tlacotalpam:
- Boletín de la Compañía de Navegación. (Commercial; monthly.)
- Brisas Costeñas, Las. (Miscellaneous; semimonthly.)
- Correo de Sotavento, El. (Political; semiweekly.)

TLAXCALA.

Tlaxcala:
- Estado de Tlaxcala, El. (Official; weekly.)

Tuxpam:
- Eco de Tuxpam, El. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)

Veracruz:
- Diario Comercial. (Commercial; daily.)
- Época, La. (Commercial; daily.)
- Grito de Baire, El. (Political; semiweekly.)
- Guillermon. (Political; semimonthly.)
- Monitor Veracruzano, El. (Political; daily.)
- Mosquito, El. (Commercial; semiweekly.)
- Nota de Precios. (Commercial; monthly.)
- Razón, La. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)

TLAXCALA—continued.

Veracruz—Continued.
- Revista Comercial. (Commercial; monthly.)
- Revista de Precios. (Commercial; monthly.)
- Revista Mercantil. (Commercial; daily.)
- Santo Domingo. (Commercial; monthly.)
- Sin Nombre. (Commercial; weekly.)

YUCATAN.

Mérida:
- Apostolado de la Prensa, El. (Religious; monthly.)
- Bandera Cubana, La. (Political; weekly.)
- Boletín Comercial, El. (Commercial; semiweekly.)
- Boletín Español. (Political; daily.)
- Boletín de Estadística. (Statistical; semimonthly.)
- Boletín de Higiene. (Medical; semimonthly.)
- Correo Popular, El. (General news; daily.)
- Cosmopolitan Edition. (Fashions; trimonthly.)
- Delineator, The. (Fashions; monthly.)
- Dressmaker and Milliner, The. (Fashions; trimonthly.)
- Eco del Comercio, El. (Miscellaneous; triweekly.)
- Escuela Primaria, La. (Educational; semimonthly.)
- Estado de Yucatan, El. (Political; semimonthly.)
- Estrella Solitaria, La. (Political; semiweekly.)
- Glass of Fashion, etc., The. (Fashions; monthly.)
- Honor Nacional, El. (Political and general; semimonthly.)
- Modas Metropolitanas. (Fashions; trimonthly.)
- Movimiento Católico, El. (Religious; weekly.)
- Noticioso, El. (Miscellaneous; daily.)
- Nueva Era, La. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)

MEXICO—Continued.

YUCATAN—continued.

Mérida—Continued.
- Opinión, La. (Political; weekly.)
- Razón y la Ley, La. (Political; weekly.)
- Revista de Mérida, La. (Commercial; triweekly.)
- Salón Literario, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Voz del Pueblo, La. (Political; daily.)
- Voz del Pueblo, La. (Political; weekly.)

Progreso:
- Horizonte, El. (Political and general; weekly.)
- Huracán, El. (Political; weekly.)

Ticul:
- Partido de Ticul, El. (Educational; weekly.)

ZACATECAS.

Sombrerete:
- Reelección, La. (Political; semimonthly.)

Zacatecas:
- Constitucional, El. (Political; semimonthly.)
- Crónica Municipal, La. (Official; weekly.)
- Defensor de la Constitución, El. (Official; semiweekly.)
- Enseñanza del Hogar, La. (Religious; weekly.)
- Factor, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Observador Zacatecano, El. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)
- Progreso, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Rosa del Tepeyac, La. (Religious; weekly.)

NICARAGUA.

Granada:
- Iris de la Tarde, El. (Daily.)

Jinotepe:
- Progreso, El. (Daily.)

León:
- Independiente, El. (Daily.)
- Nacional, El. (Daily.)

León—Continued.
- Patria, La. (Monthly.)

Managua:
- Comercio, El. (Daily.)
- Diario Oficial, El. (Daily.)
- Organización Escolar. (Monthly.)
- Trabajo, El.

PERU.

Arequipa:
- Bolsa, La. (Daily.)
- Deber, El. (Daily.)

Ascope:
- Pueblo, El. (Weekly.)

Ayacucho:
- Debate, El. (Biweekly.)
- Voz del Centro, El. (Biweekly.)

Cajamarca:
- Ferrocarril, El. (Biweekly.)
- Unión, La. (Biweekly.)

Callao:
- Callao, El. (Daily.)
- Cruz, La. (Weekly.)
- Radical, El. (Biweekly.)
- Revista de Policía. (Biweekly.)

Cerro de Pasco:
- Minero, El. (Weekly.)

Chachapoyas:
- Amazonas, El. (Weekly.)

Chiclayo:
- Departamento, El. (Biweekly.)
- Provincia, La. (Weekly.)
- Republicano, El. (Weekly.)

Cuzco:
- Comercio, El. (Daily.)
- Gaceta Popular, La. (Weekly.)

Huacho:
- Imparcial, El. (Weekly.)

Huaraz:
- Federación, La. (Weekly.)
- Justicia, La. (Weekly.)
- Verdad, La. (Weekly.)

Iquitos:
- Independiente, El. (Daily.)

Lima:
- Album de la Elegancia, El. (Weekly.)
- Ateneo, El. (Monthly.)
- Bien Social, El. (Daily.)

PERU—Continued.

Lima—Continued.
- Boletín de la Sociedad Geográfica de Lima. (Monthly.)
- Boletín de la Sociedad Nacional de Agricultura. (Monthly.)
- Boletín de la Sociedad Nacional de Industrias. (Monthly.)
- Boletín de la Sociedad Nacional de Minería. (Monthly.)
- Boletín de Minas, Industria y Construcciones. (Monthly.)
- Boletín Postal y Telegráfico. (Monthly.)
- Comercio, El. (Daily.)
- Crónica Médica, La. (Biweekly.)
- Derecho, El. (Bimonthly.)
- Diario Judicial, El. (Daily.)
- Economista, El. (Weekly.)
- Escuela Peruana, La. (Weekly.)
- Integridad, La. (Weekly.)
- Leguito Fray José, El. (Weekly.)
- Libre Pensamiento, El. (Biweekly.)
- Lima Ilustrado. (Weekly.)
- Loto, El. (Weekly.)
- Monitor Médico, El. (Biweekly.)
- Monitor Popular, El. (Monthly.)
- Nacional, El. (Daily.)
- Obrero, El. (Weekly.)
- Opinión Nacional, La. (Daily.)
- País, El. (Daily.)

Lima—Continued.
- Peruano, El. (Official; daily.)
- Prensa, La. (Weekly.)
- Principios, Los. (Weekly.)
- Revista de Ciencias, La. (Biweekly.)
- Revista Militar y Naval, La. (Biweekly.)
- Tiempo, El. (Daily.)
- Voce d'Italia, La. (Biweekly.)

Mollendo:
- Puerto, El. (Daily.)

Monsefu:
- Centinela, El. (Weekly.)
- Enzeña Ciudadana, La. (Weekly.)

Moquegua:
- Reforma, La. (Weekly.)

Pisco:
- Municipal, El. (Weekly.)

Piura:
- Nueva Era, La. (Weekly.)
- Revista del Norte, La. (Weekly.)

Puno:
- Época, La. (Weekly.)

Tarma:
- Tarmeño, El. (Weekly.)

Trujillo:
- Industria, La. (Daily.)
- Razón, La. (Daily.)
- Unión Nacional, La. (Weekly.)

SALVADOR.

Ahuachapán:
- Semana, La. (Commercial; weekly.)

San Salvador:
- Comercio, El. (Commercial; daily.)
- Diario del Salvador. (Commercial; semiofficial; daily.)
- Diario Oficial. (Official; daily.)
- Católico, El. (Religious; weekly.)
- Clínica, La. (Scientific; monthly.)
- Economista, El. (Literary; semimonthly.)
- Estudio, El. (Literary; monthly.)
- Fígaro, El. (Literary; semiweekly.)
- Foro del Porvenir, El. (Legal; monthly.)
- Siglo XX, El. (Commercial; daily.)

San Vicente:
- Progreso, El. (Literary; semimonthly.)

Santa Ana:
- Ferrocarril, El. (Commercial; semiweekly.)
- Imparcial, El. (Commercial, daily.)

Santa Tecla:
- Despartidor Tecleño, El. (Religious; weekly.)
- Propaganda Católica, La. (Religious; weekly.)

Sonsonate:
- Promotor, El. (Commercial; semiweekly.

SANTO DOMINGO.

Azua:
- Intransigente, El.
- Radical, El.
- Tribuna, La.

Moca:
- Amigo del Pueblo, El.

La Vega:
- Pluma Libre, La.

Monte Cristi:
- Nueva Era, La.

Puerto Plata:
- Boletín de Noticias. (Daily.)
- Noticiero, El.
- Pregonero, El.

Samaná:
- Península, La.

San Cristóbal:
- Reforma, La.

Santiago:
- Boletín Municipal, El.
- Gallardete. El. (Daily.)
- Redención, La.
- Suplemento, El. (Daily.)
- Vida Nacional, La.

Santo Domingo:
- Bandera Libre, La.
- Boletín Masónico.
- Boletín Municipal.
- Caridad, La.
- Gaceta Oficial.
- Letras y Ciencias.
- Listin Diario. (Daily.)
- Lucha, La.
- Mensajero, El.
- Nuevo Régimen, El.
- Revista Ilustrada.
- Trabajo, El.

VENEZUELA.*

Araure:
- Discípulo, El.

Asunción:
- Gaceta Oficial del Estado.

Barcelona:
- Gaceta Oficial del Estado.
- Restaurador Liberal, El.
- Triunfo, El.

Barinas:
- Gaceta Oficial del Estado.

Barquisimeto:
- Gaceta Oficial.
- Restaurador, El.

Calabozo:
- Argos, El.
- Gaceta Oficial del Estado.

Cámpano:
- Correo de Cámpano, El.

Caracas:
- Clínica de Niños Pobres. (Monthly.)
- Cojo Ilustrado, El. (Semimonthly.)
- Comercio Italo-Venezolano, El.
- Conciliador, El.
- Diario de Avisos.
- Eco Andino, El.
- Gaceta Oficial. (Daily.)
- Linterna Mágica, La.

Caracas—Continued.
- Mudo, El.
- Noticiero, El.
- Pregonero, El.
- Propagandista, El.
- Religión, La.
- Restauración Liberal, La.
- Restaurador, El.
- Revolución, La.
- Sargento Primero, El.
- Tiempo, El.
- Tregua, La.
- Venezuelan Herald, The. (Weekly.)
- Voce d' Italia, La.

Carora:
- Bien Común, El.

Ciudad Bolívar:
- Anunciador, El.
- Eco del Pueblo, El.
- Ecos y Notas.
- Gaceta Oficial de Guayana.

Coro:
- Gaceta Oficial del Estado.
- Industria, La.
- Los Lampos Corianos.
- Semanario, El.

*Some of the newspapers in the principal cities are published daily and others weekly or semimonthly. Those of the greatest importance are published in the interior towns.

VENEZUELA—Continued.

Cumaná:
- Gaceta Oficial del Estado.
- Oriente, El.

Guanase:
- Concordia Liberal, La.
- Gaceta Oficial.

La Guaira:
- Heraldo, El.

La Victoria:
- Debate, El.
- Gaceta Oficial del Estado.

Maracaibo:
- Avisador, El.
- Beneficencia, La.
- Comercio, El.
- Diario, El.
- Ecos del Zulia.
- Fonógrafo, El.
- Gaceta Oficial del Zulia.
- Lectura Popular, La.
- Lira, La.
- Luz y Sombra.
- Mensajero, El.
- Semana Literaria, La.
- Universidad, La.

Maturín:
- Gaceta Oficial.
- Unión Liberal, La.

Mérida:
- Boletín Eclesiástico.
- Gaceta Oficial.
- Pensamiento Libre, El.

Petare:
- Colaborador Liberal, El.
- Gaceta Oficial del Estado.

Poslamar:
- Sol, El.
- Voz Católica, La.

Puerto Cabello:
- Boletín de Noticias, El.
- Comercio, El.
- Liberalismo, El.

Sabana Uchíre:
- Euro, El.

San Carlos:
- Gaceta Oficial del Estado.

San Cristóbal:
- Gaceta Oficial del Estado.
- Tachira, El.

San Felipe:
- Gaceta Oficial.
- Yaracuyano, El.

San Fernando de Apure:
- Antorcha, La.
- Gaceta del Estado.

Tariba:
- Boletín Comercial.
- Comercio, El.
- Gaceta Municipal.

Trujillo:
- Correo de Trujillo.
- Gaceta Oficial.

Valencia:
- Civismo, El.
- Cometa, El.
- Gaceta Oficial de Carabobo.
- Guardia Civil, La.
- London Bazar, The.
- Noticia, La.
- Timoteo, Don.

LIBRARY ACCESSIONS DURING JUNE.

BY GIFT AND EXCHANGE.

American Chamber of Commerce: Yearbook of the American Chamber of Commerce. Paris, 1900. 96 pp. 8°.

American Iron and Steel Association: Annual Statistical Report of the American Iron and Steel Association, 1899. Philadelphia, American Iron and Steel Association, 1900. 77 pp. 8°.

Banji, Edwardo: Elenco di principali ditte degli Stati Uniti del Messico. 1900–1901. Milano, Tip. A. Fumelli, 1900. 39 pp. 4°.

Carpenter, Frank G.: South America. Social, Industrial, and Political. Akron, Ohio, Saafield Publishing Company, 1900. 625 pp. 8°.

Edwardo, Ricardo Salas: The Financial Position of Chili. London (Legation of Chili), 1898. 9 pp. F°.

(Hansen, F. P.), Bunster, J. O.: The Chilo-Argentine Boundary Question. London, South American Journal, 1898. 16 pp. 8°.

Jalhay, Henry: La République de Nicaragua. Anvers, Imp. Ve de Backer, 1899. 60, (1) pp. 8°.

Montúfar, Rafael: Conferencia . . . consejo centroamericano. Guatemala, Sanchez y de Guise (1900). 12 pp. 8°.

——— La Historia. Guatemala, Sanchez y de Guise (1900). 20 pp. 8°.

Moreno, Federico: Las irrigaciones de la Costa. Lama, Imp. del Estado, 1900. 226 pp. 8°.

Ontario Historical Society: Papers and Records. Volume 2. The United Empire Loyalist Settlement at Long Point, Lake Erie. Tasker. Toronto, William Briggs, 1900. 128 pp. 8°.

Providence Public Library: Twenty-second annual report of the Providence Public Library. Providence, Snow and Farnham, 1900. 50 pp. 8°.

Santa Clara College: Descriptive Catalogue of Santa Clara College. Santa Clara, College Print, 1900. 64 pp. 8°.

Scruggs, William L.: Colombian and Venezuelan Republics. Boston, Little, Brown and Company, 1900. 354 pp. 8°.

Enriquez, R. de Zayas: Les États-Unis Mexicains . . . Mexico, Imp. Ministerio de Fomento, 1899. 238 pp. 8°.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS.

Argentine Republic.

Memoria del Departamento de Hacienda. 1899. Buenos Aires, Comp. Sud-Americana, 1900. 289 pp. 8°.

Mensaje del Presidente de la República. 1900. Buenos Aires: Tip. Tribuna, 1900. 40 pp. 8°.

Museo de La Plata: Revista del Museo de La Plata. La Plata, Talleres del Museo, 1890–91. 470 (20) pp. 8°.

Chile.

Anuario de la Prensa Chilena. Santiago de Chile, Imp. Esmeralda, 1899. 437 pp. 8°.

Chilo-Argentine Boundary. The Puna of Atacama. Washington, Byron S. Adams, 1900. 60 pp. F°.

Memoria de la Legación de Chile en . . . Japón. San Francisco, J. M. Torres, 1900. 43 pp. F°.

COSTA RICA.

Mensaje del Presidente de la República. 1900. San José, Tip. Nacional, 1900. XVII pp. 8°.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation of Foreign Countries. London, Wyman and Sons, 1900. 67 pp. 8°.
Trade of Port Alegra, Brazil. London, Harrison and Sons, 1900. 14 pp. 8°.

GUATEMALA.

Ley de Expropiación forzosa. Guatemala, Tip. Nacional, 1898. 8 pp. 8°.
Ley de Inmigración. Guatemala, Tip. Nacional, 1898. 14 pp. 8°.
Ley de Trabajadores. Guatemala, Tip. Nacional, 1898. 8°.

MEXICO.

Boletín de Estadística Fiscal. No. 200. Diciembre, 1899. Mexico: Oficina Impresona del Timbre, 1900. 413 pp. 4°.
——— First half of fiscal year 1899–1900. No. 201. Mexico: Oficina Impresona del Timbre, 1900. 513 pp. 4°.
——— Enero de 1900. No. 202. Mexico: Oficina Impresona del Timbre, 1900. 573 pp. 4°.
Boletín Oficial de la Secretaria de Relaciones Exteriores. Mexico, Imp. de F. D. de León, 1900. 64 pp. 8°.
Summary of imports and exports. February, 1900. Mexico, Secretaria de Hacienda y Crédito Público, 1900. 6 pp. 4°.

UNITED STATES.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Legislation for the protection of birds. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 94 pp. 8°.
Our foreign trade in agricultural products. 1890–1899. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 62 pp. 8°.
Practical tree planting in operation. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 27 pp. 8°.
Report of Chief of Section of Foreign Markets. 1899. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 27 pp. 8°.
Statistical matter relating to principal crops and farm animals, transportation rates, etc., in the United States, 1899. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 759–849 pp. 8°.
Use of water in irrigation in Wyoming. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 56 pp. 8°.
Yearbook of the United States Department of Agriculture. 1899. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 880 pp. 8°.

PATENT OFFICE.

Official Gazette of the United States Patent Office. June 12, 1900. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 4°.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

Consular Reports. Vol. LXIII. No. 237. June, 1900. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 264 pp. 8°.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

Monthly Summary of Commerce of the Island of Porto Rico. January, 1900. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 134–156 pp. 4°.

——— February, 1900. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 162–184 pp. 4°.

URUGUAY.

Dirección General de Registro Civil. La Mortalidad del Uruguay. 1899. Montevideo, Imp. "Rural," 1900. 12 pp. 8°.

Mensaje del Presidente de la República. 1897. Montevideo, Imp. "La Nación," 1897. 29 pp. 8°.

——— 1900. Montevideo, Imp. "La Nación," 1900. 81 pp. 8°.

VENEZUELA.

Anales de la Universidad Central de Venezuela. Caracas: Tip. Universal, 1900. 160 pp. 8°.

Anuario de la Universidad de las Andes. Mérida: Tip. Baralt, 1900. 34, (1) pp. 8°.

Discursos de la Academia Nacional de la Historia. Caracas: Imp. Bolivar, 1900, 39 pp. 8°.

Discursos leídos de la Academia Nacional de la Historia. Caracas: Imp. Bolivar. 1900. 48 pp. 8°.

BY PURCHASE.

Annual Encyclopædia. 1899. New York, D. Appleton & Co., 1900. 878 pp. 4°.

Brasilien. Land und Leute. Moritz Lamberg. Leipzig: Hermann Zieger, 1899. 359 pp. 4°.

Geographisch-Statistische Tabellen. Otto Hübner. Frankfurt, Heinrich Keller, 1900. 97 pp. 8°.

PERMANENT LIBRARY FILES.

Persons interested in the commercial and general news of foreign countries will find the following among the official and periodical publications on the permanent files in the Library of the Bureau of the American Republics:

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Argentinisches Wochenblatt. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.
Boletín de la Unión Industrial Argentina. Buenos Ayres. Monthly.
Boletín Demográfico Argentino. Buenos Ayres. Monthly.
La Industria Molinera. Buenos Ayres. Semimonthly.
La Nación. Buenos Ayres. Daily.
La Plata Post. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.
La Plata Zeitung. Buenos Ayres.
La Producción Nacional. Buenos Ayres. Semimonthly.
Le Commerce Extérieur Argentin. Buenos Ayres.
Review of the River Plate. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.

BOLIVIA.

El Comercio. La Paz. Daily.
Revista Económica y Financiera. La Paz. Monthly.

BELGIUM.

Bulletin of the Commercial Museum. Brussels. Weekly.

BRAZIL.

Jornal do Commercio. Rio de Janeiro. Daily.
Lavoura (A). Rio de Janeiro. Monthly.
Revista Agricola. Rio de Janeiro. Monthly.
Revista Brazileira. Rio de Janeiro. Monthly.
Revista Industrial e Mercantil. Pernambuco. Monthly.
Revista Maritima Brazileira. Rio de Janeiro. Monthly.

CHILE.

Chilian Times. Santiago de Chile. Semiweekly.
Diario Oficial de la República de Chile. Santiago. Daily.
Revista Comercial e Industrial de Minas. Santiago. Monthly.

COLOMBIA.

Diario Oficial. Bogotá. Daily.
El Correo Nacional. Bogotá.
Revista de la Instrucción Pública de Colombia. Bogotá. Monthly.

COSTA RICA.

La Gaceta. (Oficial.) San José. Daily.

CUBA

La Escuela Cubana. Havana. Weekly.
Revista del Faro. Havana. Quarterly.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

El Mensajero. Santo Domingo. Three times a month.
Gaceta Oficial. Santo Domingo. Weekly.

ECUADOR.

Gaceta Municipal. Guayaquil. Weekly.
Registro Oficial de la República del Ecuador. Quito. Daily.

ENGLAND.

Board of Trade Journal. London. Weekly.
British Trade Journal. London. Monthly.
Commercial Intelligence. London. Weekly.
Diplomatic and Consular Reports. London.
Feilden's Magazine. London. Monthly.
Freir's Colonial and Foreign Register. London. Quarterly.
Geographical Journal. London. Monthly.
Journal of the Board of Agriculture. London. Quarterly.
Mining (The) Journal. London. Weekly.
South American Journal. London. Weekly.
Tenders and Contracts. London.
Times (The). London. Daily.
Trade and Navigation Reports. London. Monthly.

GERMANY.

Deutsche Kolonialzeitung. Berlin. Weekly.
Handel's Kammer zur Hanover. Hanover.
Petermann's Mitteilungen. Gotha. Monthly.
Südamerikanische Rundschau. Berlin. Monthly.
Thonindustrie Zeitung. Berlin.

GUATEMALA.

Diario de Centro-America. Guatemala. Daily.
El Guatemalteco. Guatemala. Weekly.
La República. Guatemala. Daily.

FRANCE.

Le Nouveau Monde. Paris. Weekly.
Moniteur Officiel. Paris. Weekly.
Revue du Commerce Extérieur. Paris. Semimonthly.
Revue Générale des Sciences. Paris. Semimonthly.
Revue Politique et Parlementaire. Paris. Monthly.
Tableux Mensuels de Statistique Municipale de la Ville de Paris. Paris. Monthly.

HONDURAS.

Boletín Legislativo. Tegucigalpa.
Gaceta Judicial. Tegucigalpa.
La Gaceta. Tegucigalpa.

JAPAN.

Japan-American Commercial Journal. Tokyo. Monthly.

MARTINIQUE.

Les Colonies. St. Pierre. Daily.

MEXICO.

American (The) Evolution. Mexico.
Boletín de Agricultura, Mineria é Industrias. Mexico. Monthly.
Boletín de Estadística. Mérida. Semimonthly.
Boletín de la Red Meteorológica y Revista Científica. Toluca.
Boletín del Instituto Científico y Literario. Toluca.
Boletín Postal de la Administración General de Correos de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos. Mexico. Monthly.
Boletín Telegráfico. Mexico. Daily.
Diario Oficial. Mexico. Daily.
El Agricultor Mexicano. Cindad Juárez. Monthly.
El Economista Mexicano. Mexico. Weekly.
El Estado de Colima. Colima. Weekly.
El Progreso de Mexico. Mexico. Weekly.
El Republicano. Aguascalientes. Weekly.
La Gaceta Comercial. Mexico. Daily.
Le Mexique. Mexico. Bimonthly.
Mexican Trade Review. Mexico. Monthly.
Resumen de la Importación y de la Exportación. Mexico. Monthly.
Semana Mercantil. Mexico. Weekly.

NICARAGUA.

Diario Oficial. Managua. Daily.
El Comercio. Managua. Daily.
La Patria. León.

PARAGUAY.

La Enseñanza. Asunción. Semimonthly.
Revista del Instituto Paraguayo. Asunción. Monthly.

PERU.

Boletín de la Sociedad Geográfica de Lima. Lima. Monthly.
El Comercio. Lima. Daily.
El Economista. Lima. Weekly.
El Peruano. Lima. Daily.
Padrón General de Minas. Lima.
Revista de Ciencias. Lima. Monthly.

SALVADOR.

Diario del Salvador. San Salvador. Daily.

UNITED STATES.

American Review of Reviews. New York. Monthly.
Anglo-American Magazine. New York. Monthly.
Bulletin of the American Geographical Society. New York.
Bulletin of the Free Museum of Science and Arts. Philadelphia. Quarterly.
Century Magazine. New York. Monthly.
Chicago Record. Chicago. Daily.
Coal Trade Journal. New York. Weekly.
Cram's Magazine. Chicago. Monthly.
Export Implement Age. Philadelphia. Monthly.

Field Columbian Museum Publications. Chicago.
India Rubber World. New York. Monthly.
Modern Machinery. Chicago. Monthly.
Modern Mexico. St. Louis. Monthly.
National Geographic Magazine. Washington. Monthly.
Novedades (Las). New York. Weekly.
Pan-American Magazine. Buffalo. Monthly.
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REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA.

EL TRIGO EN 1899-1900.

"Estamos todavía lejos de la fecha en que se publicarán los informes oficiales sobre la cosecha de trigo en 1899-1900, pues la mayor parte de ella está aun en trojas, sin trillar, y han de transcurrir más de dos meses para que esa operación esté terminada.

"Las dependencias del Ministerio de Agricultura reciben, sin embargo, detalles parciales referentes al rendimiento en cada colonia, datos que, con los correspondientes á la cantidad de hectáreas sembradas, nos han servido de base para el estudio que nos ocupa, revelador de la cantidad de trigo que se trillará de la cosecha de 1899-1900 y de las cantidades de ese grano que el consumo permitirá exportar.

"La cifra casi exacta de la extensión sembrada con trigo es la de 3,200,000 hectáreas en toda la República. Se sabe que la cosecha última ha sido una de las mejores que ha tenido la República Argentina, por cuanto no han causado estragos en los sembrados ni la langosta ni los cambios climatológicos.

"La cosecha de 1898-99 dió un promedio general de 929 kilogramos de trigo por cada hectárea sembrada; aunque se sabe que el rendimiento de la de 1899-1900 será mayor, aceptamos este promedio para calcular el total de esta última.

"Tres millones doscientas mil hectáreas sembradas, con un rendimiento medio de 929 kilos, dan un gran total de 2,972,800 toneladas; 3,000,000 de toneladas en números redondos.

"Para establecer la cantidad de trigo que será posible exportar en el año actual deducimos de la producción las cantidades destinadas al

consumo y á semilla, así como también las que se convertirán en harina de exportación, á saber:

	Toneladas.
Trigo exportado en harina	80,000
Consumo: 4,645,000 habitantes á 133 k	618,000
Semilla para 3,200,000 hectáreas á 65 k	208,000
Total	906,000

"Tenemos, pues, 906,000 toneladas de trigo empleado en el consumo, harinas y semilla; 1,000,000 de toneladas en números redondos.

"Quedan para la exportación 2,000,000 de toneladas que se exportaron en 1809.

"Está de más decir que, á pesar de las rectificaciones á que hemos sometido los cálculos que nos ocupan, es prudente hacer las reservas del caso sobre ellos, por cuanto los resultados finales de la cosecha pueden hacerlo variar en más ó menos proporción." (De "La Prensa," de Buenos Aires.)

INDUSTRIA MINERA.

Según "La Revista Comercial é Industrial de Minas," de Santiago de Chile, la industria minera en la República Argentina se está desarrollando con rapidez bien marcada bajo la ayuda de capitalistas extranjeros.

En la provincia de la Rioja, cerca de Famatina, ha adquirido una sociedad belga una valiosa propiedad, con el objeto de explotar minerales de plata y plomo que allí existen en gran abundancia.

En el pueblo de Nonogasta está trabajando una compañía minera que en el último año ha obtenido muy buenos resultados.

Según un informe de un ingeniero de mucha fama, el mineral de Famatina encierra una riqueza fenomenal.

Las provincias de Jujui y Salta poseen depósitos importantes de borax. Se ha formado un sindicato en Bruselas, con un capital de 2,000,000 de pesos oro, con el objeto de explotarlos.

Durante este último tiempo la Rioja ha hecho una abundante exportación de minerales, incluyendo entre éstos una cantidad regular de metales de cobre.

Las minas de cobre de Tilcara, las de plata de Santa Rosa, y las de carbón y petróleo en San Pedro están todas en beneficio.

En Mendoza y Córdoba se han descubierto yacimientos de mármol de muy buena calidad.

En las provincias de Cuyo y San Juan la mayor parte de las antiguas minas están en trabajo.

En Cafazate, provincia de Salta, se ha descubierto carbón de buena calidad. El Gobierno ha ordenado hacer una prueba de su bondad, en los buques de la escuadra.

LA PRODUCCIÓN AGRÍCOLA EN 1899.

El periódico "La Nación," de Buenos Aires, ha publicado en su edición del 28 de mayo el artículo que á continuación se reproduce:

"Según datos oficiales, la producción agrícola ha sido muy crecida en el último año, y la exportación de sus productos llegó á $59,919,163 oro, lo que representa un aumento sobre 1898 de $21,443,727 oro, originado por la abundante cosecha de trigo, maíz y lino.

"La exportación de trigo alcanzó á 1,713,429 toneladas, lo que importa un valor de $38,078,343 oro. Se cumplieron las esperanzas optimistas que abrigaban nuestros agricultores al prever el rendimiento de sus cosechas. Los peligros á que siempre están expuestos los sembrados han sido salvados este año. Las condiciones climatológicas fueron favorables, y la langosta, que en años anteriores fué una plaga arrasadora de los cultivos y desmoralizadora para los esfuerzos del agricultor, ha sido casi extirpada, gracias al empeño demostrado por el Gobierno y los particulares para combatirla. El éxito de la cosecha ha sido superior al de años anteriores, tanto en cantidad como en calidad.

"Se calcula la superficie cultivada con trigo en 1897–98 en 2,325,000 hectáreas, aproximadamente, y la de 1898–99 en 25,000,000 de hectáreas.

"El cálculo del rendimiento publicado establecía que la superficie sembrada de las cuatro provincias agrícolas era de 2,494,528 hectáreas, con una producción aproximada de 2,316,807 toneladas. Con el producto de las demás partes del país, que se supone en 89,000 toneladas, se calculó la cosecha en 2,396,000 toneladas, y si á esto agregamos la cantidad de trigo trillado por más de 680 máquinas trilladoras, de las que no se habían recibido datos y que debe ascender á más de 100,000 toneladas, resulta que la producción de trigo de la República alcanza á 2,500,000 toneladas.

"La exportación de trigo asume hoy proporciones considerables, y para comprobar su desarrollo recordaremos que en 1885 se enviaron al extranjero solo 78,000 toneladas; en 1888 la exportación subió á 1,238,000 toneladas, para descender á 23,000 en 1889 y volver á subir en 1894 á la fuerte suma de 1,608,000 toneladas. Tres años después, en 1897, la exportación baja á 102,000, y en 1899 asciende á 1,713,429 toneladas, esperandose fundadamente que la de 1900 sea mayor.

"La República Argentina ocupa el duodécimo lugar entre los países productores de trigo, contribuyendo con 1.69 por ciento en la producción universal. Es de esperar que en breve la exportación de este cereal se multiplique, si se tiene en cuenta que en solo cinco años la extensión de tierra sembrada ha aumentado enormemente y que hasta ahora solo se ha hecho cultivo extensivo, cuyo rendimiento puede triplicarse por medio de un cultivo esmerado."

LO QUE SE HACE CON EL MAÍZ.

Con este lema ha publicado "La Industria Molinera," de Buenos Aires, el artículo que á continuación se reproduce:

"En la sección de los Estados Unidos en la Exposición de París, habrá un departamento especial, en el cual se exhibirán los derivados que la industria saca del maíz.

"Los productos principales que actualmente se extraen de ese grano son: azúcar, glucosa, dextrina, harina de almidón, aceite, panes hechos con los asientos del maíz después de la extracción del aceite, aguardiente y un substituto del caucho.

"También se emplea el maíz en la cervecería, en la fabricación de conservas y manufacturas del cuero, en las fábricas de papel como material para acolchar y como materia cruda para rollos, etc.

"Tratándose de empleo más nuevo del maíz para fines industriales, diremos que son dos las aplicaciones que dan margen á un gran consumo de ese grano: 1ª, el empleo del maíz en la fabricación de la pólvora sin humo, pues ya se han consumido y se seguirán consumiendo millones de hectolitros de aguardiente de maíz en las fábricas de pólvora; 2ª, para la fabricación de un reemplazante del caucho, cuyos inventores pretenden haberlo fabricado con un costo de 6 centavos por libra, y que se le puede emplear en combinación con igual cantidad de cierta goma para la fabricación de cualquier artículo de caucho."

MEMORIA DEL DEPARTAMENTO DE HACIENDA.

La Memoria del Departamento de Hacienda de la República Argentina, correspondiente al año de 1899, es un extenso trabajo que acusa grande estudio y laboriosidad, y que contiene datos del mayor interés sobre todas las cuestiones económicas de la nación.

De tan notable documento se toman los párrafos siguientes, que prueban el giro bonancible que van tomando los asuntos económicos de aquella República:

"El acto más saliente y trascendental en el sentido de liquidar el pasado y fijar nuevos rumbos á la marcha económica de la Nación, ha sido, indudablemente, la ley monetaria de 4 de noviembre próximo pasado. Su ejecución ha demostrado su eficacia.

"Su acción sobre el pasado ha tenido por efecto liquidar desde el momento de su promulgación la situación monetaria. El tipo fijado al que todos han quedado sujetos para el reembolso, reduce la circulación de la moneda á la suma de $126,197,325 oro sellado, y la misma ley establece el medio de alimentar el movimiento circulatorio con todo el papel que las necesidades del comercio y de la industria requieran.

"La consolidación que esa ley ha producido de la situación creada por los fenómenos monetarios y la fijación definitiva del tipo según el valor real del papel inconvertible, se han operado sin que nadie haya

sufrido pérdidas, sin que intereses privados puedan decirse lesionados y sin que ninguna perturbación se haya causado. Una transición más feliz no podía esperarse.

"La amortización de más de ciento sesenta millones de pesos que se ha efectuado en virtud de esa ley, del valor nominal de la moneda circulante, es de muy escasa importancia ante la inmensa ventaja de dar á los contratos una base cierta; al comercio, á las industrias y á las empresas una medida fija de los valores y á todas las relaciones económicas la seguridad que reclama su desenvolvimiento."

PRODUCCIÓN, COMERCIO Y EXPORTACIÓN DE CEREALES.

En el número 26 de la importante revista de Buenos Aires, "La Industria Molinera," se registra con el lema que encabeza estas líneas el artículo que aquí se reproduce:

"Los que se interesan y observan el desarrollo de nuestro comercio de cereales saben que en los últimos tiempos se han realizado progresos en la organización que comprende las operaciones diversas que hay que ejecutar desde el momento de recíbir los productos en el lugar de su producción hasta el de depositarlos para embarque ó de cargarlos en la bodega de los barcos. Corresponde á una publicación del género de la nuestra contribuir á que esos progresos sean conocidos por todos, porque así se despertará el interés y las inciativas de empresas para dar mayor vuelo á ese comercio de granos, llamado á ser en la Argentina una de sus fecundas fuentes de prosperidad.

"Constituyen en primera línea los progresos á que nos referimos, las prácticas científicas que han empezado á adoptar las bolsas de cereales en esta Capital y en el Rosario de Santa Fé para determinar el peso del hectolitro y para la comprobación, en ciertos casos, de los caracteres físicos de los granos, los cargamentos de trigo á granel que empiezan á pedirse, la multiplicación de los depósitos particulares, y, muy especialmente, las facilidades que ofrecen los ferrocarriles para el transporte de los productos de Santa Fé, Córdoba y norte de Buenos Aires hasta los puertos de embarque, facilidades que existen igualmente en la Provincia de Entre Ríos.

"Indudablemente tenemos aun mucho que andar para alcanzar una organización regular, y nos faltan todavía grandes elementos para combatir los efectos de la baja de los precios, disminuyendo el costo de las cosechas por el abaratamiento de los arrendamientos, de los transportes, de los gastos de almacenaje, embarques, etc.; pero, aunque lentamente, vamos por ese camino.

"El gran movimiento de este año así lo demuestra. El año pasado, para esta época, habían sido embarcadas 910,000 toneladas de trigo, 87,000 de maíz y 133,000 de lino; y en el año actual hemos ya embarcado 1,367,000 de los tres cereales, lo cual debe atribuirse á la acción de los

gremios impulsados por sus propios intereses y á los progresos á que nos hemos referido.

"Algunas compañías de ferrocarriles que no disponen del suficiente número de vagones los han encargado. La reciente ley nacional sobre elevadores está ya dando sus resultados, y el Gobierno nacional ha dado una concesión para establecer uno en el puerto de esta Capital, y otras tres solicitudes están en tramitación.

"Mientras tanto funcionan en el Rosario dos elevadores, con capacidad, uno para 12,000,000 de kilos, y otro para 10,000,000, ambos conectados con galpones donde, en caso dado y en circunstancias especiales, puede almacenarse el cereal que se hubiere recibido en ellos después de haberlo limpiado, ventilado ó mezclado.

"El trabajo diario que estos elevadores pueden hacer es, aproximadamente, el siguiente: descargar wagones; pesar 2,300,000 kilos; ventilar1, 400,000; limpiar 900,000 y embarcar 2,000,000 kilos. Uno de ellos tiene seis embocaduras, y el otro tres, siendo servidos por correas sin fin, que trasportan el cereal á razón de 2,000 kilos por minuto, aparte de los caños por donde se embarca á granel y directamente á bordo.

"Cada elevador tiene cuatro balanzas de 15,000 kilos cada una, combinadas de manera que en todo movimiento que se ejecute con el cereal, ya al recibirse ó al ventilarse, pase por ellas.

"Los elevadores están alumbrados con luz eléctrica.

"Posee la empresa 16 galpones, pudiendo almacenar 700,000 sacos de cereales. Uno de éstos tiene una capacidad de 650,000 sacos. El director de estos elevadores opina que pueden cargarse en veinticuatros horas 3,000 toneladas de cereales.

"Otro elevador funciona en esta capital en el Riachuelo, construido por la empresa del Ferrocarril del Sud.

"En las líneas que preceden dejamos, aunque brevemente, constancia de lo que se hace y está en vías de hacerse para que la Argentina ocupe en el mercado del mundo el lugar que le corresponde como país productor de cereales, y para que hombres y capitales puedan venir á fomentar este movimiento."

NUEVO PROCEDIMIENTO PARA CURTIR.

Dice "El Boletín de la Unión Industrial Argentina," que recientemente se ha anunciado el descubrimiento de un procedimiento para curtir pieles, basado en la acción de una solución ácida de bicromato de potasa sobre el cuero, limpio de pelos. Después que se haya limpiado el cuero completamente en la forma acostumbrada, se le sumerge en una fuerte solución de sal común, ó se le cubre con ella; luego se le lava en salmuera y se procede á curtirlo con un licor caliente que se obtiene disolviendo como un 5 por ciento de bicromato de potasa en agua, y mezclándolo con ácido hidroclórico. Cuando ha estado en este

baño por espacio de tres horas el bicromato, inalterado, es reducido con el sulfuro de hidrógeno hasta que los cueros se ponen de color amarillo. Luego se les lava bien y se les prepara en la forma usual.

"Este nuevo procedimiento está protegido con privilegio en Norte América, y se cree que es muy conveniente para curtir cueros en muy corto tiempo y con poco costo. Falta ahora averiguar si el sulfurato de hidrógeno es el reductor más barato que hay para convertir el bicromato en sal de cromo. Es posible que se pueda usar un licor de curtir para reducir el bicromato en lugar del sulfureto de hidrógeno, que es tan caro actualmente."

CONGRESO INDUSTRIAL.

Con gran solemnidad se verificó en Buenos Aires la inauguración del Congreso Industrial Argentino. Presidieron la Asamblea el Ministro de Agricultura, Doctor Don MARTÍN GARCÍA MÉROU, y el ingeniero Don FRANCISCO SEGUÍ. Después de que este último hubo dirigido á la reunión palabras muy expresivas, el Doctor GARCÍA MÉROU pronunció un notabilísimo discurso, del cual tomamos los siguientes párrafos:

"La reunión del Congreso Industrial Argentino, que el cargo oficial que desempeño me permite presidir en este ocasión, no puede ser considerada por el Gobierno de que formo parte y por todos los elementos de nuestro pueblo, sino como un acontecimiento feliz que augura para nuestra patria un progreso económico cada vez más sólido. En el vasto dominio de los temas que deben ser objeto de vuestras deliberaciones, caben todas las materias que afectan de una manera esencial á la legislación y á la política, tal como ella es entendida en las naciones modernas y todos los problemas que ocupan á los pensadores del mundo al cerrarse este siglo de incomparable desenvolvimiento científico.

"Las grandes cuestiones que apasionan hoy día á la humanidad, lo sabéis de sobra, son cuestiones económicas. Los movimientos humanos, por distintos que aparezcan en sus móviles y variados en sus relaciones, obedecen á una misma ley que nos impulsa al trabajo por el incentivo poderoso del deseo ó por el áspero aguijón de la necesidad.

"Hasta hace poco tiempo, nuestra vida nacional ha estado encerrada en moldes que hacían prematura cualquiera tentativa en favor del estudio de las manifestaciones rudimentarias de un organismo industrial, entonces apenas esbozado, y que hoy se nos presenta joven, pero vigoroso, reclamando nuestra atención más intensa y provocando el asombro de los que presienten su próxima madurez.

"En escala distinta nos pasa algo semejante á lo que ha sido frecuentemente señalado al analizar el desenvolvimiento de los Estados Unidos. Aquí, en menos grado que en aquella nación extraordinaria, pero de una manera no menos visible, existen lado á lado y se desarrollan al mismo tiempo una sociedad vieja y una sociedad joven—una

comunidad pastoril que no ha salido aun de la faz agrícola primitiva, con sus tierras vírgenes abiertas á la actividad del *pioneer*, y una civilización acabada, transplantada de golpe á nuestro territorio.

* * * * * * *

"Y desde luego, permitidme indicar como punto de arranque uno de esos hechos que deben ser tenidos en cuenta para el éxito de vuestras investigaciones. Hablo, señores, de la importancia primordial que en nuestra actualidad económica posee entre nosotros la industria agrícola. Recorred las páginas del último censo, y, á pesar de sus explicables deficiencias, encontraréis que sus compiladores hacen subir el valor de solo la ganadería á $1,373,660,232. Ese dato es elocuente, pero conviene confrontarlo con las cifras que arrojaba nuestra producción agrícola en 1899. En el total de la producción de aquel año, el trigo figura con un valor de $151,000,000, en números redondos; el maíz con un valor de $39,000,000; otros cereales y oleaginosos con un valor de $20,000,000; el azúcar con un valor de $31,000,000; el vino con un valor aproximado de $37,000,000; el tabaco con un valor de $3,000,000; la lana con un valor de $129,000,000. Así, sobre un valor total de la exportación de $184,000,000 oro, los productos de la ganadería figuran con $115,000,000, en números redondos, los de agricultura con $65,000,000; los productos florestales, de la minería y de la caza con $3,000,000.

"La misma publicación registra 24,204 establecimientos industriales en toda la República, con un personal de 196,000 empleados y un capital invertido de $439,000,000. Creo que estas cifras son inferiores á la realidad. La sección de comercio del ministerio de agricultura realiza en este momento un empadronamiento industrial de la República. Cuando este trabajo esté terminado, él será una nueva y valiosa contribución al estudio de las condiciones de nuestra industria, de su importancia real y de su porvenir." * * *

BOLIVIA.

LEY SOBRE MINERÍA.

El Decreto que á continuación se publica ha sido tomado de "El Comercio de Bolivia" correspondiente al 24 de mayo del año en curso:

"Artículo 1. Se levantará el plano general de cada distrito minero de la República y se hará constar detalladamente en él todo el terreno mineral conseguido conforme á la ley de minería vigente, el sometido á litigio y el franco, así como el concedido conforme al Código de Minería de 1852 y el nombre del respectivo propietario.

"Art. 2. Formado el plano general de un distrito minero, lo aprobará el Gobierno y pondrá en vigencia él la presente ley.

"ART. 3. El plano se fijará en la oficina de la Secretaría de la prefectura, y estará constantemente accesible al público.

"ART. 4. Desde que la presenta ley se haya puesto en vigencia en un distrito minero, las peticiones de hectáreas recaerán sobre el terreno franco consignado en el plano general del distrito y á simple vista de él serán otorgadas ó rechazadas por el Prefecto y sin más trámite, según que exista ó no terreno franco.

"ART. 5. Pedida una ó más pertenencias, el Jefe de la Oficina del Registro de la propiedad minera, la hará constar provisionalmente en el plano general del distrito minero, á fin de que no pueda recaer otra petición y adjudicación sobre el mismo terreno mientras se practiquen las diligencias de mensura, amojonamiento y posesión conforme con la ley de minería. Extendido el título de propiedad, se hará la inscripción definitiva de la concesión en el plano general del distrito.

"ART. 6. Obtenido el decreto de concesión de las hectáreas solicitadas, el interesado está obligado á hacer practicar la operación pericial y las subsiguientes, conforme á las prescripciones del reglamento de la Ley de Minería.

"ART. 7. El Estado y el peticionario pagarán respectivamente los derechos de sus peritos en debate libre entre ellos, y los que están señalados en el reglamento de Minería regirán en los casos en que no hubiese contrato.

"ART. 8. La patente que pesa sobre las hectáreas comenzará á pagarse desde el día en que se extienda la escritura pública que sirve de título de propiedad.

"ART. 9. En lo sucesivo se adquirirá y se conservará la propiedad de todas las substancias expresadas en el artículo 3° de la Ley de 19 de Octubre de 1871, y el 1° del Supremo Decreto Reglamentario de 31 de diciembre de 1872, exceptuándose la cal, estuco y canteras, con sujeción á las prescripciones de la ley de Minería y á las que se hubieren adquirido conforme á aquella ley y Supremo Decreto, pueden reconstituirse en la forma prescrita por la Ley de Minería sin perjuicio de tercero.

"ART. 10. Cuando se pidieren pertenencias sobre depósitos de dichas substancias, en minerales recien descubiertos, el peticionario puede pedir y obtener hasta sesenta y cuatro hectáreas.

"ART. 11. Se declara subsistente la resolución de 18 de diciembre de 1891, relativa á canteras y materias calíceas.

"ART. 12. En la Capital de cada Departamento habrá una oficina de Constitución y Registro de la propiedad minera, que correrá á cargo de un funcionario público, cuyas atribuciones serán las que ahora ejerce el Notario de Minas, y las que se deduzcan de la presente Ley. Estarán bajo su custodia y responsabilidad, los registros y expedientes, planos y todos los documentos y papeles correspondientes á la oficina, y los tendrá bien conservados, coleccionados y clasificados, con índices

cronológicos y alfabéticos, y formará cuadros estadísticos anuales que consignen clara y detalladamente todo el movimiento de la oficina.

"ART. 13. Para los efectos del Artículo 1° los propietarios de pertenencias mineras presentarán sus títulos de propiedad ó posesión y si rehusaran hacerlo, pagarán una multa de 25 á 200 bolívares, que les impondrá el Prefecto del Departamento en beneficio de la oficina de formación del plano general. Si la negativa fuera inmotivada y persistente, se tendrá por terreno litigioso el del propietario remitente.

"ART. 14. Quedan derogadas todas las leyes que estuviesen en contradicción con la presente, y el Ejecutivo las reglamentará.

"11 de abril de 1900."

CHILE.

MENSAJE DEL PRESIDENTE.

El "Diario Oficial" de Santiago ha publicado en su edición correspondiente al 1° de junio el Mensaje dirigido con esa fecha por el Señor Presidente de Chile al Congreso Nacional. De ese importante documento se toman los siguientes párrafos:

"Conciudadanos del Senado y de la Cámara de Diputados:

"Otro año de paz ha corrido para la República y nuestras relaciones internacionales se cultivan leal y amistosamente.

"Funciona en Londres el alto tribunal organizado por Su Majestad Británica para fallar, conforme á los tratados, las cuestiones sobre delimitación de frontera que no pudieron ser allanadas directamente entre Chile y la República Argentina, y hay motivos para creer que ese interesante juicio entrará pronto en el período de su mayor actividad, dándose así un fin honroso á la tarea principal de nuestra cancillería durante medio siglo.

"La buena defensa de nuestros derechos me inspira absoluta confianza, porque está á cargo de un distinguido miembro de nuestro cuerpo diplomático, que tiene como auxiliares á tres servidores del país que conocen todas las faces históricas y científicas de la materia en debate.

"En la parte de la cuestión argentina que se refiere á la fijación de los hitos, según el acuerdo del 22 de setiembre de 1898, no ha adelantado notablemente la obra de las comisiones demarcadoras, por dificultades en la redacción de las actas.

"Un feliz arreglo á que acaba de llegarse, y que demuestra una vez más el buen espíritu que anima á los gobiernos, hará que esa obra marche con la debida rapidez y que las comisiones la terminen, más ó menos, en la época en que se pronuncie el fallo de Su Majestad Británica.

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"En el curso del presente año empezarán en Wáshington los trabajos del tribunal que debe conocer en las últimas reclamaciones de súbditos norteamericanos, que no alcanzaron á ser resueltas en el corto plazo señalado para el funcionamiento anterior.

"Se iniciaron, con éxito, las relaciones diplomáticas de Chile con el Imperio del Japón y nuestro Ministro Plenipotenciario allanó el obstáculo que se había presentado para acordar un tratado de amistad y comercio entre ambas naciones.

"Os recomiendo muy especialmente la aprobación de ese pacto y de otros con varios países europeos y americanos, que están sometidos á vuestro examen.

"Consultada, durante dos años, en la ley de presupuestos, la suma de £25,000 para subvencionar la navegación entre nuestro país y las costas del Atlántico, no ha sido posible, hasta hoy, concluir un convenio sobre el particular con algunas de las Compañías de Vapores, no obstante el deseo del Gobierno de llevar á la práctica esta idea.

"Sobre este asunto, la dirección general de la armada acaba de presentar un proyecto que he entregado al estudio de una comisión de personas competentes.

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"La instrucción primaria ha merecido mi especial atención y se han fundado numerosas escuelas en los puntos en que con mayor urgencia eran reclamadas.

"Deben crearse, en otras ciudades de la República, liceos para niñas, semejantes á los fiscales que han tenido tanto éxito en Santiago, Valparaiso é Iquique.

"El buen resultado obtenido con el funcionamiento del Instituto Comercial hace desear que la instrucción media que está á cargo de nuestra Universidad, según la ley de 9 de enero de 1879, se modifique en algunas ciudades en forma que habilite á los alumnos para adquirir ocupaciones remunerativas sin necesidad de aspirar á títulos profesionales.

"El estado de la hacienda pública es satisfactorio.

"El ejercicio fiscal de 1899 terminó dejando un sobrante de 13,046,186 pesos 45 centavos, en el cual no se ha tomado en cuenta la cantidad de 3,178,657 pesos invertida hasta el 31 de diciembre en la compra de letras de la Caja de Crédito Hipotecario, conforme á lo dispuesto en la ley número 1054, de 31 de julio de 1898, por estar afectos dichos valores al pago de la emisión fiscal. Agregado aquel sobrante á los 109,355,386 pesos, en que se estiman las entradas en oro y moneda corriente para el año en curso, se obtiene un total de fondos disponibles de 122,401,572 pesos 45 centavos.

"Los gastos de la administración que se efectuarán durante 1900, con cargo al presupuesto y leyes especiales vigentes, deducidas las sumas

que no tendrán inversión efectiva, alcanzarán á 106,058,200 pesos 20 centavos.

"Resultará, pues, al cerrarse el actual ejercicio financiero, un superávit de 16,343,372 pesos 25 centavos.

"Las entradas ordinarias y extraordinarias para 1901 se calculan moderadamente en 108,543,186 pesos, que, unidos al sobrante anterior, forman un total disponible de 124,886,558 pesos 25 centavos.

"El proyecto de presupuestos de gastos públicos para el año próximo asciende, en oro y moneda corriente, á la suma de 108,276,357 pesos 66 centavos.

"Los recursos disponibles excederán, pues, á los gastos en 16,610,200 pesos 59 centavos.

"La cifra relativamente elevada del proyecto de presupuestos, proviene de que, aparte de los gastos ordinarios, se consultan 16,500,000 pesos para el fondo de conversión y mayores sumas que en años anteriores para proseguir algunas de las obras públicas.

"Por otra parte, se han introducido las partidas necesarias para ciertos servicios que antes de ahora se han hecho con cargo á leyes especiales ó de suplementos, como, por ejemplo, el de movilización de carga en el recinto de las aduanas, que importa por sí solo 600,000 pesos. Figuran, también, nuevos desembolsos para objetos de calificada utilidad pública, que no dudo habrán de merecer vuestra aprobación.

"Considero indispensable el despacho de una ley que someta á los trámites reglamentarios todas las indicaciones que se formulen por los miembros del Congreso para aumentar los gastos fijados en el proyecto de presupuestos.

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"El embancamiento constante que producen los aluviones en la bahía de Valparaiso hace de absoluta necesidad la adquisición de una draga que mantenga nuestro principal puerto comercial en condiciones adecuadas para los servicios de embarque y desembarque, y evite, á la vez, los peligros que origina á la ciudad la obstrucción de las desembocaduras de sus cauces de desagües.

"El estudio de estas cuestiones y de otras encaminadas al mejoramiento de los puertos debería confiarse, como en otros países, á juntas especiales permanentes, con facultades para recaudar un moderado impuesto é invertir su producto en la construcción de obras que faciliten las operaciones comerciales.

"Se elabora sobre el particular un proyecto de ley en que han intervenido las autoridades superiores de la marina.

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"En cumplimiento de lo dispuesto en la ley número 1054, de 31 de julio de 1898, se ha continuado remitiendo á Europa las cantidades consultadas para formar el fondo de conversión. Ellas suman hasta el

1° de mayo último 15,000,000 de pesos de 18 peniques y ganan un interés de 3 por ciento anual.

"Haciendo uso de la autorización que me confiere el artículo 5° de la misma ley, se ha procedido á invertir en letras de la Caja de Crédito Hipotecario, los fondos sobrantes de la emisión que no fueron depositados en las instituciones bancarias. Las adquisiciones realizadas hasta la fecha representan un valor efectivo de 5,169,571 pesos, comprendiéndose en ellos los 3,178,657 pesos invertidos en el año anterior.

"Estimo que esta medida ha sido parte para aliviar el malestar económico que se ha dejado sentir en los últimos años, y juzgo, al mismo tiempo, que se realizaría una provechosa operación financiera si se acordara destinar aquellos valores á formar un fondo de garantía especialmente afecto al servicio de los censos redimidos en arcas fiscales, devolviéndose de las rentas generales al fondo de conversión el equivalente en oro de las cantidades invertidas en la compra de letras hipotecarias.

"La idea que indico reportaría la doble ventaja de evitar la enajenación de estas letras y de proporcionar al fisco, por medio de un capital colocado á interés, los recursos necesarios para el servicio de una deuda que grava permanentemente nuestros presupuestos.

"Tendré el honor de proponeros un proyecto de ley sobre el particular.

"La existencia de oro, amonedado ó en pastas, en la Casa de Moneda es de 2,699,635 pesos, que se destinarán á la conversión.

"Los fondos acumulados en el país y en el extranjero para verificar el canje de los 50,000,000 de billetes fiscales alcanzarán, al finalizar el año en curso, á la cantidad de 27,699,635 pesos en oro de 18 peniques, sin contar los intereses devengados, y á la de 7,160,000 pesos que estarán invertidos en bonos.

"Agregados los 16,500,000 pesos que consulta el proyecto de presupuestos del año próximo, se encontrarán reunidos con exceso, á la fecha fijada en la ley, los fondos necesarios para el pago de la emisión.

"Se han impartido ya las órdenes del caso para proceder á la compra de pastas metálicas, y dentro de breves días se dará principio á la acuñación.

"Una vez cumplida esta obligación preferente del Estado será acto de prudencia y de previsión que, sin perjuicio de un plan bien meditado de obras públicas, apliquemos una parte de los recursos que nos ofrece esta época de prosperidad fiscal á reducir el monto de nuestra deuda, á fin de asegurar una situación siempre holgada para el erario nacional en el futuro y cimentar sólidamente el crédito del país en el extranjero.

"Al efecto, os propondré oportunamente que desde el año 1902, destinéis á amortizaciones extraordinarias de la deuda externa una can-

tidad anual, proporcionada al aumento que se obtenga en el producto del impuesto sobre la exportación de salitre.

"El monto del comercio exterior de la República, estimado en moneda de 18 peniques, ascendió en el año próximo pasado á 269,336,491 pesos, correspondiendo á la importación 106,260,358 pesos y á la exportación 163,106,133 pesos. Estas cifras, comparadas con las respectivas de 1898, manifiestan que la importación aumentó en 3,998,300 pesos y que la exportación experimentó una disminución de 4,963,298 pesos.

"Sin embargo, para la apreciación exacta de estas cifras, debe tomarse en cuenta que en 1898 se exportaron monedas de oro y plata por valor de 14,271,608 pesos, en tanto que en 1899 solo salieron del país 2,595,577 pesos.

"Sin considerar, pues, el envio de numerario al extranjero, se llega al resultado de que la deportación de productos naturales en general ha aumentado en 1899 en 6,712,733 pesos.

"La exportación de salitre en el mismo año fué de 30,043,900 quintales españoles, superior en 1,575,641 quintales á la que hubo en 1898.

"Se calcula que en el corriente año subirá á 30,500,000 quintales y en el año venidero á 31,000,000.

"El Gobierno observa atentamente la marcha de esta industria, dispuesto á procurar, en la medida de sus facultades, que no se produzcan perturbaciones ocasionadas á afectar el natural desarrollo de la renta fiscal y el valor mismo de la propiedad salitrera.

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"El balance de la explotación de los ferrocarriles del Estado no ha podido ser favorable á causa de los graves deterioros ocasionados en la vía, puentes y edificios por el invierno excepcional del año último y por lo que va corrido del presente.

"Por otra parte, el equipo que hoy existe no basta para las necesidades del tráfico y es preciso aumentarlo de un modo considerable dando vuestra aprobación al proyecto de ley que os presenté á fines del año último.

"Se prosigue la construcción de las líneas férreas contratadas, y en el año en curso se principiarán otras que se acordaron en leyes recientes.

"Me será muy satisfactorio contar con vuestro concurso para la aprobación del proyecto de compra del ferrocarril trasandino y para la prosecución de sus trabajos. Esa obra ejercerá notable influencia en el desenvolvimiento comercial de nuestro país.

"Os recomiendo igualmente dos proyectos de importancia que en breve serán remitidos al Congreso: uno para contribuir al establecimiento de la interesante industria de la pesca en nuestros mares, y otro para construir canales de regadío, que no importan un gran desembolso para el erario nacional y que significan un verdadero adelanto para la agricultura."

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IMPORTANCIA DE LA PESCA.

De "El Mercurio," de Valparaíso, tomamos el siguiente interesante artículo:

"En el Congreso Científico de la Serena, celebrado á fines de enero último, leyó el Capitán de Navío, Señor Don Luis Pomar, un estudio histórico sobre la pesca en Chile, que después se ha publicado en 'La Revista de Marina.'

"No es, por cierto, el Señor Pomar el único miembro de la armada que ha contribuído á poner en claro con sus investigaciones la importancia que tendría para este país la industria de la pesca. Ya el Vicealmirante Señor Uribe le había precedido en este camino con su folleto, 'La Industria de la Pesca,' y el Vicealmirante, Señor Jorge Montt, Director General de la Armada, había empezado, si no estamos en un error, el estudio de los Reglamentos que han de dictarse para su ejercicio, y el de la manera de establecer en nuestra costa una escuela de pesquería.

"Esto no quita, sin embargo, al Señor Pomar ninguno de sus méritos, ni siquiera los desvirtúa. Con paciencia de erudito para recoger de diversas fuentes datos históricos sobre ramo tan descuidado en Chile como lo es la pesca; con ciencia de naturalista para clasificar y describir los variados ejemplares de nuestra fauna marítima; con amor de aficionado para presentarlos bajo un aspecto favorable, y, por decirlo así, sabroso; con patriotismo esclarecido para indicar al Gobierno y á los particulares el modo de explotar una de las más fecundas fuentes de producción que la naturaleza ha puesto á nuestro alcance, el Señor Pomar ha escrito un libro, un folleto, diremos, ó un esbozo tan instructivo en el fondo como ameno é interesante en su forma.

"Si del estilo hubiéramos de deducir el carácter del autor, según aquello de 'el estilo es el hombre,' podríamos decir que el Señor Pomar es un hombre sabio, inteligente, modesto y bien intencionado.

"Entre los datos de su folleto que pueden dar una idea de las inmensas riquezas naturales de las aguas de Chile, apenas si será necesario citar otros que los contenidos en la larga enumeración de los peces, mariscos y crustáceos que más abundan en nuestros ríos y mares.

"En la primera parte de la obra, que es la que dedica el autor á la rápida exposición y descripción de esa fauna, cuenta más de 58 especies de productos diferentes, y de cada uno da noticias é informes, ya relativos á la abundancia con que existe en las costas de Chile, ya á la manera de cogerlo y beneficiarlo, ya á su calidad, sabor y buen mercado, ya, en fin, sobre las curiosas tradiciones que sobre algunos de ellos se refieren. Curiosa es, por ejemplo, la explicación que copia del reverendo padre Rosales, historiador chileno, sobre la cabeza del *bagre*, el cual tiene en la cabeza tal fábrica y trabazón de huesecillos unidos por sutiles membranas, que en ellas se representan todos los instrumentos

de la pasión de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo. Curiosas, así mismo, son las horrendas calumnias que levantaron contra la murena nada menos que dos santos padres, San Ambrosio y San Basilio.

"No son menos interesantes los buenos recuerdos que hace del pejegallo, cuya carne es tan agradable y regalada como una pechuga de ave; del róbalo, que se servía en las mesas de los Emperadores y era caro hasta para los Cónsules, cuando en Chile suelen cogerse en un solo lance hasta 2,000 ó 3,000; del *yatehue* ó corvina, uno de los regalos principales de la mesa de un banquete, y que á veces se pesca en número de 1,500 á 3,000 en un solo lance; de las murenas, anguilas y lampreas, abundantes en Juan Fernandez, y que han logrado interesar á la fábula; de la trucha, muy estimada y muy bien vendida en el comercio; de la sierra, ávida de sardinas, ágil, desconfiada y difícil de coger; de la sardina, que se vara en nuestras playas en cantidades enormes, sin beneficio alguno para la industria; del *pichihuen*, originario y exclusivo de Coquimbo, de carne blanca, suave y agradable; de la lisa; de las aterinas; del *cauge*, *puye*, lenguado, pescada, congrío, jerguílla, tollo, rollizo, raya, pampanito, cabrilla, vieja, cabinza, jurel, dorado, blanquillo, albacora, bacalao y otros innumerables, cuya cantidad es tanta que, según dice un antiguo y goloso cronista del reino de Chile: 'queriendo significarla no deja lugar á hipérboles, y estoy persuadido de que con sólo los peces que se comen en Chile, y que á corta distancia de tierra se pescan, cuentan los pescadores chilenos setenta y seis especies, las cuales en su mayor parte son diferentes de las de Europa.'

"En género de mariscos y otros productos marinos, el Señor Pomar se contenta con citar el ostión, la taca, los choros, agotados ya en la por ellos famosa Quiriquina, la cholga ó cholgua, el *quilmahue*, la ostra, abundante en Chiloé, Guaitecas y Chonos; la navajuela, la macha, el come, el loco, la lapa, el chape, los caracoles (come el *lilihuen*, el *melarhué* y el *piquilhue*), el pico, la langosta, natural de Juan Fernández y cultivada ya en el continente; la centolla, símbolo de la prudencia y del consejo, por su costumbre de ocultarse cuando muda de concha ó carapacho; el camarón de río, el camarón de mar, las jaivas, moras, apancoras y cangrejos, el erizo, el piure, la pinuca, etc., mariscos todos que se crían en las costas en una abundancia prodigiosa (salvo una que otra especie ya próxima á extinguirse), que por su misma abundancia debieran ser alimento cotidiano de pobres y de ricos, y que por falta de aquella industria, la más primitiva, la más elemental de todas, apenas si se ven en la mesa de los chilenos sino en caso raro ó on días de festividad. * * *

"El desarrollo y crecimiento de esta industria, como el de otra cualquiera, requiere tres cosas de todo punto indispensables: los capitales de explotación, un personal suficientemente educado, y mercados

seguros y próximos. Pero los capitales no acudirán á emplearse en la pesca, sino cuando ésta llegue realmente á ser productiva, y no lo llegará á ser, sino cuando haya aumentado el personal, se hayan abaratado los procedimientos de extracción y el mercado, que existe en Chile mismo y podría fácilmente extenderse al extranjero, se encuentre más al alcance de los productores y les sea más remunerador.

"Una escuela de pesca establecida en Juan Fernández, como algunos han propuesto, ó en Chiloé, que por su abundancia en exquisitos mariscos parece destinada á ser una de las mejores pesquerías del mundo, bastaría para educar el personal que esta industria requiere y para perfeccionar los procedimientos de beneficio.

"Mas para asegurar los mercados á la industria, no basta la escuela; es necesario el fomento, la protección asidua de otras industrias derivadas de la pesca, como la de conservas, ya floreciente en el sur de Chile; es necesario que se procure una rebaja de fletes en ferrocarriles y vapores, y que se adopten cuantos recursos puedan servir de barato y rápido transporte de la mercadería á los puntos de consumo.

"No es una medida aislada lo que ha de dar impulso á la industria de la pesca: es un conjunto de medidas simultáneas, armónicas, todas directa ó indirectamente encaminadas al fin que se persigue."

EXPORTACIÓN DE MANGANESO.

"La Revista Comercial é Industrial de Minas," de Santiago, dice que Chile principió su exportación de manganeso en 1884, con 4,324 toneladas; siguió año tras año aumentando su exportación hasta llegar, en 1890, á 50,000 toneladas. El término medio de las exportaciones desde 1888 hasta 1898 ha sido entre 51,000 y 23,000 toneladas. En los últimos cuatro años se ha notado una marcada diminución en las exportaciones de este mineral, sin que haya habido una causa positiva que la motivara. En 1899 se embarcaron 23,000 toneladas, en su mayor parte de Vallenar y Coquimbo. El total de manganeso exportado en los diez últimos años llega á la no despreciable suma de 344,087 toneladas.

No es posible perder de vista negocios tan positivos y de tanta importancia como son los de explotación de manganeso que existen en abundancia en Chile y que, una vez que se obtengan fletes baratos, serán una de las fuentes productoras más poderosas.

Si tomamos como base para nuestros cálculos un término medio de $13\frac{1}{2}$ peniques como valor en Europa por unidad de manganeso, tenemos que en los diez años pasados hemos exportado de este mineral por valor de $12,145,179, moneda chilena de 18 peniques. Generalmente, estos datos son poco conocidos de los industriales y sólo algunos comerciantes están al corriente de sus detalles y pueden aplicarlos en

sus negocios. Si á la suma de $12,145,179 le rebajamos los fletes á Europa, que son más ó menos de 26 chelines por tonelada, cuya suma total llega á $5,943,508, tenemos que la utilidad que le queda á Chile es de $6,201,671 de 18 peniques.

SALITRE.

Los Señores W. Montgomery & Cía., en su Revista semestral del salitre, exponen que el mercado de esta substancia ha seguido su marcha habitual durante casi todo el año, pero que en los meses de primavera, debido á la insuficiencia del aprovisionamiento, se hicieron sentir fuertes fluctuaciones en los precios. El año se inició con 7s. 7½d. por quintal. Las entregas en Europa durante el año han sido de 1,140,000 toneladas, de las cuales 1,017,000 se han importado en el Continente y 123,000 en el Reino Unido. El estado del tiempo durante la primavera favoreció, en general, el consumo de salitre, agregándose á esto los altos precios de otras substancias azoadas. En cuanto á la provision para la próxima estación, dice "La Revista Comercial é Industrial de Minas," de la cual tomamos estos datos, que es de temer que sea insuficiente. Hay en vista hasta hoy 730,000 toneladas, de las que se puede contar que llegarán 700,000 á tiempo para ser entregadas al consumo entre el 1 de enero y el 30 de abril próximo.

Mucho se ha hablado de llevar á cabo una combinación salitrera. Hasta aquí no se ha llegado á un resultado práctico, porque si este proyecto convenía á algunos no era del agrado de la mayoría. El consumo en la próxima estación será probablemente muy satisfactorio, y sólo es de temer que se vea restringido por la baja de precios de los cereales y de la remolacha. La provisión de salitre es de 730,000 toneladas anualmente, y el año pasado fué de 703,000.

COBRE.

"La Revista Comercial é Industrial de Minas" publica el siguiente artículo:

"El empleo incesante de este material en muchas industrias, con especialidad en la de la electricidad, ha aumentado su valor hasta hacerlo uno de los metales de mayor precio.

"En Inglaterra solamente se han formado trece sociedades cobreras, con un capital de más de £3,600,000.

"Cuando éstas principien sus trabajos en los diversos países productores de cobre, aumentarán visiblemente las existencias en los mercados consumidores, y, por consiguiente, se nivelará el precio del cobre en barra al rededor de £50 á £55 la tonelada inglesa.

"No es tan grande el consumo de cobre en el mundo que, aumentándose la producción en proporción tan considerable, como lo harán las

nuevas compañías cobreras, pueda mantener su precio actual de £78 la tonelada.

"Muchas de estas compañías han encontrado ya la base de sus operaciones en los Estados Unidos y Australia en yacimientos más ó menos poderosos de minerales de cobre.

"Hasta este momento no se conoce que de este inmenso capital reunido para trabajar el cobre haya venido una sola libra á Chile.

"Sabido es que en casi todos los mercados financieros del mundo somos conocidos por nuestras minas de cobre y su bondadoso rendimiento; sin embargo, los poderosos capitales que el año pasado se reunieron con este objeto en Londres no han buscado nuestras regiones cobreras, que sólo esperan el apoyo de estos capitales para hacerse el factor más importante de la producción de cobre en el mundo.

"¿Que razones asiste á las compañías tenedoras de tan valiosos capitales para no venir á nuestro país á invertirlos, siendo así que han sido formados con el único objeto de trabajar en cobre, y aquí lo encontrarían en abundancia y en condiciones con que no puede competir país alguno?

"De Tacna á Magallanes, Chile está cubierta de minerales preciosos.

"La región cobrera la forman más de 10,000 minas, contándose entre éstas algunas por cuya riqueza y abundante producción se han hecho notar como sobresalientes, manteniéndonos á la cabeza de la mayor parte de las naciones del mundo.

"¿Qué mercado europeo ó americano no conoce á los poderosos centros cobreros de Tocopilla, Gatico, Cobija, Antofagasta, Chañaral, Puquíos, Cerro Blanco, Huasco, Vallenar, La Higuera, Tamaya, etc.?

"El dinero invertido en Chile en trabajos cobreros es muy poco en relación con la gran abundancia en que se encuentra este mineral. Con la mitad del capital que han suscrito las compañías inglesas, Chile podría producir más cobre que todos los demás países productores juntos.

"Tenemos regiones enteras inexplorados y muchas otras en simple amparo, después de inteligentes y detenidos estudios que prueban la bondad de sus minerales. En nuestra zona cobrera se presenta el mineral bajo casi todas las formas conocidas en la naturaleza, reinando entre ellos los sulfuros, bronces morados, plateados, amarillos, etc.

"En las Provincias del norte de Chile, Antofagasta, Atacama y Coquimbo, la mayor parte de las minas de cobre principian sus explotaciones con minerales de color, pasan á los bronces morados, plateados, etc., y en una hondura que varía entre los 100 y 250 metros á los bronces amarillos."

COLOMBIA.

PÚBLICA SUBASTA PARA UN ACUEDUCTO EN PANAMÁ.

Un corresponsal del periódico "Commercial Intelligence," de Londres, dice que solamente una casa de Bélgica ha contestadc á la solicitud que se ha hecho de propuestas para la construcción de un acueducto en Panamá. Como las condiciones presentadas por dicha casa no fueron aceptables al Gobierno colombiano, todavía pueden presentarse nuevas propuestas para ese trabajo, que se cree costará, incluyendo maquinaria, cañería, etc., de 400 á 500 mil pesos.

COSTA RICA.

IMPORTANTE DECRETO.

En el No. 128 de "La Gaceta," que es el diario oficial de Costa Rica, se publica el siguiente Decreto, que lleva fecha de 6 de junio de este año:

Rafael Iglesias, Presidente Constitucional de la República de Costa Rica.

"Considerando I. Que es de todo punto indispensable restablecer la uniformidad en la moneda de plata de curso legal en la República, para lo cual se hace preciso retirar de la circulación la moneda fraccionaria colombiana de 835 milésimos de fino, resellada por acuerdo No. 102 de 4 de abril de 1889;

"Considerando II. Que en tanto retira el Banco de Costa Rica de la circulación sus billetes de uno y dos pesos, y pueda por este medio determinarse mejor el monto que el país necesita de moneda fraccionaria para sus operaciones de cambio, es conveniente disminuir desde luego la existencia de dicha moneda, sin perjuicio de reponerla en su oportunidad, si fuere del caso:

"DECRETA.

"Artículo 1. Procédase por cuenta del Tesoro Público á rescatar para su retiro de la circulación la moneda de plata colombiana, resellada por acuerdo No. 102 de 4 de abril de 1889.

"Art. 2. Dentro del término de veinte días, á contar de la presente fecha, los tenedores de la expresada moneda deberán presentarla á la Administración General de Rentas para su rescate á la par por moneda nacional. Pasado este término, la moneda no presentada queda fuera de curso legal en la República.

"ART. 3. La Administración General de Rentas dará aviso diariamente á la Secretaría de Hacienda de la cantidad de moneda rescatada, conservando ésta á la orden de la expresada Secretaría.

"ART. 4. Pasado el término de veinte días, fijado por el Artículo 2, la Secretaría de Hacienda procederá á exportar, para su venta en el extranjero por cuenta del Gobierno, toda la cantidad de moneda rescatada.

"ART. 5. Á contar desde esta fecha, queda prohibida la introducción á la República de la moneda á que este decreto se confiere."

Refiriéndose á este decreto, dice el Señor Don MANUEL ARAGÓN, Miembro Correspondiente Honorario de la Unión Internacional en San José de Costa Rica, lo que sigue:

"En virtud de lo que dispone el Decreto anterior se ha demonetizado toda la moneda de plata colombiana; y como además no debe tomarse en cuenta la existencia de soles peruanos que hay en el país, por cuanto esa moneda perdió el curso legal desde el 3 de julio de 1896, la cantidad de plata nacional acuñada ha quedado reducida á una cantidad no mayor de ₡900,000, es decir, ₡700,000 menos de lo que se había dicho en el número 80 de este Boletín, correspondiente al mes de mayo próximo pasado."

LEY DE BANCOS.

En el No. 94 de la "Gaceta de Costa Rica," correspondiente al 26 de abril de 1900, ha sido publicada la Ley de Bancos expedida por el Gobierno de aquella República á 25 de abril de 1900. Á continuacion se reproduce íntegra dicha ley:

CAPÍTULO PRIMERO.

De los bancos en general.

"ARTÍCULO 1. Todo banco, de cualquier clase que sea, tendrá que constituirse por sociedad anónima, con un número de accionistas no menor de 10, y con un capital que no baje de 500,000 colones.

"ART. 2. Los estatutos de todo banco serán previamente sometidos al examen de la Secretaría de Hacienda, la cual los aprobará, si no contienen nada contrario á las leyes.

Aprobados que sean por el Poder Ejecutivo, deberán presentarse, para su inscripción, al Registro de Comercio y á la Sección de Personas del Registro Público.

Iguales trámites se observarán con cualquiera alteración ó modificación que sufran posteriormente los estatutos.

"ART. 3. Ningún banco comenzará operaciones si no tiene en caja, puesta por los accionistas, la mitad, al menos, del capital que deba reunir según los estatutos, ni las podrá continuar después de un año si no ha entrado en caja la otra mitad.

"ART. 4. Las bancos no podrán adquirir más bienes raíces que los que sean absolutamente precisos para el establecimiento de sus oficinas y dependencias. Podrán, sin embargo, adquirir inmuebles en pago de sus créditos. De los inmuebles que adquieran los bancos en la forma dicha, deberán disponer dentro de un año de la fecha de su adquisición, si fueren fincas urbanas, y dentro de dos años si fueren fincas rústicas. Si no lo hicieren así, la Secretaría de Hacienda, comprobada la fecha de adquisición y sin necesidad de otro trámite, ordenará la venta de dichos bienes por medio de un notario.

La venta que ordene la Secretaría de Hacienda se anunciará con un mes de anticipación, y se hará efectiva dentro de los dos meses siguentes, á más tardar, sin base, al mejor postor. Del precio obtenido se deducirán los gastos de venta y el resto se entregará al banco.

"ART. 5. No podrán tampoco los bancos tomar á su cargo la administración de los bienes inmuebles pertenecientes á sus deudores, ya se haga ésta por cuenta de los mismos bancos ó por cuenta de estos últimos.

"ART. 6. Las acciones de banco no se emitirán al portador sino cuando esté totalmente pagado su valor nominal.

"ART. 7. Los bancos no podrán comprar sus propias acciones, ni admitirlas en garantía, ni hacer sobre ellas ninguna operación.

"ART. 8. Las acciones emitidas por los bancos deberán inscribirse en un libro que llevarán al efecto sus respectivos gerentes ó administradores. De igual manera se anotarán en dichos registros los traspasos ó enajenaciones de esos títulos.

"ART. 9. Todo banco deberá constituir un fondo de reserva. Por lo menos un cinco por ciento de las ganancias netas ha de destinarse cada año á este fondo, del cual no podrá disponerse para distribuir dividendos.

"ART. 10. Ningún banco que se establezca en el país podrá fijar su domicilio ó colocar su capital fuera del territorio de la República.

"ART. 11. Las sociedades que se organicen en el extranjero para fundar bancos de cualquier especie en la República deberán sujetarse, para su formación, á lo prevenido en esta ley, y tanto los bancos como sus accionistas tendrán el carácter de costarricenses, sin poder nunca invocar derechos de extranjería en lo que se relacione con los asuntos ú operaciones del banco, que siempre se decidirán por los tribunales de Costa Rica y con entera sujeción á las leyes de la República.

"ART. 12. Los bancos que se establezcan en el país como sucursales de otros bancos extranjeros quedan igualmente sujetos á lo dispuesto en el artículo anterior.

"ART. 13. Toda deuda constituída directamente á favor de un banco y pagadera por partes, ó cuyos intereses se paguen en períodos distintos, lleva implícita la condición de que el todo de la deuda se considera vencido con sólo la falta de pago de un período de intereses ó de uno

de los plazos convenidos, sin perjuicio de que el deudor reconozca intereses moratorios sobre lo atrasado únicamente.

"ART. 14. Toda deuda otorgada directamente á favor de un banco con garantía de prenda, constituída en escritura pública ó hipoteca, lleva implícita la renuncia del deudor de los trámites del juicio ejecutivo: en estos casos se aplicarán, sin necesidad de cláusula expresa, los artículos 422, 423 y 445 del Código Civil.

Si el precio de la cosa dada en prenda ó hipoteca bajare de tal manera que no alcance á cubrir el monto de la deuda y un diez por ciento más, los deudores estarán obligados á mejorar la garantía dentro de los tres días siguientes al requerimiento que se les hará por medio de un notario ó de un juez. Si no lo hicieren, el banco tendrá por vencido el plazo y por exigible la deuda.

"ART. 15. Para constituir hipoteca á favor de un banco, es suficiente que se haga constar el contrato al pie de una certificación que, sobre propiedad del inmueble y sus gravámenes, expida el Registro Público, siempre que el deudor haga autenticar su firma por un notario, en la forma prevenida en la Ley de Notariado. La cesión de créditos hipotecarios que haga el banco ó que á su favor se otorgue podrá hacerse por simple endoso, firmado por el endosante, al pie del título de crédito, siempre que el endosante haga autenticar su firma por un notario en la forma antes dicha.

La cancelación de las hipotecas otorgadas ó cedidas á favor de un banco podrá hacerse por medio de una razón de pago puesta al pie del título de crédito y firmada por el Gerente ó Administrador. Esta firma será autenticada por un notario.

"ART. 16. Corresponde á la Secretaría de Hacienda la superior vigilancia de todos los bancos, á fin de que éstos se mantengan dentro del límite de su derecho con arreglo á la presente ley.

CAPÍTULO SEGUNDO.

De los bancos de emisión.

"ART. 17. Ninguna sociedad ni persona alguna podrá poner en circulación documento de ninguna clase que contenga una promesa de pago en efectivo, al portador y á la vista.

Los documentos así emitidos no producen acción civil.

El que los firmare pagará una multa de 500 colones, ó el diez por ciento del valor que expresen los documentos, si este valor excediere de 5,000 colones.

"ART. 18. Los bancos hipotecarios no podrán emitir billetes al portador y á la vista, pero sí podrán poner en circulación bonos hipotecarios amortizables conforme los estatutos del banco lo dispongan por una suma igual á la que representen las primeras hipotecas otorgadas á su favor.

"ART. 19. Solamente los bancos no hipotecarios, cuando sus estatutos les concedan tal facultad, podrán emitir billetes al portador, con arreglo á las condiciones que determina esta ley.

"ART. 20. No podrá emitir billetes al portador el banco cuyo capital pagado sea inferior á un millón de colones, y que, al empezar sus operaciones de emisión, no lo tenga en sus arcas en la misma moneda nacional de oro (el colón).

"ART. 21. Se tendrá, para el efecto de emitir billetes, como constituído en moneda nacional de oro, el capital efectivo de los bancos establecidos sin emisión que, en cualquier tiempo después de comenzadas sus operaciones, resolvieren emitir, siempre que dicho capital pagado no sea menor de un millón de colones.

De igual manera se tendrá como constituído en moneda nacional de oro, para el efecto de emitir, el capital efectivo de los bancos actualmente establecidos ó que se establezcan en el país antes de que circule la nueva moneda nacional de oro (el colón), siempre que dicho capital pagado no baje de un millón de pesos, plata actual.

"ART. 22. El total de billetes que un banco puede emitir no excederá en ningún caso del setenta y cinco por ciento de su capital efectivo.

Los fondos de reserva no se computarán nunca como capital.

"ART. 23. Todo banco emisor de billetes deberá mantener siempre en sus arcas, en moneda nacional de oro acuñada, una reserva igual al cuarenta por ciento de la suma á que alcance su circulación de billetes pendientes de pago, sin que en tal existencia se pueda computar el importe de los depósitos pagaderos á la vista, cuyo importe, en consecuencia, se deducirá de la existencia metálica en caja, para el efecto de determinar la reserva obligada.

"ART. 24. Los billetes expresarán con toda claridad el valor que les corresponde, fijado en letras y en números, y la obligación del banco de pagarlos á la vista, al portador y en moneda nacional de oro.

No podrán emitirse sino de los siguientes valores: de cinco, diez, veinticinco, cincuenta, cien y quinientos colones.

Serán firmados por el Gerente del banco y por el Presidente de su Junta Directiva. Para este efecto no podrá usarse marquilla ó facsímile.

No podrá usarse tampoco un mismo color para billetes de distinto valor emitidos por un mismo banco.

En todo billete se expresará la serie á que pertenece y el número que le corresponde. Las series acusan las emisiones practicadas; se determinan por las letras del alfabeto, indicándose la primera con la letra A, y así sucesivamente las demás.

Los billetes de un mismo valor y de una misma serie tendrán su numeración propia: ésta será corrida sin interrupción y comenzará desde el número 1.

Los bancos harán poner á sus billetes las señales, marcas y contramarcas que juzguen convenientes.

"ART. 25. Se considera emitido un billete desde que ha sido firmado y autorizado por el banco, aunque no haya sido puesto en la circulación ó se haya retirado de ella, y no dejará de tenerse como emitido hasta tanto que no sea debidamente inutilizado por el mismo banco.

"ART. 26. Antes de proceder á la emisión de billetes, deberán los bancos llenar las formalidades siguientes:

(*a*) Manifestar por escrito y en debida forma á la Secretaría de Hacienda el monto y especificación de los billetes que han de emitirse, con citación de las disposiciones de los estatutos y demás resoluciones del banco que autoricen la emisión;

(*b*) Declarar el monto del capital pagado del banco, especificando si está ó no constituído en su totalidad en moneda nacional de oro, según los casos previstos en los artículos 20 y 21 de esta ley;

(*c*) Acompañar como ejemplar un billete inutilizado correspondiente á cada uno de los valores de los billetes que han de emitirse;

(*d*) Presentar bajo cubierta, debidamente lacrada y sellada por el banco, la declaración de las señales, marcas y contramarcas de los billetes que va á emitir, y que servirán para comprobar su legitimidad, llegado el caso.

"ART. 27. La Secretaría de Hacienda, dentro de un término que no exceda de diez días desde la presentación hecha por el banco, y previos los trámites justificativos de las declaraciones de este último, autorizará la emisión por medio de un acuerdo, si ella es procedente, ó la negará en caso contrario, con expresión de motivos.

"ART. 28. Autorizada la emisión, el banco, antes de poner sus billetes en circulación, los remitirá á la Secretaría de Hacienda, quien los mandará sellar con el sello oficial ú otro que se destine á este efecto, siempre que se encuentren extendidos en debida forma, concuerden con los ejemplares presentados y su monto no exceda de la suma fijada.

La Secretaría ó el departamento de su dependencia que al efecto se determine llevará un libro de registro para la emisión de cada banco. En él se anotarán los números, series y valores de los billetes sellados, las fechas en que se devuelvan al banco y las firmas que los autoricen. Al margen de los asientos de registro, se fijarán los ejemplares de los billetes presentados por el banco, de que habla el inciso *c* del artículo 26.

De esta operación se levantará una acta que firmarán el Subsecretario de Hacienda, el Representante del Ministerio Público, el Gerente del Banco y el Jefe del Departamento de registro de billetes.

El acta que se levante será publicada en el diario oficial.

La declaración de señales, marcas y contramarcas de que habla el inciso *d* del artículo 26 quedará en depósito en la Secretaría de Hacienda, con razón escrita sobre la cubierta, en la que se expresará el nombre del banco que la ha presentado, su contenido y la fecha de recibo. Será firmada esa razón por el Subsecretario de Hacienda y por el Gerente del Banco y sellada con el sello de la Secretaría.

"ART. 29. Los billetes que no tengan el sello de que habla el artículo 28 no producirán acción civil.

El banco que los pusiere en circulación pagará una multa de cinco mil colones ó el diez por ciento del importe nominal de los billetes, si éste pasare de cincuenta mil colones.

"ART. 30. Los bancos pagarán al Fisco, como derecho de sello y registro, medio por ciento sobre el monto de los billetes que emitan. Este impuesto se pagará por una sola vez.

"ART. 31. El banco no podrá dar en prenda ó depósito sus billetes ni contraer sobre ellos ninguna otra obligación.

"ART. 32. Los billetes rotos, ó cuyas leyendas ó firmas estén borradas, que vuelvan á las cajas del banco, deberán ser recogidos y retirados de la circulación.

Para que la Secretaría de Hacienda autorice el sello de nuevos billetes, caso de que la emisión de un banco se halle completa, es preciso que se le presente igual cantidad de billetes inutilizados con un perforador que diga: "retirado." De los billetes retirados de la circulación, así como de los nuevos que los repongan, se tomará nota en el libro de registro correspondiente, y se procederá con las formalidades establecidas en el artículo 28.

Por la reposición de billetes no se pagará derecho alguno de sello y registro.

"ART. 33. No es obligatorio recibir billetes en pago de ninguna deuda, servicio ú obligación. El curso de ellos es absolutamente voluntario.

"ART. 34. Los billetes se pagarán á su presentación en oro nacional, sin que el banco pueda rehusar el pago sino por falsedad del billete. En este caso el banco hará que se entregue el billete al Juez de lo Criminal competente, para que siga la causa respectiva. Si el billete es declarado legítimo, puede el interesado pedir, y el Juez competente pronunciará, la quiebra del banco, salvo que éste hubiere depositado el valor del billete á la orden de la autoridad.

El Juez, como medio de prueba, podrá pedir á la Secretaría de Hacienda la declaración, presentada por el banco, de las señales, marcas y contramarcas de sus billetes, y con presencia de ellas dictar su fallo. En este caso la sentencia expresará la conformidad ó inconformidad de aquéllas con las del billete ó billetes, origen del juicio, pero sin determinarlas.

La declaración de señales, marcas y contramarcas será nuevamente sellada por el Juez en presencia del Gerente del banco interesado, y devuelta para su depósito á la Secretaría de Hacienda, la cual hará constar de nuevo sobre la cubierta la razón indicada en el artículo 28.

La falta de pago inmediato de los billetes, por cualquier otro motivo, constituye al banco en quiebra, desde luego.

"ART. 35. Los billetes rotos, quemados ó estropeados serán cambia-

dos por el banco, con tal que el portador presente más de la mitad del billete ó pruebe la destrucción de la parte que falte.

"ART. 36. Un interventor oficial nombrado por la Secretaría de Hacienda inspeccionará las operaciones de todo banco emisor.

Son obligaciones del interventor:

1°. Verificar si el banco, al empezar operaciones de emisión, tiene, en la forma prescrita por la ley, el capital que le da derecho á emitir;

2°. Cerciorarse de si la circulación de billetes se encuentra dentro de los límites legales, atendidos el capital y la reserva metálica del banco;

3°. Examinar y firmar los balances ó estados mensuales;

4°. Informar á dicha Secretaría de toda contravención á la ley ó á los estatutos que llegue á notar, así como de cualquiera incorrección que descubra en el manejo del banco.

El interventor no puede ingerirse en las operaciones del banco y no las podrá revelar en concreto á ninguna persona, salvo cuando deba comunicar á la Secretaría de Hacienda alguna incorrección ó contravención á la ley ó á los estatutos.

La Secretaría de Hacienda puede nombrar un interventor para cada banco ó para varios; pero el nombrado no ha de ser accionista ni empleado de ningún banco emisor ó no.

"ART. 37. Todo banco emisor publicará mensualmente en el periódico oficial un balance visado por el interventor.

En el activo se expresarán separadamente el metálico que haya en caja en monedas nacionales de oro; el que exista en monedas nacionales de plata; el que exista en monedas extranjeras de oro y plata; la cantidad de billetes que tenga de otros bancos, especificando el total de los de cada banco; el monto de los valores en cartera y el saldo de las demás cuentas deudoras.

En el pasivo se expresarán por aparte el capital efectivo, los fondos de reserva, los billetes en circulación, los depósitos á la vista, y el saldo de todas las demás cuentas acreedoras.

El interventor verificará la existencia y examinará, con vista de los libros y papeles, si las demás partidas son exactas.

"ART. 38. La Secretaría de Hacienda podrá disponer en cualquier instante que cualquiera de los bancos emisores practique un corte de caja y balance extraordinario, con asistencia del interventor.

"ART. 39. Cuando de cualquiera de los balances resultare que el banco está en quiebra, el Juez, con un simple aviso de la Secretaría de Hacienda y copia del balance que lo comprueba, procederá á declararla.

"ART. 40. Cuando una persona presentare al banco un billete y no le fuere pagado en oro nacional, podrá protestar ante un notario, el cual se constituirá en las oficinas del banco y levantará acta de la negativa. Con este documento, si el banco no alegare falsedad del billete, el Juez competente declarará la quiebra.

"ART. 41. Al declarar la quiebra de un banco emisor ó no, el Juez ocupará las arcas y oficinas del banco y depositará las existencias metálicas y en billetes de otros bancos, en el establecimiento destinado á recibir los depósitos judiciales, dejando inventario.

Los valores en cartera los entregará, bajo recibo especificado, al depositario que nombre, el cual puede ser un banco ó un particular.

Tomará las demás medidas de aseguramiento de bienes que estime prudentes.

El Juez podrá autorizar á un banco de responsabilidad notoria para que cobre los valores en cartera, y reconocer provisionalmente una comisión de un cuatro por ciento por este servicio.

Cuando el banco declarado en quiebra fuere emisor, los billetes de su emisión existentes en caja serán depositados por el Juez en la oficina nacional de registro de billetes, bajo recibo, con especificación de números, series y valores. Se procederá á inutilizarlos cuando el Juez lo ordene.

El auto en que se declare la quiebra de un banco, sea ó no emisor, se comunicará inmediatamente después á la Secretaría de Hacienda.

En todo lo demás, procederá el Juez con arreglo á las disposiciones sobre quiebra.

"ART. 42. Los tenedores de billetes en la quiebra del banco respectivo tendrán:

1°. Privilegio especial para ser pagados del cuarenta por ciento sobre las existencias metálicas del banco;

2°. Privilegio general para ser pagados del resto, hasta donde quepa, con las demás pertenencias del banco, sobre las cuales no haya otros privilegios especiales ó que no deban responder á acreedores de dominio ó de la masa de bienes.

"ART. 43. Fuera del caso de quiebra, ningún banco procederá á liquidarse sin haberlo anunciado al público por el periódico oficial, con tres meses de antelación, por lo menos.

Si el banco fuere emisor ó lo hubiere sido en algún tiempo, anunciará su liquidación á la Secretaría de Hacienda y al público, seis meses antes, por lo menos, de proceder á ella.

"ART. 44. Á contar desde la fecha del aviso de su liquidación, deberá el banco emisor comenzar el retiro de sus billetes, si no lo hubiere hecho antes, y abstenerse de ponerlos de nuevo en la circulación.

El valor de los billetes emitidos en cualquier tiempo por el banco, pendientes de pago al terminar su liquidación, deberá depositarlo el banco en la Tesorería Nacional, á la orden de la Secretaría de Hacienda, con especificación de las series, números y valores de los billetes á que la suma depositada corresponda. Al pago de éstos en oro, al portador y á la vista, queda obligada la Tesorería Nacional, sin responsabilidad alguna de parte del banco.

Tanto de la suma depositada, como de los billetes á que ella corres-

ponde, darán aviso al público en el diario oficial, la Secretaría de Hacienda y el Gerente del banco.

Mientras este depósito sea procedente y no se constituya, no se tendrá por liquidado ningún banco emisor.

Los billetes retirados por el banco, en virtud de su liquidación, se depositarán en la oficina de registro de billetes, inutilizados en la forma indicada en el artículo 32.

"ART. 45. Tanto los billetes inutilizados que presenten los bancos para ser repuestos por otros nuevos, como los que se inutilicen por orden del Juez en el caso previsto en el artículo 41, y los que, por razón de liquidación de sus operaciones, depositen los bancos, serán incinerados por la oficina de registro de billetes tan pronto como se haya tomado nota de ellos en los libros respectivos.

Estas incineraciones se harán en presencia del Subsecretario de Hacienda, del Jefe del Ministerio Público, del Gerente del banco ó del Juez que ha declarado la quiebra, en su caso, y del Jefe de la oficina de registro.

Se levantará una acta que firmarán los anteriormente nominados, y ella se publicará en el periódico oficial.

"ART. 46. La presente ley empezará á regir desde la fecha de su publicación.

Disposición transitoria.

Los bancos actualmente establecidos en el país gozarán de un plazo de sesenta días para ponerse dentro de las prescripciones de esta ley; y en cuanto al Banco de Costa Rica, quedan á salvo, en lo que á ella se opongan, por el tiempo de duración del contrato Quirós-Coronado, de 25 de setiembre de 1896, las disposiciones especiales contenidas en el mismo contrato."

DATOS SOBRE INSTRUCCIÓN PÚBLICA.

En la Memoria de Instrucción Pública, presentada al Congreso Constitucional de 1900, se lee lo siguiente:

"El Gobierno sostiene hoy 361 escuelas primarias de uno y otro sexo; esto es 36 más que el año pasado, durante el cual fué forzoso, á causa de la crisis económica, que redujo necesariamente las rentas ordinarias del estado, cerrar 41 establecimientos de educación común, sacrificio doloroso, pero que la necesidad de economías hizo irremediable por entonces. Quedan aun varias escuelas por establecer, pero la asistencia actual es, aun así, mayor que en 1899.

"El Gobierno ha invertido las siguientes sumas en instrucción común:

"En asignaciones del personal docente, que consta en la actualidad de 863 maestros, $412,922.82.

"En los centros directores de la enseñanza (Secretaría, Inspección General, Inspecciones de Circuito), $45,632.39.

"En Exámenes, $8,228.82.

"En auxilios otorgados á la Junta de Educación, $11,242.50.

"En el levantamiento del censo escolar, $3,678.23.

"Y en gastos diversos, $3,365.90.

"Reuniendo cifras resulta que Costa Rica ha gastado en instrucción primaria durante el año económico á que este informe se refiere, la suma de $559,300.52."

NOTAS MISCELÁNEAS.

En una comunicación dirigida á esta Oficina y fechada en San José de Costa Rica, el Señor Don Manuel Aragón, Miembro Correspondiente Honorario de la Unión Internacional, da las siguientes noticias:

"Ya casi ha terminado la exportación de café de la cosecha de 1899–1900, cuyo monto ha superado á la de 1898–1899, no solamente en cuanto á la cantidad de café exportado, que llegará á cerca de 16,000,000 de kilogramos, sino en el promedio de precio obtenido de las ventas en todos los mercados, las cuales acusan hasta ahora una alza de 20 por ciento sobre los precios obtenidos en las ventas del año anterior.

"Las exportaciones de los otros productos, como bananos, hule, cueros, pieles, concha perla y maderas de tinte y de ebanistería, prometen superar las efectuadas en el año de 1899.

"Las importaciones de mercaderías extranjeras serán aproximadamente iguales á las del año próximo pasado. Como en el año último, excede del 50 por ciento del valor total, la parte de la importación procedente de los Estados Unidos."

CUBA.

POBLACIÓN URBANA.

Entre los hechos realmente curiosos que el último censo tomado de Cuba revela, ninguno lo es en tan alto grado como el de que la inmensa mayoría de los habitantes de la isla reside en el casco de las ciudades. Si entre éstas se incluyeran las poblaciones que tienen 8,000 ó más habitantes, se hallaría que el número total de habitantes con residencia en las ciudades sería 499,682, ó sea el 32 por ciento del número total de habitantes de la isla; y si con el propio objeto se inclúyese entre las ciudades las poblaciones de 1,000 ó más habitantes, se encontraría que la población urbana sería de 741,273, ó sea el 47 por ciento del total de habitantes.

Así como en la Provincia de Santiago un 67 por ciento de su población reside en la campo, en la de la Habana el 77 por cientos vive en las ciudades.

La baja sufrida en la población de Cuba desde el año de 1887 se calcula en un 3.6 por ciento del total, correspondiendo dicha pérdida á la población rural.

IMPUESTOS MUNICIPALES.

El Secretario de Hacienda de la isla de Cuba ha dado un decreto que tiene por objeto poner á las municipalidades en buenas condiciones económicas, con cuyo fin se les han otorgado mayores facultades para gravar con impuestos las propiedades urbanas. Estas propiedades en la Habana pagarán en lo futuro el 12 por ciento de lo que producen, y en otras poblaciones el impuesto ha sido elevado al 10 por ciento. Dispone el decreto que todas las municipalidades que bajo las nuevas condiciones no puedan hacer frente á sus gastos, perderán su individualidad municipal, y el Gobierno sufragará los gastos de instrucción pública, policía y cárceles.

ENTRADAS DE ADUANAS DURANTE CINCO MESES.

La División de Aduanas y Negocios Insulares del Departamento de la Guerra de los Estados Unidos ha publicado un informe por el que se ve que durante los primeros cinco meses de 1900 las entradas totales de las aduanas de Cuba ascendieron á $6,708,077. En el mismo periódo de 1899 la recaudación fué solamente de $5,649,827.

ECUADOR.

CULTIVO DE LA GOMA ELÁSTICA Ó HULE.

Por creerse de interés para todos los países que producen este valioso artículo de comercio, se publica á continuación un informe enviado de Guayaquil sobre el cultivo de la goma elástica en la República del Ecuador. Dice así:

El cultivo de la goma es una nueva industria en el Ecuador. Hasta aquí la goma se ha obtenido de árboles silvestres, pero la despiadada destrucción de las plantas por los ávidos buscadores de goma que no vacilan en cortarlas para poder obtener un poco más de goma, casi ha arruinado al comercio de esta costa. En los distritos remotos hay todavía bosques importantes, pero el costo se aumentará debido al transporte poco eficiente.

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El árbol de goma es demasiado conocido para necesitar descripción. No sólo es una de los árboles más valiosos, sino también uno de los más ornamentales. Sus hojas, de color verde obscuro, son verdaderamente hermosas; el contraste entre el tronco, las ramas y las hojas es muy marcado.

Puede cultivarse en cualquier clase de terreno, ya sea húmedo, ya seco, á una temperatura de unos 60° Fahrenheit, ó aun á una mucho más alta. No puede cultivarse con éxito en la zona frígida. El árbol posee la propiedad especial de fertilizar en vez de esterilizar el suelo; sus raíces atraen la humedad en alto grado, y cuando se pudren constituyen, con las hojas, un medio fertilizador excelente.

Las mejores calidades se producen en las regiones más templadas de los trópicos. En una temperature de un poco más de 64° Fahrenheit, el árbol produce más goma; en una temperatura menor, el jugo exudante se vuelve sólido con rapidez, cerrándosele las incisiones, y cesando, por consiguiente, el flujo del jugo. Unos dicen que el árbol llega á producir á la edad de 4 ó 5 años, mientras otros afirman que requiere un período mucho más largo.

MEDIOS DE PLANTARLO.

El trabajo de plantar el árbol es fácil y poco costoso. Hay dos medios de verificarlo, á saber: plantando semillas ó tallos; aquéllas germinan á los seis meses, mientras que éstos requieren un período de un año más.

Plantación de la semilla.—Las mejores semillas se obtienen en el mes de agosto, siguiendo á éstas las del mes de diciembre. Deben estar perfectamente secas, y se deben escoger solamente en su estado de madurez. Deben plantarse en ollas ó cajitas al estilo del tabaco ó café, regándolas por la mañana y por la tarde, y dándoles una cantidad regular de sol. Cuando la planta tiene una altura de 3 ó 4 pulgadas, se trasplanta al lugar donde debe quedar, soltándose y humedeciéndose la tierra alrededor del hoyo. Entonces se le debe regar profusamente todos los días por el espacio de una semana ó diez días, dándole suficiente sol. Cuando se trasplanta á un suelo húmedo ó durante una temporada lluviosa, no es necesario regar las plantas. Después de unos diez ó quince días, el árbol se deja solo, si la planta es sana y vigorosa, hasta que esté listo para cortar y extraer el jugo. El plantío debe mantenerse limpio de malas yerbas, etc., especialmente alrededor de la base del árbol.

El árbol debe plantarse por el orden que se conoce como "quincunce," estando uno del otro á una distancia no menor de 20 pies. En los espacios se plantan plátanos ú otros árboles de hojas grandes, á fin de dar una sombra conveniente á los árboles nuevos. Cuando se desea encerrar un plantío con árboles de goma, deben disponerse muy juntos, luego se unen como gemelos de Siam, formando un muro contínuo y casi impenetrable.

Plantación de los tallos.—Los tallos no deben cortarse sino romperse del tronco principal, cerrándose la herida por medio de arcilla húmeda. De otro modo es probable que el árbol pronto se seque. Los tallos se colocan inmediatamente en el hoyo, aflojando y humedeciendo la tierra

alrededor de ellos. Se entierran hasta un poquito más de la mitad de su largo y una de sus hojas se cubre de tierra. Tratados de este modo no se pudren, y se facilita la brotadura. La época de las lluvias es la mejor para la plantación de los tallos. Después que éstos empiezan á brotar, no se necesitan otros cuidados más que los arriba mencionados hasta que llegue el período de la extracción del jugo. El plantío debe encerrarse porque al ganado le gusta mucho comer las plantas nuevas.

EXTRACCIÓN DEL JUGO.

Ensayo.—Cuando se cree que el árbol está listo para extraérsele el jugo, se le da un corte á la corteza y se examina el jugo. Si se coagula rápidamente con el calor de la mano ó con la aplicación de un poco de alcohol, es señal que se halla en condición conveniente; pero si el jugo resiste á la coagulación, esto indica que el árbol no está bastante maduro.

Método.—(1) La tierra y todas las suciedades dében quitarse de los puntos donde se han de hacer las incisiones.

(2) Á cosa de un pie de la superficie de la tierra se fija al árbol por medio de arcilla húmeda, una vasija de loza de barro.

(3) Exactamente arriba de la boca de esta vasija se hace un corte transversal hasta la fibra leñosa del árbol.

(4) Arriba de éste se hace un corte vertical desde el punto más elevado posible y se continúa hacia abajo hasta que llegue á la incisión horizontal. Para este fin se emplea una herramienta con mango largo de hierro ó acero en la forma de la garra del pájaro.

(5) Á uno y otro lado de los cortes verticales se hacen otros oblicuos á una distancia de 6 ú 8 pulgadas el uno del otro. La operación de sacar el jugo se comienza al amanecer cuando mengua la luna, y debe continuarse haste las nueve de la mañana, pero no más tarde. Un sol fuerte hace subir el zumo. Las incisiones deben hacerse de un solo golpe á fin de evitar el fenómeno de "encubrir la leche." El árbol de goma parece poseer un sistema nervioso más ó menos susceptible á la luz, calor, electricidad, etc., y á no ser efectivo el golpe dado de una vez á la materia leñosa, el árbol contrae sus fibras, reduciendo el tamaño de las cédulas de zumo contiguas á la incisión, y fuerza la goma, por consiguiente, hacia la parte superior del árbol.

Períodos. El árbol se corta generalmente cuatro veces durante el primer año de su madurez, reduciéndose gradualmente los intérvalos de descanso hasta que pueda ser cortado cada mes. Su producción continúa aumentando con un tratamiento frecuente y acertado hasta que llega al punto máximo. Con debido cuidado un árbol sigue produciendo sin interrupción hasta su cuadragésimo año, y quizá hasta los cincuenta ó sesenta años. La producción de la goma varía mucho, así como también el precio del mercado; un árbol sano debe producir una renta de $15 á $20 al año.

COAGULACIÓN.

Los dos métodos más en boga de coagular entre los indígenas son por medio del humo y del calor del sol; ambos son defectuosos. Á fin de expeler la cantidad considerable de suero que hay en la goma, es necesario, cuando se emplea el primer método, acercar la goma al fuego, á tal punto que pierda su elasticidad, descolorándose y llegando á ser de consistencia cerosa. El segundo método es defectuoso también; unas pocas horas después de sacarla comienza la goma á putrificarse; pierde algunas de sus propiedades, requiere de quince á veinte días para secarse y despide un olor malsano ofensivo. Para obtener goma de calidad pura existe el método siguiente de coagulación:

El jugo sacado de los diferentes árboles debe mezclarse perfectamente en un receptáculo con agua de amoníaco, en la proporción de cinco onzas de éste en un galón de goma en su estado lechoso, durante un período indeterminado, lo cual permite que se filtre con facilidad y que se aparten la tierra y las suciedades. Después de la filtración debe añadirse á la mezcla un poco de alcohol de 36°; entonces tiene lugar la coagulación inmediata. Luego se pone en una prensa, y el suero se exprime, después de lo cual se expone al aire hasta que esté perfectamente seco, lo que requiere de dos á tres horas. Entonces puede empaquetarse sin peligro de putrefacción, habiendo sido destruidos todos los gérmenes por la acción del amoníaco y del alcohol.

ENSAYO DE LA GOMA.

De cada uno de los árboles que deben ensayarse, se saca, coagula y filtra un poco de goma. De cada cantidad se hace una bola casi del tamaño de un limón. Cuando estas bolas se hayan secado se dejan caer de una altura sobre una superficie dura, determinando el rebote la elasticidad y calidad de la goma.

CALIDAD.

La mejor clase de goma es elástica y de color blanco puro. En algunas partes de Colombia se cultiva un árbol de goma que produce abundancia de caucho, 25 ó más libras. Se conoce por el nombre de goma negra, debido á su color obscuro, y prospera en una temperatura tan baja como 58° Fahrenheit.

GOMA DE LAS HOJAS.

La goma se obtiene con pasar las hojas recién escogidas entre rodillos con el fin de exprimer el zumo. Las hojas se exportan también después de haberse secado bien. Mediante métodos recientemente descubiertos, pueden ser disueltas, obteniéndose así cosa de 25 por ciento de goma de superior calidad.

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

COMERCIO CON LA AMÉRICA LATINA.

IMPORTACIONES Y EXPORTACIONES.

En la página 56 aparece la última relación del comercio entre los Estados Unidos y la América latina, tomada de la compilación hecha por la Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Hacienda de los Estados Unidos. Estos datos se refieren al valor del comercio arriba mencionado. La estadística corresponde al mes de mayo de 1900, comparada con la del mes correspondiente del año anterior, y también comprende los datos referentes á los once meses que terminaron en mayo de 1900, comparados con igual período de 1899. Debe explicarse que las estadísticas de las importaciones y exportaciones de las diversas aduanas referentes á un mes cualquiera no se reciben en el Departamento de Hacienda hasta el 20 del próximo mes, necesitándose algún tiempo para su compilación é impression; de suerte que los datos estadísticos correspondientes al mes de mayo, por ejemplo, no se publican hasta julio.

EL COMERCIO EXTERIOR EN MAYO DE 1900.

Según los datos oficiales publicados por el Gobierno, la cantidad á que ascendió el valor total del comercio exterior de los Estados Unidos durante el mes de mayo próximo pasado fué $185,158,586, ó sea algo más de la correspondiente á igual mes del año anterior, que fué $164,001,620.

Del total correspondiente al comercio exterior del mes pasado, $71,643,735 corresponden á las importaciones y $113,514,851 á las exportaciones.

Las cifras obtenidas en igual mes del año anterior fueron $70,160,373 para las importaciones y $93,841,247 para las exportaciones.

Modo como ha sido clasificadas las importaciones.

	Mayo, 1900.	Mayo, 1899.
Artículos de alimentación y animales	$19,267,484	$24,116,276
Artículos en estado crudo para industrias nacionales	25,405,915	22,056,703
Artículos en parte manufacturados	7,454,323	6,518,736
Artículos manufacturados	10,143,217	8,700,273
Artículos de lujo	9,372,796	8,768,385

El tanto por ciento de los artículos que han sido admitidos libres de derecho fué 43.04 en mayo de 1900, contra 45 por ciento para mayo de 1899. La cantidad recaudada en mayo de 1900 fué de $17,396,573, contra $18,367,907 para mayo de 1899.

El valor de las exportaciones en mayo de 1900 fué de $111,307,195 de productos domésticos y de $2,207,000 de productos extranjeros, contra $91,250,855 de productos domésticos y $2,590,392 de productos extranjeros en mayo de 1899.

Las exportaciones de productos domésticos en los dos períodos fueron como sigue:

	Mayo, 1900.	Mayo, 1899.
Productos:		
Agrícolas	$61,353,322	$52,975,612
Manufacturados	40,460,367	30,816,314
Minerales	3,567,185	2,624,493
De los bosques	5,154,613	4,219,844
De la pesca	297,373	267,361
Miscelláneos	474,345	347,231

Durante once meses del año económico de 1900 el comercio exterior del país ascendió á $2,075,106,530, contra $1,766,020,255 en el año fiscal de 1899.

PROGRAMA DEL PARTIDO REPUBLICANO.

Á continuación se leerá el programa del partido republicano de los Estados Unidos, tal como fué aprobado por unanimidad en la Convención que se reunió en Filadelfia el 19 de junio próximo pasado:

"Los republicanos de los Estados Unidos, por medio de sus representantes reunidos en Convención Nacional, al contemplar las grandes conquistas que han realizado en lo pasado y el vasto campo que les ofrece el porvenir, apelan al buen juicio de sus conciudadanos y hacen las siguientes declaraciones:

"Las esperanzas que animaban al pueblo americano cuando hace cuatro años abandonó al partido democrático y confió el poder á un magistrado y á un Congreso republicano, han sido satisfechas. Cuando el pueblo se reunió en aquella fecha en los comicios después de un período de legislación y administración democráticas, los negocios estaban muertos, la industria paralizada, y el crédito nacional severamente lesionado. El capital había desaparecido y las clases trabajadoras se encontraban sin ocupación y en estado lamentable. Los demócratas no tenían otro plan para aliviar la desastroza situación por ellos mismos producida que la acuñación de la plata en la proporción de 16 á 1. El partido republicano denunció este plan como destinado á producir condiciones aun peores que las que se trataba de mejorar, y prometió restaurar la prosperidad al país por medio de medidas legislativas—un arancel proteccionista y una ley declarando el oro como base del sistema monetario.

"El pueblo, por una gran mayoría, comisionó al partido republicano para que llevase á efecto estas dos medidas. Ellas han sido puestas en ejecución y la promesa del partido republicano se ha cumplido,

dando por resultado un estado de prosperidad general cual no se había visto antes. Ya no puede haber cuestión acerca de lo que representan las obligaciones del Gobierno, porque cada peso americano es un peso en oro ó su equivalente en otros valores, y el crédito de la nación está más alto que el de cualquier otro país. El capital encuentra inversión y el obrero ocupación por todas partes. Un hecho que pone de manifiesto, mejor que otro alguno, lo que significa para el país el Gobierno republicano, es el siguiente: Durante el largo período de ciento siete años, de 1790 á 1897, el exceso de las exportaciones sobre las importaciones fué solamente de $383,028,497, mientras que en los tres años de la actual administración republicano el exceso de las exportaciones sobre las importaciones ha llegado á la enorma suma de $1,483,537,094.

"Mientras que el pueblo americano, protegido por una legislación republicana, ha podido alcanzar estos espléndidos triunfos en el campo de los negocios y del comercio, ha salido victorioso de una guerra hecha en favor de la libertad y de los derechos humanos. Ningún pensamiento de engrandecimiento nacional vino á empañar los altos propósitos con que fué tremolado el pabellón nacional. Fué una guerra aquélla que no se deseaba y que pacientemente se trató de evitar, pero tan luego sobrevino, el Gobierno se encontró listo para ella con sus flotas y sus ejércitos. Los rápidos y notables triunfos alcanzados por las fuerzas de mar y tierra de los Estados Unidos hablan muy alto en favor del valor de los soldados y marinos americanos, así como en pro de la habilidad y previsión de los estadistas republicanos. Como resultado de aquel conflicto diez millones de seres humanos nacieron á la vida de la libertad y el pueblo americano asumió una nueva cuanto enorme responsabilidad.

"Aprobamos los actos de la administración de WILLIAM MCKINLEY que han reconocido por base la sabiduría y el patriotísmo, y que tanto en el interior como en el exterior han fortalecido y extendido la influencia de los Estados Unidos. Caminando por senderos no trillados y haciendo frente á responsabilidades imprevistas, el Presidente MCKINLEY se ha mostrado en toda ocasión un verdadero patriota americano y un estadista probo, cuyo recto juicio, sano criterio y firmeza de carácter siempre inspiran á sus conciudadanos la confianza que merece.

"Al pedir al pueblo americano que dé su aprobación á la política republicana y que otra vez confíe sus destinos al partido que la representa, llamamos su atención al hecho de que los principios democráticos han sido siempre una amenaza para la prosperidad nacional y que no lo ha sido menos la incapacidad del partido democrático para manejar los negocios públicos. Es de absoluta necesidad para la prosperidad comercial el que se tenga confianza en el buen sentido del Gobierno y en su habilidad de tratar con experiencia todos los nuevos programas de administración y legislación que se presenten. Esa confianza nunca

la ha inspirado el partido democrático, ni es capaz de inspirarla; y es por esto que, cuando triunfa en los comicios, la prosperidad nacional se paraliza en previsión de los errores y equivocaciones del partido democrático.

"Reafirmamos nuestra adhesión al principio del patrón oro y declaramos nuestra confianza en lo que sabiamente decretó á este respecto el Congreso vigésimo sexto, pues esas disposiciones han servido para poner sobre el mismo pie á toda nuestra moneda y darle estabilidad sobre una base de oro. Reconocemos que el tipo del interés es un factor potente en la producción y en la actividad comercial, y con el fin de hacer más uniforme y reducir más dicho tipo, estamos en favor de que se emitan leyes sobre la cuestión monetaria que respondan en seguida á las diversas necesidades que pueden presentarse y que se adapten á todas las secciones del país, de suerte que el tráfico se mantenga al mismo nivel, las clases trabajadoras encuentren siempre empleo y el comercio se desarrolle. La cantidad de dinero en circulación nunca fué por cabeza tan grande como lo es hoy.

"Declaramos nuestra firme oposición á la libre é ilimitada acuñación de la plata. Ninguna medida de ese género puede tomarse en consideración sin el apoyo de los principales países comerciales del mundo. Aunque los republicanos han puesto al país, según parece, al abrigo de los peligros que le acarrearía una moneda inferior y desacreditada, la elección de un presidente democrático no podría sino dañar el crédito de la nación y hacer otra vez asunto cuestionable las intenciones del pueblo americano de mantener un sistema monetario uniforme con el oro por base. El partido democrático debería convencerse de que el pueblo americano jamás aceptará el programa de Chicago.

"Reconocemos la necesidad y equidad de la honrada cooperación del capital para hacer frente al nuevo estado de los negocios y especialmente para extender nuestro creciente tráfico exterior; pero condenamos toda conspiración y combinación que pueda resultar en restringir los negocios, en crear monopolios, en limitar la producción y en dominar los precios del mercado. Estamos en favor de que se dicten leyes que de una manera eficaz restrinjan y eviten tales abusos, protejan y fomenten la competencia y garanticen los derechos de los productores, de los obreros y de cuantos se dedican al comercio y á la industria.

"Reafirmamos nuestra fe en la política de protección al trabajo americano, porque bajo esa política nuestras industrias se han establecido, desarrollado y mantenido. Con la protección de los mercados nacionales se ha promovido la competencia y la producción se ha abaratado; se han ofrecido grandes oportunidades al genio inventivo de nuestro pueblo, y los salarios de las clases trabajadoras se han mantenido á un nivel muy alto, más alto que en épocas anteriores, lo que ha producido mejores condiciones de vida, que siempre han dis-

tinguido á nuestra clase obrera de las de otros países. Gozando los beneficios del sistema de instrucción pública de los Estados Unidos, garantizados en su derecho de *self-government* y protegidos contra la competencia en sus propios mercados, los obreros americanos han aumentado de día en día sus conocimientos y su habilidad, lo que les ha permitido llevar sus productos á los mercados extranjeros.

"Estamos en favor de una política de reciprocidad que, en condiciones favorables, abra nuestros mercados á aquellos artículos que nosotros no producimos, y que en cambio nos dé libre acceso á mercados extranjeros.

"En orden á proteger más aún al obrero americano, estamos en favor de que se restrinja de una manera más eficaz la inmigración de operarios extranjeros que trabajan por muy bajos salarios; de aumentar las facilidades para la educación de los niños obreros; de que en lo relativo á estos mismos se extienda más el límite de la edad á que pueden comenzar á trabajar; de la protección del trabajo libre contra el trabajo de presidiarios hecho bajo contratos, y de un sistema eficaz de seguros para el trabajo.

"Nuestra actual dependencia de la marina mercante extranjera para las nueve décimas partes de nuestro tráfico exterior significa una gran pérdida para la industria de este país, al mismo tiempo que constituye un peligro serio para nuestro creciente comercio con países extranjeros, pues una guerra europea podría hacer desaparecer repentinamente dicha marina mercante. La defensa nacional y la importancia de este país como potencia naval son también razones poderosas para que se emitan leyes que permitan á nuestra marina mercante volver á ocupar su puesto entre las primeras del mundo.

"La Nación debe una gran deuda de gratitud á los soldados y marineros que lucharon por ella, y es el deber del Gobierno proveer á las necesidades de los que sobreviven, así como de las viudas y huérfanos de los que cayeron en defensa del país. Reconociendo esta idea como base, las leyes que versan sobre pensiones deben ser liberales y liberalmente aplicadas. En cuanto sea practicable, se debe dar la preferencia para los puestos públicos á los citados soldados y marineros, y á sus viudas y sus huérfanos.

"Aprobamos la política del partido republicano en mantener la eficacia del Servicio Civil. La Administración ha obrado sabiamente esforzándose por elegir solamente aquellas personas cuya competencia es el resultado de la educación y la experiencia, á fin de proveer los puestos públicos de Cuba, Puerto Rico, Hawai y las Islas Filipinas. Creemos que los cargos públicos en dichos territorios deben ser desempeñados, en cuanto sea posible, por los habitantes de los mismos.

"El objeto que se tuvo en mira cuando se introdujo en la Constitución la enmienda décimaquinta fué claramente evitar que se hicieran distinciones basadas en cuestiones de raza ó color en cuanto al derecho

del sufragio. Los esfuerzos hechos por los gobiernos de algunos estados para contrariar los efectos de dicha enmienda, ya sea valiéndose de estatutos ó de medidas constitucionales, son esfuerzos revolucionarios y deben ser condenados.

"El movimiento nacional tendente á la mejora de los caminos y carreteras del país merece muestra más sincera aprobación, y recomendamos este asunto á la seria consideración del pueblo y á las legislaturas de los estados.

"Estamos en favor de que se extienda á los distritos rurales la distribución libre de la correspondencia, siempre que dicha extensión se considere justificable.

"De conformidad siempre con la política constante del partido republicano en cuanto á donaciones de lotes en los terrenos nacionales para el establecimiento de hogares (*homes*), recomendamos que se emitan leyes adecuadas para cambiar la condición de las tierras áridas de los Estados Unidos, reservándose los gobernadores de los estados y territorios respectivos el dominio sobre las aguas que deben usarse para el riego, á fin de distribuirlas como mejor convenga.

"Estamos en favor de que se establezca el *home rule* en los territorios de Nuevo México, Arizona y Oklahoma y de que en breve sean admitidos como estados de la Unión.

"La ley de Dingley, enmendada con el fin de disponer de rentas suficientes para hacer frente á los gastos de la guerra, ha dado tan buenos resultados, que ha sido posible disminuir en $40,000,000 la deuda ocasionada por la guerra. Son tan amplias las rentas del Gobierno y tan grande la confianza que su integridad inspira á la Nación en cuanto al estricto cumplimiento de sus obligaciones, que el nuevo bono consolidado del 2 por ciento se cotiza con premio.

"El país tiene razón de esperar ahora que se reduzcan los impuestos causados por la guerra, y esto formará parte de la política republicana.

"Estamos en favor de la construcción de un canal por el istmo, que sea propiedad de los Estados Unidos y que esté bajo su dominio y protección. Se necesitan nuevos mercados para la creciente producción de nuestra agricultura, y no se debe economizar ningún esfuerzo para obtenerlos, especialmente en el oriente. Se debe encomiar á la Administración por el buen éxito que coronó sus fuerzos para que todas las naciones comerciales y colonizadoras se adhirieran á la política de la "puerta abierta" en China.

"Como favorable á los intereses de nuestro creciente comercio, recomendamos al Congreso la creación de un Departamento de Comercio é Industria á cargo de un secretario que ocupe un asiento en el Gabinete. Bajo la vigilancia de este nuevo Departamento, debe reorganizarse el sistema consular de los Estados Unidos sobre bases que lo hagan más útil al comercio nacional.

"El Gobierno de los Estados Unidos debe proteger la persona y propiedad de todo ciudadano siempre que sean víctimas de una injusticia ó se encuentren en peligro.

"Felicitamos á las mujeres de los Estados Unidos por sus espléndidos servicios públicos, voluntariamente prestados, en calidad de enfermeras en los campamentos y en los hospitales durante las recientes campañas de nuestros ejércitos en las Filipinas y en las Antillas, manifestando también que apreciamos su fiel cooperación en toda obra de educación é industria.

"El Presidente McKinley ha manejado las relaciones exteriores de los Estados Unidos con gran crédito para el pueblo americano. Es digna de especial encomio su conducta en lo relativo á Samoa, pues nos libertó de las obligaciones que nos imponía una alianza europea para el gobierno de aquellas islas. Al obtener para los Estados Unidos el dominio sobre la isla más importante de todo el grupo y la mejor bahía en el sur del Pacífico, los intereses americanos quedaron á salvo.

"Aprobamos la anexión de las Islas de Hawai á los Estados Unidos.

"Nos parece muy recomendable la participación que tuvo nuestro Gobierno en la Conferencia de Paz de La Haya. Declaramos nuestra firme adhesión á la Doctrina de Monroe. Las disposiciones de la Convención de La Haya fueron sabiamente aplicadas cuando el Presidente McKinley ofreció sus amistosos oficios en interés de la paz entre la Gran Bretaña y las repúblicas del África austral. Aunque el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos debe seguir la política prescrita por Washington, continuada por todos los Presidentes que le han sucedio, y á la cual nos obliga el Tratado de La Haya, política de no intervención en las controversias europeas, el pueblo de los Estados Unidos espera que pronto se encontrará un medio honorable para ambas partes de poner término al conflicto.

"Al aceptar, por medio del Tratado de París, las responsabilidades que fueron el resultado de nuestras victorias en la guerra con España, el Presidente y el Senado encontraron el apoyo del pueblo de los Estados Unidos. Era indispensable destruir la soberanía española en las Antillas y en las Islas Filipinas. Esto nos hizo asumir ante el mundo y ante los pueblos que habíamos libertado de España la obligación de mantener en ellos el orden y la ley, así como de establecer un buen sistema de gobierno para el cumplimiento de los deberes internacionales. Nuestra autoridad no podía ser menor que nuestra responsabilidad y dondequiera que se extendió nuestra soberanía se hizo un deber del Gobierno mantener su autoridad, sofocar insurrecciones armadas y conferir los beneficios de la libertad y de la civilización á los pueblos libertados.

"Que se les otorgue la mayor cantidad posible de *self-government* compatible con su bienestar, y nuestras obligaciones para con ellos estarán garantizadas por la ley.

"La misma voz que declaró la guerra ofreció á Cuba independencia y *self-government*, y ese ofrecimiento debe ser estrictamente cumplido.

"En vista de su historia y en presencia de esta declaración de principios políticos, el partido republicano apela con toda confianza al juicio del pueblo americano."

PROGRAMA DEL PARTIDO DEMOCRÁTICO.

El partido democrático de los Estados Unidos aprobó, por medio de sus delegados á la Convención de Kansas City, el siguiente programa:

"Nosotros, los representantes del Partido Democrático de los Estados Unitos, reunidos en Convención nacional en el aniversario de la adopción de la Declaración de la Independencia, reafirmamos nuestra fe en aquella inmortal proclamación de los derechos inalienables del hombre y nuestra fidelidad á la Constitución redactada de conformidad con los mismos por los padres de la República. Sostenemos, de acuerdo con el Supremo Tribunal de justicia de los Estados Unidos, que la Declaración de la Independencia representa el espíritu mismo de nuestro Gobierno, del cual la Constitución es la forma y la letra. Volvemos á declarar que todos los Gobiernos establecidos entre los hombres derivan su poder legítimo del consentimiento de los gobernados; que todo Gobierno que no reconoce por base este consentimiento es tiránico, y que imponer á un pueblo un gobierno por la fuerza es sustituir al republicanismo por el imperialismo.

"Sostenemos que allí donde se enarbole nuestra bandera como símbolo de nuestra soberanía, se establece así mismo el imperio de nuestra Constitución, y condenamos la doctrina de que el Poder Ejecutivo ó el Legislativo, que derivan su existencia y sus facultades de la Constitucion, pueden ejercer autoridad legítima fuera de ella ó en violación de la misma.

"Afirmamos que ninguna nación puede por largo tiempo soportar un sistema semi-republicano y semi-imperial, y llamamos la atención del pueblo americano al hecho de que el imperialismo en el exterior dará como resultado inmediato é inevitable el despotismo en el interior. Creyendo en esto principios fundamentales, denunciamos la Ley orgánica de Puerto Rico expedida por un Congreso republicano, contra la protesta y la oposición de la minoría democrática, con temeraria y manifiesta violación de la Ley Constitutiva de la Nación y con flagrante falta de buena fe nacional. La citada ley orgánica impone al pueblo de Puerto Rico un Gobierno al cual no ha dado este su consentimiento, y lo grava con impuestos sin concederle representación. Esto deshonra al pueblo de los Estados Unidos porque viola una promesa solemne hecha en su nombre por el General en Jefe de nuestro ejército, á quien los portorriqueños acogieron amistosamente, permitiéndole ocupar pacíficamente y sin la menor resistencia el territorio de la Isla. Condenó esa ley á una condición de malestar y miseria á

un pueblo cuyas desgracias hablaban con especial elocuencia á nuestra justicia y magnanimidad. En este primer acto de su programa imperialista, el partido republicano ha tratado de comprometer á los Estados Unidos en una política colonial incompatible con las instituciones republicanas y condenada por el Tribunal Supremo en numerosas decisiones.

"Pedimos que se cumplan pronto y honradamente las promesas hechas al pueblo cubano y al mundo entero, de que los Estados Unidos no tenía la intención de ejercer soberanía, jurisdicción ó dominio sobre la Isla de Cuba, excepto para obtener su pacificación. Hace ya cerca de dos años que terminó la guerra; reina en la Isla la más completa paz y, sin embargo, la administración mantiene al pueblo cubano alejado del Gobierno, mientras que empleados del partido republicano se roban las rentas públicas y explotan á Cuba á guisa de colonia, para vergüenza del pueblo americano.

"Condenamos y denunciamos la política de la actual administración en las Filipinas, que ha envuelto á la República en una guerra innecesaria con sacrificio de las vidas de muchos de sus más nobles hijos, y ha colocado á las Estados Unidos, antes conocidos y aplaudidos por el mundo entero como el campeón de la libertad, en la falsa y antiamericana posición de sofocar por medio de las armas los esfuerzos de antiguos aliados para conquistarse la libertad y se el *self-government*. Los filipinos no pueden ser cuidadanos de los Estados Unidos sin poner en peligro nuestra civilización; no pueden ser súbditos de esta nación sin poner en peligro nuestra forma de gobierno, y nosotros no estamos dispuesto ni á renunciar á nuestra civilización ni á convertir á la República en Imperio. Estamos en favor de que, sin la menor dilación, se haga la siguiente declaración:

"Primero. Debe establecerse en las Filipinas un Gobierno estable; segundo, las islas deben gozar de independencia, y, tercero, debemos protegerlas contra la intervención de potencias extrañas, como lo hemos hecho casi durante un siglo con las repúblicas de Centro y Sud América.

"El codicioso mercantilismo que dictó la política republicana en las Filipinas trata de justificarse alegando que al fin y al cabo producirá pingües beneficios, pero aun este argumento, sórdido é indigno, resulta falso cuando se le somete á la prueba. Esta guerra criminal contra los Filipinos, que consume muchos millones de pesos al año, ha costado ya más que cuanto podrá producirnos todo el comercio de las Filipinas en largos años. Además, extender el comercio á expensas de la libertad es pagar por él un precio demasiado caro.

"No nos oponemos á la expansión territorial siempre que se trate de territorios aceptables, capaces de ser convertidos en Estados de la Unión, y cuyos habitantes quieran y puedan convertirse en ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos. Estamos en favor de la expansión por medios pacíficos y legítimos, pero nos opondremos siempre á la conquista ó

compra de islas lejánas que hayan de ser gobernadas sin arreglo á la Constitución y cuyos habitantes no pueden jamás llegar á ser ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos.

"Estamos en favor de que se extienda la influencia de la República entre las otras naciones, pero creemos que ella debe extenderse no por la fuerza y la violencia, sino por el medio persuasivo del buen ejemplo.

"La importancia de las antiguas cuestiones aun pendientes ante el pueblo americano no ha disminuido en manera alguna, y el partido democrático sostiene respecto á ellas la posición que siempre mantuvo. Pero la cuestión del imperialismo, nacida de la guerra con España, envuelve la existencia misma de la República y la destrucción de nuestras instituciones libres, y por eso miramos esa cuestión como de primordial interés en la campaña actual.

"La declaración hecha en el programa republicano, adoptado en la Convención de Filadelfía que se verificó en junio de este año, de que el partido republicano se adhiere firmemente á la doctrina de Monroe, es falsa y engañosa, pues se contradice con la política de ese partido que está en oposición al espíritu de la mencionada doctrina de adquirir y mantener dominio sobre una gran extensión de territorio y sobre numerosos pueblos en el hemisferio oriental. Insistimos en el mantenimiento estricto de dicha doctrina en toda su entereza, tanto en su espíritu como en su letra, como necesaria para impedir la extensión de la dominación europea en este Continente y como esencial á nuestra supremacía en los asuntos de América. Al mismo tiempo declaramos que ningún pueblo americano será mantenido por fuerza bajo el imperio de un Gobierno europeo.

"Somos opuestos al militarismo, porque representa el espíritu de conquista en el exterior y el de opresión en el interior. Es la fuerza que ha sido siempre fatal á las instituciones libres. El militarismo ha hecho huir de Europa á millones de nuestros ciudadanos. Su tendencia es imponer sobre un pueblo pacífico como el nuestro un gran ejército permanente, gravando á la Nación con impuestos innecesarios, constituyendo, además, una amenaza constante á sus libertades. Un pequeño ejército permanente, con una milicia bien disciplinada en cada Estado, son suficientes garantías en tiempo de paz. En esta República no hay cabida para vasta organización militar basada en el sistema de reclutamientos. Cuando la Nación está en peligro su mejor defensor es el soldado voluntario. La Guardia Nacional de los Estados Unidos debe inspirar siempre simpatías á un pueblo libre. Organizaciones de esta índole son elementos de fuerza y seguridad. Por la primera vez en nuestra historia y simultáneamente con la conquista de las Filipinas hemos abandonado nuestro antíguo y excelente sistema de organización de voluntarios. Denunciamos el nuevo método como anti-americano, anti-democrático, anti-republicano y como una subversión de antiguos y fijos principios de un pueblo libre.

"Los monopolios privados son insostenibles é intolerables; destruyen la competencia, dominan los precios de las materias primas y de las productos de la industria, defraudando de este modo al productor y al consumidor; restringen al obrero sus facilidades para hallar trabajo; establecen arbitrariamente los salarios y privan á la energía individual y á los pequeños capitales de la oportunidad para mejorar su condición. Son el medio más eficaz hasta ahora hallado para aprovechar los frutos de la industria en beneficio de los pocos y á expensas de los más; y si la insaciable codicia de esas organizaciones no se pone á raya, toda la riqueza se verá concentrada en pocas manos y la República será destruída. La falta de sinceridad con que el partido republicano ha tratado el asunto de las combinaciones mercantiles ó *trusts*, ya en programas locales de los estados, ya en programas nacionales, es una prueba terminante de que dichas combinaciones son un producto legítimo de la política republicana; de que son fomentadas por leyes republicanas y protegidas por la administración republicana en cambio de dinero para sufragar los gastos de la campaña electoral, y de apoyo en las cuestiones políticas.

"El partido democrático se compromete á combatir sin descanso en la Nación, en el Estado y en la ciudad á los monopolios privados, sea cual fuere en la forma en que se presenten. Todas las leyes vigentes contra dichas combinaciones deben ser puestas en ejecución, y debieran emitirse otras, aun más estrictas, en las que se disponga que se dé publicidad á los negocios de las corporaciones que se ocupan en el tráfico entre los Estados y en las que se exija á dichas corporaciones que prueben, antes de entrar en negocios en un Estado que no sea el de su origen, que su capital social es legítimo y que no han hecho ni tratan de hacer ninguna tentativa para monopolizar un ramo cualquiera de negocios ó la producción de algún artículo. Todo el poder constitucional del Congreso sobre el comercio entre los estados, los correos y los medios de comunicación entre los estados debe ser ejercido por medio de leyes explícitas sobre el asunto de los *trusts*. Las leyes arancelarias deben ser enmendadas poniendo los productos de estas combinaciones en la lista de artículos libres, á fin de impedir el monopolio so pretexto de protección.

"El hecho de que la administración republicana, con absoluto dominio sobre todo los ramos del gobierno nacional, no ha dado leyes que tiendan á impedir, ó por lo menos á disminuir, el poder absorvente de las *trusts* y otras combinaciones ilegales, ó á poner en vigor las leyes ya existentes contra ellas, prueba la falta de sinceridad de las sonoras frases contenidas en el programa republicano.

"Las corporaciones deben ser protegidas en todos sus derechos, y sus intereses legítimos deben ser respetados, pero toda tentativa por parte de dichas corporaciones para intervenir en los negocios públicos ó dominar al mismo poder que las ha creado, debe ser prohibida bajo tales penas que hagan imposible tentativas de esa naturaleza.

"Condenamos el arancel de Dingley como productor de combinaciones ilegales y como hábilmente calculado para dar á los pocos favores que no merecen y poner sobre los más cargas que no debieran sobrellevar. Estamos en favor de que se extienda la esfera de acción de las leyes relativas al comercio entre los Estados, á fin de que permitan á la Comisión proteger á los individuos y á las comunidades contra injustas medidas diferenciales, y al público contra precios exagerados en los fletes.

"Reafirmamos y sostenemos los principios del programa democrático adoptado en Chicago en 1896, y reiteramos lo que en él se dijo relativamente al establecimiento de un sistema económico americano hecho por el pueblo americano, que restablezca y mantenga el bimetalismo, y que como parte de este sistema se restablezca inmediatamente la libre é ilimitada acuñacion de la plata y el oro en la presente proporción legal de 16 á 1, sin aguardar la cooperación ó consentimiento de ninguna otra Nación.

"Denunciamos la ley sobre moneda emitida en la última sesión del Congreso como una medida de la política republicana para desacreditar el derecho soberano del Gobierno nacional de poner en circulación toda clase de moneda, ya sea metálica ó de papel, y para dar á los bancos nacionales la facultad de emitir y fijar el monto del papel moneda en beneficio propio. El papel moneda de los bancos nacionales garantizado por bonos del gobierno reconoce por base una deuda permanente, y si dicha moneda ha de aumentar con la población y con el desarrollo de los negocios, la deuda debe aumentar también. El proyecto monetario de los republicanos tiende á agravar con una deuda creciente y perpétua á los contribuyentes en beneficio de los bancos. Somos opuestos á la circulación, como moneda corriente, de este papel perteneciente á corporaciones privadas y que no reune las condiciones necesarias para ser legal, y pedimos que los billetes de bancos nacionales sean retirados de la circulación tan pronto como los billetes del Gobierno ó los certificados de plata puedan sustituirlos.

"Estamos en favor de una enmienda á la Constitución Federal relativa á que la elección de los Senadores de los Estados Unidos se haga por voto directo del pueblo, y que la legislación provenga directamente del mismo siempre que fuese practicable.

"Estamos en favor del arbitraje como medio de resolver las dificultades entre las corporaciones y sus empleados.

"Á fin de mantener en elevado nivel la condición de la clase obrera, que es la piedra angular de la prosperidad de nuestro país, recomendamos al Congreso la creación de un Departamento del Trabajo á cargo de un Secretario que tenga asiento en el Gabinete, porque creemos que mejorando la condición del obrero americano, aumentará la producción y la prosperidad en el interior y el comercio en el exterior.

"Nos sentimos orgullosos de la lealtad y valor de los soldados y

marinos americanos, demostrados en todas nuestras guerras. Estamos en favor de que se le concedan liberales pensiones tanto á ellos como á sus herederos, y reiteramos lo dicho á este respecto en el programa de Chicago de 1896.

"Estamos en favor de la construcción inmediata del Canal de Nicaragua por los Estados Unidos y de que la obra sea de la propiedad de esta nación y esté bajo su dominio, y denunciamos la falta de sinceridad del programa republicano al referirse á un canal por el istmo, en vista de que la mayoría republicana en el Congreso no pudo adoptar el proyecto de ley que aun está pendiente. Condenamos el Tratado Hay-Pauncefoute como una renuncia á los derechos é intereses americano, cosa que no puede ser tolerada por el pueblo de los Estados Unidos.

"Condenamos la falta de cumplimiento de la promesa del partido republicano de hacer Estados de la Unión á los Territorios de Arizona, Nuevo México y Oklahoma, y prometemos al pueblo de estos territorios admitirlos sin tardanza como Estados de la Unión y otorgarles *home rule* mientras permanezcan en la condición de territorio. También estamos en favor de que Alaska y Puerto Rico gocen de *home rule* y de un Gobierno territorial. Estamos en favor de un sistema que tienda á mejorar las tierras áridas del oeste por medio del riego, y de conservar dichas tierras para la colonización.

"Estamos en favor de que continúe aplicándose estrictamente la ley que excluye á los chinos de este país y de que su aplicación se haga extensiva á la misma clase de personas de otras razas asiáticas.

"Jefferson dijo: 'Paz, comercio y amistad con todas las naciones; alianzas embarazozas con ninguna.'

"Aprobamos esta sabia doctrina y protestamos contra la conducta del partido republicano que nos ha envuelto en cuestiones políticas y diplomáticas en Europa, así como en intrigas y conquistas territoriales en el África, condenando especialmente la mal aconsejada alianza del partido republicano con Inglaterra, que necesariamente significa hostilidad contra pueblos amigos y que ha ahogado la voz de la nación mientras en África se da muerte á la libertad.

"Creyendo en el principio del *self-government* y rechazando como lo hicieron nuestros antepasados las pretensiones de la monarquía, vemos con indignación los esfuerzos de Inglaterra para destruir las Repúblicas del África austral. En nombre de la nación, excepto los empleados del partido republicano, y en nombre de todos los hombres libres de todas partes, ofrecemos nuestras simpatías á los heróicos boers en la lucha desigual que sostienen en defensa de su libertad é independencia.

"Denunciamos los gastos extravagantes hechos por el último Congreso republicano que han mantenido muy altos los impuestos y que amenazan con la continuación de los que fueron decretado á causa de

la guerra. Somos opuestos á que se acumule en la Tesorería Nacional un superávit, para luego gastarlo de una manera descarada en medidas semejantes al 'Shipping Subsidy Bill' (proyecto de ley para subvencionar la marina mercante), el cual con la pretensión de atender á la prosperidad de nuestra marina, solamente servirá para poner millones de pesos en los bolsillos de ciertos contribuyentes á los fondos para la campaña electoral republicana. Estamos en favor de que se reduzcan y de que pronto sean revocadas las leyes que establecieron los impuestos de guerra, volviendo á los antiguos tiempos de la política democrática de estricta economía en los gastos del Gobierno.

"Creyendo que nuestras más caras instituciones están en grave peligro; que está en juego la existencia misma de la República y que las próximas elecciones decidirán si nuestro hijos gozarán ó no de los beneficios de un Gobierno libre que ha hecho de los Estados Unidos una gran nación, próspera y respetada, pedimos al pueblo americano, amante de la libertad, que dé su apoyo á los principios que dejamos expuestos, sin referencia á antiguas afiliaciones de partido."

SISTEMAS DE EXTRACCIÓN DEL JUGO DE LA CAÑA DE AZÚCAR EN PUERTO RICO.

Al tratar de esta materia, "La Correspondencia de Puerto Rico," diario que se publica en la capital de esa Isla, dice que la doble presión por medio de una máquina desmenuzadora y de un trapiche es preferible á la efectuada por medio de un doble molino. La opinión que algunos sustentan de que valen más dos molinos, por si falta uno ó el otro, sería verdad antes de la invención de las desmenuzadoras y reguladores automáticos; pero hoy un molino instalado en buenas condiciones no peligra aunque falle alguno de sus aparejos.

La ventaja de una buena desmenuzadora sobre el primer molino es la siguiente: aumenta la tarea diaria de 50 á 100 por ciento; comprime la caña, dividiéndola en pedazos muy pequeños, dejándolos no solamente aplastados ó comprimidos, sino completamente abiertos, y los nudos no ofrecen ninguna resistencia, porque son triturados y abiertos por la desfiladora, operación que no puede efectuar un molino, siendo un error el creer que éste puede servir de desmenuzadora.

Un hecho importante en favor de las desmenuzadoras es el que, al ser dividida la caña, se reparte por sí sola en un colchón muy parejo sobre el *burro* que la conduce al trapiche, consiguiéndose de este modo una alimentación muy igual, cosa que no puede hacerse con dos molinos.

En Louisiana, México, Cuba, República Argentina, Brasil é Islas Hawaii el sistema de desmenuzadoras y trapiches combinados está muy propagado. Por consiguiente, una desmenuzadora y un molino combinados darán mejor resultados que dos molinos para aumento del trabajo diario y para mejor extracción.

LA CURACIÓN DEL TABACO EN PUERTO RICO.

El periódico "La Correspondencia de Puerto Rico," en su edición correspondiente al 21 de junio próximo pasado, contiene un artículo relativo al sistema que se emplea en la Isla para curar el tabaco.

De dicho artículo se toman las siguentes párrafos:

"Cuando las hojas del tabaco están maduras y listas para hacer la cosecha, se van recogiendo y se tienden en el suelo con objeto de que se marchiten y pierdan parte de la tersura que hace que se rompan con facilidad. Después se atan en manojos y se amontonan de punta para arriba para que suden. Los montones se cubren con esteras, y poco después empiezan á calentarse gradualmente á causa de cierto cambio que se produce en la substancia de las hojas mismas.

"La humedad que sale de ellas en forma de vapor se condensa al ponerse al contacto con las esteras por estar más frias, y esto es lo que se llama sudor del tabaco.

"Mientras las hojas están amontonadas hay que cuidar que no se calienten demasiado, porque el calor excesivo produce en ellas manchas que aminoran su valor. Cuando han sudado bastante se secan tendiéndolas en el campo mismo ó en cuartos provistos de estufas que abrevian el procedimiento, pero de todos modos hay que cuidar de que no se enmohezcan ni se pudran. Si todas estas operaciones han sido bien hechas, al cabo de seis ú ocho semanas las hojas habrán tomado un buen color, pero no tendrán todavía el sabor y el aroma que deleita á los fumadores; simplemente se ha efectuado un cambio favorable en los constituyentes del tejido.

"El siguiente procedimiento consiste en poner á orear las hojas en aire húmedo que las suaviza, y, por último, se ponen á fermentar, siendo ésta una de las operaciones más importantes de la curación, pues se afirma que de ellas depende, más que de ninguna otra cosa, la calidad del producto final. * * *

"Para poner el tabaco á fermentar se clasifican las hojas; se atan en manojos de 8 ó 10 y se hacen con ellas grandes montones, algunos de los cuales contienen hasta 50 toneladas de tabaco. La fermentación empieza en seguida que las hojas se han amontonado, y entonces es también cuando empiezan á desarrollarse el aroma y el sabor del tabaco." * * *

CENSO DE PUERTO RICO.

El Departamento de la Guerra de los Estados Unidas ha publicado recientemente el censo de Puerto Rico, según el cual la población total de la Isla en el mes de octubre de 1899 era de 953,243 habitantes.

En el supuesto de que las estadísticas pasadas fueren fieles, el total obtenido este año demuestra que la población de Puerto Rico ha

aumentado con mayor rapidez durante los últimos doce años que en cualquier época desde el 1860.

Otra circumstancia curiosa que se observa en este censo es que el aumento en la población ha sido más notable en el interior de la isla que en el litoral, y si se excluyesen las poblaciones de las ciudades de la costa, San Juan y Mayagüez, la anomalía señalada sería aún más perceptible.

Las ciudades que tienen mayor número de habitantes son San Juan y Ponce, la primera con 32,048 y la segunda, incluyendo la Playa, con 27,952. Hay cincuenta y siete poblaciones de mil ó más habitantes.

El área de Puerto Rico, incluyendo las islas adyacentes, Vieques, Culebras, Mona y Muertos, es de 3,600 millas cuadradas, ó sea tres veces el tamaño de Long Island, que forma parte del Estado de Nueva York.

FRANQUEO DE LA CORRESPONDENCIA PARA LAS NUEVAS POSESIONES.

El Director General de Correos de los Estados Unidos ha ordenado que la correspondencia que va de este país á Hawai, Puerto Rico, la Isla de Guam, las Filipinas y Tutuila, incluyendo todas las ilas adyacentes del grupo de Samoa, que pertenecen á los Estados Unidos, así como la que viniere de dichas islas, quede sujeta á los mismos reglamentos que se aplican á la correspondencia del interior de la nación, tanto en lo que toca al franqueo como á otras condiciones. No se ha hecho ningún cambio en el franqueo de la correspondencia que va y viene de Cuba, rigiéndose todavía por los reglamentos de la Unión Postal. Sin embargo, las personas al servicio del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos gozan del privilegio de pagar solamente el franqueo que se cobra en los correos del interior.

NARANJAS Y LIMONES EN CALIFORNIA.

Según datos estadísticos compilados por el Estado de California, hay entre naranjos y limoneros 5,553,955 en dicho Estado, que cubren un área como de 55,939 acres. Se calcula que existen en California 1,500,000 acres de terreno adaptables á este cultivo.

EXTENSIÓN DE LOS ALGODONALES.

La Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos calcula que la extensión total de los algodonales en el país es de 125,558,000 acres, ó sea un aumento de 2,036,000 acres sobre 1899. Agentes especiales del Departamento de Agricultura visitaron á principios de junio los departamentos y territorios que producen algodón, y el último informe del Departamento contiene el resultado de sus investigaciones, las que se continuarán haciendo durante el crecimiento de las plantas, á fin de averiguar si ocurre algún cambio en cuanto á la extensión de los citados algodonales.

INFORME DE LA OFICINA DE NAVEGACIÓN.

La Oficina de Navegación dice en su último Informe que durante el año económico que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900, el tonelaje total, oficialmente registrado, ascendió á 417,034 toneladas brutas. No se recibirán informes completos de Honolulu hasta dentro de dos semanas, pero el tonelaje total de los buques de Hawai con derecho á llevar papeles americanos, de acuerdo con la ley que creó el Territorio del Hawai, es de no menos de 38,000 toneladas brutas. Igual derecho á la documentación americana se les concedió á las embarcaciones de Puerto Rico, que representan menos de 1,000 toneladas. Los cálculos completos mostrarán, probablemente, que el aumento que ha habido en el tonelaje total de la marina mercante durante este año ha sido mayor que el que hubo en 1874, en cuya época fué sólo de 437,846 toneladas brutas, aúnque la ley ordenaba que todos los botes de canal, empleados en el tráfico doméstico, llevasen sus papeles en toda regla. Se ve, pues, que la flota mercante de los Estados Unidos ha aumentado mucho más en este último año económico que en cualquier otro desde el 1856.

Los buques construídos en los Estados Unidos durante el año y que han sido oficialmente registrados representan unas 381,863 toneladas brutas. En 1874 esta cantidad fué todavía mayor, habiéndose construído un número de buques que tenían un porte total de 432,795 toneladas brutas, todos los cuales recibieron sus correspondientes papeles. De los barcos construídos durante el último año, 483 fueron de vapor, con 213,052 toneladas brutas; 575 de vela, con 92,625 toneladas brutas, incluyéndo se en estos últimos varios alijadores de vela, un número de lanchones cuyo porte total es de 76,186 toneladas, y algunos botes de canal para el tráfico con el Canadá. La proporción tan grande en que están los barcos de vapor, 56 por ciento del total, hace que el aumento en la flota mercante este año, no sólo en su valor, sino en capacidad para transportación, sea de mayor importancia que lo fué en ningún año de la historia de los Estados Unidos.

Las construcciones navales más importantes del año fueron los inmensos barcos de acero hechos para el tráfico en los grande lagos. Entre ellos figura el *James J. Hill*, de 6,025 toneladas, que es el mayor de los construídos en los Estados Unidos en el año 1900; también nueve vapores y dos goletas de acero de más de 5,000 toneladas cada uno, y 5 vapores de más de 4,000 toneladas. Entres los buques construídos en el litoral de los Estados Unidos, ocupa el primer lugar el vapor *California*, de 5,879 toneladas, botado al agua en San Francisco, cuyo barco está destinado á establecer la comunicación marítima entre Hawai y los puertos de los Estados Unidos al Atlántico. No se ha matriculado otro barco de 5,000 ó más toneladas durante el año, pero se han construído 6 de más de 4,000 toneladas cada uno para el cabotaje en el Atlántico.

El único barco construído durante el año para el tráfico con el extranjero exclusivamente, ha sido el vapor *Maracaibo*, de 1,771 toneladas, que pertenece á la "Red D Line."

Los vapores *San Juan* y *Ponce*, de 3,000 toneladas cada uno, y el *Porto Rico*, de 1,527 toneladas, darán á Puerto Rico el mejor medio de comunicación marítima que hasta el presente ha tenido con los Estados Unidos.

El buque de acero *Edward Sewall*, de 3,206 toneladas, y la barca, también de acero, *Kaiulani*, de 1,570, toneladas fueron construídos para el tráfico con Hawai. Once goletas de más de 1,000 toneladas cada una se hicieron para el servicio de cabotaje en el Atlántico.

Además de las construcciones mencionadas, se han hecho reparaciones á varios barcos que representan un tonelaje de 9,843 toneladas. Se han matriculado en San Francisco desde el 14 de junio varios buques de Hawai, con un porte total de 8,631 toneladas. El Gobierno vendió á ciudadanos del país un número de embarcaciones cuyo porte total fué de 7,326 toneladas. Fueron admitidos como buques americanos, de acuerdo con leyes especiales del Congreso, barcos cuyo porte total montó á 5,764 toneladas, y volvieron á enarbolar el pabellón americano un número de barcos cuyo tonelaje es de 3,607 toneladas.

Al recibirse los datos completos, se verá que el tonelaje total de los Estados Unidos volvió á ser el 30 de junio de 1900 de 5,000,000 de toneladas, como en 1865. El tonelaje registrado en el tráfico extranjero será, probablemente, algo menos de 848,000 toneladas, que fué la cifra correspondiente al 30 de junio de 1899.

De los 1,058 barcos de vapor y de vela, con un porte total de 305,667 toneladas, que fueron construídos y matriculados durante el año, 98 son de acero y representan un porte de 185,484 toneladas; 957 son de madera, con un porte total de 119,355 toneladas, y tres son de hierro, con un porte total de 888 toneladas. La proporción en las construcciones de acero es la mayor de que hay recuerdo en la historia de los Estados Unidos, y este resultado se atribuye á lo que acontece en los grandes lagos, donde del total de las construcciones navales, cuyo porte ascendió á 99,776 toneladas, 25 barcos, que representaron 95,015 toneladas, fueron hechos de acero. Las construcciones en el litoral del Atlántico abrazan 715 barcos, con un porte de 160,576 toneladas. De estos barcos, los de madera representaron un porte total de 76,344 toneladas. Los buques construídos en el Pacífico tuvieron un porte total de 37,387 toneladas, y en el Mississippi, Ohio y otros ríos del oeste, se construyeron 131 barcos, con 7,939 toneladas de porte.

Como objeto de comparación, es interesante observar que el 31 de marzo se estaban construyendo en Inglaterra 554 buques, con un porte total de 1,260,422 toneladas. De estos barcos, 115 eran vapores de acero de alto bordo, con un porte de 4,000 ó más toneladas; 17 tenían un arqueo de más de 10,000 toneladas. Durante los tres meses que terminaron el 31 de marzo, se botaron al agua en la Gran Bretaña 129 vapo-

res, con un porte total de 264,208 toneladas brutas. Los barcos en construcción en la Gran Bretaña á la fecha mencionada representaban 125,000 toneladas menos que en igual fecha de 1899.

TRATADO DE RECIPROCIDAD CON PORTUGAL.

El 12 de junio de este año fué promulgado el Tratado de Reciprocidad comercial celebrado entre los Estados Unidos y Portugal.

De conformidad con este Tratado, se rebajan los derechos de importación sobre algunos artículos producidos en Portugal, las islas Azores y la de Madera. Este pacto estará en vigor por el término de cinco años, y si al fin de este período no es denunciado por una de las partes, seguirá siendo válido hasta un año después de la fecha en que una de las partes informe á la otra que desea su derogación.

EXPORTACIONES EXTRAORDINARIAS.

Dice el "Scientific American" que en el mes de abril de este año se exportaron de los Estados Unidos manufacturas por valor de $40,000,000, y que si, como es de suponer, todo continúa como hasta ahora, al terminar el presente año económico la exportación de este país en artículos manufacturados pasará de $400,000,000, ó sea una cantidad casi tres veces mayor que la que se exportaba hace apenas una década. Este fenomenal aumento en la exportación de manufacturas es, sobre todo, notable cuando se compara con lo que ha ocurrido en Europa. La Gran Bretaña, por ejemplo, exportaba hace diez años casi lo mismo que exporta hoy, y el aumento en otros países europeos en la exportación de productos de las fábricas no ha llegado á 25 por ciento en el mencionado período, mientras que en los Estados Unidos ha sido más de 150 por ciento.

Asegura el citado periódico que es, principalmente, en la exportación de efectos de metal que los Estados Unidos sobrepujan á las demás naciones. En 1889 los artículos de metal formaban menos del 20 por ciento de la exportación total de manufacturas del país, y en 1900 llegarán á formar un 45 por ciento.

El rápido aumento en la exportación de efectos de metal se demuestra con el hecho de que en 1889 el latón y sus manufacturas representaron en la exportación solamente $321,137, y en 1900 la cantidad ascenderá á $1,700,000.

El cobre y sus manufacturas, que tuvieron en 1889 un valor de $2,348,954, llegarán en 1900 á más de $50,000,000. La exportación de hierro y acero aumentó de $21,156,077, que fué su valor en 1889, á $70,406,885 en 1898, mientras que en el año económico de 1900 pasará de $100,000,000.

Es digno de nota que los países europeos ofrecen vasto mercado á las manufacturas de los Estados Unidos, sin exceptuar aquéllos donde la industria ha llegado al más alto grado de adelanto, Pero si la expor-

tación de artículos manufacturados ha tomado extraordinario vuelo en los Estados Unidos, en niguno es tan notable este aumento como en los rieles para ferrocarriles, especialmente los de acero. La exportación total de rieles de acero fué, en 1889, según el "Scientific American," de 7,398 toneladas, en 1898 de 229,782 toneladas, y el valor, que había sido en el primero de estos dos años de $235,387, subió en el segundo á $4,613,376. Se cree que en el año económico de 1900 no bajará de $8,000,000. Los países que más consumen este producto de los Estados Unidos son Rusia, el Canadá y el Japón.

INGRESOS Y EGRESOS DEL GOBIERNO.

Los ingresos del Gobierno durante los doce meses del año económico que terminó el 30 de junio próximo pasado, montaron á la suma de $568,988,948, y los egresos á $487,759,171, quedando un sobrante de $81,229,777.

Los ingresos procedieron de las fuentes siguientes: aduanas, $233,857,958, un aumento sobre la cantidad ingresada en el año económico de 1899 de $28,729,577; rentas internas, $296,299,388, un aumento sobre las del año anterior de $22,862,227; misceláneas, $38,831,601, un aumento de $2,400,000.

Los gastos del año, por diferentes conceptos, fueron como sigue: civiles y misceláneos, $105,796,753, contra $119,191,255 en 1899; Guerra, $134,653,998, contra $229,841,354; Marina, $56,089,982, contra $63,932,104; indios, $10,166,132, contra $12,805,711; pensiones, $140,875,992, contra $139,394,929; intereses, $40,176,313, contra $39,896,925. Los gastos de este año fueron $116,313,008 menos que en el año económico de 1899.

ACUÑACIÓN DE MONEDAS.

En el año económico vencido el 30 de junio próximo pasado, se acuñaron entre todas las casas de monedas de los Estados Unidos 184,323,793 piezas de distintos valores, á saber:

	Cantidad.	Valor.
Monedas de oro	7,662,786	$107,937,110
Monedas de plata	75,359,254	31,121,833
Monedas fraccionarias	101,301,753	2,243,017
Total.	184,323,793	141,301,960

El total de monedas acuñadas el año anterior fué de 122,270,945, con un valor de $136,855,675, lo cual demuestra que aunque no es muy importante la diferencia entre el valor total de monedas acuñadas en ambos años, en cambio hay una diferencia de 62,000,000 entre el número de monedas acuñadas en éste y el anterior, lo que prueba que hubo mucho más trabajo en las casas de monedas y mayor actividad en los centros comerciales este año.

FÁBRICA DE CARBORUNDUM.

Según se lee en una revista técnica, la Carborundum Company acaba de inaugurar la nueva fábrica eléctrica que ha instalado junto á las cataratas del Niágara para la fabricación industrial de este sicilfuro de carbono, llamado, al parecer, á ocupar un puesto importante en varias aplicaciones industriales. La fábrica está unida al ferrocarril, y recibe por él todos los productos que necesita, resultando de este modo que obtiene una economía notable en los transportes. Las primeras materias se trituran en seguida y se les separa de las materias extrañas antes de mezclarse para la fabricación antedicha. La fábrica utiliza una fuerza de 1,000 caballos en corrientes alternativas para la fusión de la mezcla en cada uno de los cinco hornos que actualmente funcionan. Cada horno tiene 5 metros de largo, dos y medio de ancho y dos y medio de alto; están construídos con ladrillos refractarios, y en cada uno de sus extremos hay un disco de bronce que sostiene 180 cilindros de carbón que sirven de electrodos. El disco está unido al transformador por cuatro grandes cables de cobre. Cada horno puede recibir diez toneladas de primeras materias que producen aproximadamente unas dos toneladas de carborundum. Una vez colocada la mezcla en el horno se abre la corriente.

RIQUEZA MINERAL DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

Últimamente ha aparecido un nuevo volumen de la publicación que tiene por título "La Industrial Mineral," considerada como una autoridad en la materia. Es el tomo octavo de la serie y contiene perfectas tablas estadísticas, que dan las cantidades y el valor de los minerales y metales producidos en los Estados Unidos en el año de 1899. El valor neto de estos productos, según fué calculado en las minas ó lugares de producción, ascendió á $1,118,780,830, cantidad sin precedente en la historia de los Estados Unidos ó de otro país.

En 1899 los Estados Unidos ocuparon el primer lugar en la producción de carbón, sal, hierro, cobre, plata, plomo y otros metales. El valor de la producción mineral de este país excede á la de cualquier otro, siendo el más importante de dichos productos el carbón, que representa un 25.4 por ciento de la producción total.

VALOR DE LOS INFORMES MENSUALES SOBRE LA AGRICULTURA.

El Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos dió principio á la publicación de sus informes agrícolas mensuales en mayo de 1863. Antes de seis meses se había demostrado de una manera evidente la importancia que dichos informes tenían para los agricultores del país. Desde entonces han sido mirados con mucho favor por las clases agrícolas, y sus puntos principales se comunican por cable á varios países europeos.

PROGRESO DEL PUERTO DE GÁLVESTON.

El desarrollo de Gálveston en el Estado de Texas, como puerto de entrada, ha sido muy notable desde el año 1895, especialmente en cuanto se relaciona al tráfico de los Estados Unidos con los puertos mexicanos del Golfo, con los de la América Central y con los de la parte septentrional de la América del Sur. En 1895 las importaciones por el Puerto de Gálveston representaron un valor de $387,347 y las exportaciones de $36,182,382; mientras que en 1899 las importaciones alcanzaron á $2,243,400 y las exportaciones á $76,143,069.

Los malecones construídos por el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos á la entrada de la bahía de Gálveston han hecho muy seguro el puerto, aun para buques de mucho calado. Una gran parte del algodón que se produce al oeste del río Mississippi se exporta por Gálveston, y trigo y maíz en grandes cantidades se exportan también por el mismo puerto. Se calcula que la cantidad de granos exportada de Gálveston durante el último año económico fué de 15,000,000 á 20,000,000 de *bushels*. En los muelles de este puerto se emplean durante la estación de más actividad como 4,000 trabajadores, y se dice que tiene más comercio que ninguna otra ciudad de su tamaño en el mundo.

LA INDUSTRIA DE SALMÓN EN ALASKA.

Durante los últimos veinte años Alaska ha producido 700,000,000 de libras de salmón, cuyo valor asciendió á $33,000,000. La industria se desarrolla más y más cada día y se extiende hasta el Mar de Behring, que ahora da una quinta parte de toda la cantidad producida.

NUEVA BAHÍA EN LAS FILIPINAS.

El crucero *Baltimore* descubrió últimamente una bahía muy bien abrigada que no aparece en los mapas españoles. Está situada en la parte oriental de la isla de Luzón. Mide la bahía 3.2 millas de largo y 2.5 de ancho, y tiene, por lo general, una profundidad de 15 brazas. Está rodeada de altas colinas que la protegen contra los vientos.

TRÁFICO DE CEBÚ.

El Vicecónsul británico en Cebú informa que la "China Steam Navigation Company" ha comenzado á hacer viajes irregulares de Hong-Kong á Cebú, vía Manila é Iloílo, y que, según parece, va á obtener buenos resultados. El año pasado se exportó de Cebú cáñamo por valor de $3,151,910 y azúcar por valor de $770,503. La importación consistió principalmente en petróleo, arroz, sal y carbón. Su valor fué de $1,055,286.

DISTRITO ADUANERO DE PUERTO RICO.

El Departamento de Hacienda de los Estados Unidos ha emitido una circular relativa á la recaudación de las rentas en la isla de Puerto Rico. Según dicha circular, San Juan es el principal puerto de entrada del distrito aduanero, con Ponce, Mayagüez, Arecibo, Aguadilla, Humacao, Arroyo y Fajardo como puertos secundarios. Habrá en cada uno de estos puertos empleados de aduana con las facultades correspondientes para el servicio.

LEY RELATIVA Á LOS EMPLEADOS QUE VENGAN DESTINADOS Á LA PRÓXIMA EXPOSICIÓN PAN-AMERICANA EN BÚFALO.

De acuerdo con la ley votada por el Congreso de los Estados Unidos con fecha 6 de junio de 1900, por medio de la cual los expositores que hayan de tomar parte en la Exposición de Búfalo quedan autorizados para traer de sus respectivos países los empleados que necesiten para hacer sus instalaciones, á excepción de individuos de nacionalidad china, el Departamento de Hacienda en Wáshington ha emitido una orden-circular relativa á los empleados de referencia.

Dicha orden provee que tan luego como haya llegado á cualquier puerto de la Unión uno de los mencionados empleados, el Comisionado de Inmigración ó el Administrador de la Aduana de dicho puerto deberá satisfacerse de que dicha persona tiene derecho á admisión bajo los preceptos de la mencionada ley, en cuyo caso el funcionario aludido le expedirá un certificado de admisión, guardando copia en su oficina para referencia. La disposición 2ª de la orden-circular provee cómo ha de extenderse el mencionado certificado. Según la disposición 3ª, al devolver el interesado su certificado de admisión, lo cual ha de hacer al verificar su regreso al país de procedencia, debe anotarse en el anverso del certificado la devolución y fecha en que se hizo, archivándose luego para ser consultado en su día. La disposición 4ª provee que los Comisionados de Inmigración y los Administradores de Aduanas que hayan expedido dichos certificados deberán informar al Departamento de Hacienda, tres meses después de que haya terminado la Exposición, acerca del número de certificados que hayan expedido, dando además los nombres de las personas que no los hayan devuelto en su oportunidad, y que permanezcan en el país. La ley votada por el Congreso, de la que ya se ha hecho mención, provee que cualquier individuo que dentro del plazo de tres meses después de terminada la Exposición no haya cumplido con el precepto 3° de la orden-circular, quedará sujeto á los procesos y castigos aplicables á los extranjeros que, en violación de la ley de Contratas, hayan desembarcado en territorio de los Estados Unidos.

CONDICIONES AGRÍCOLAS EN JUNIO.

Los informes preliminares recibidos por la Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Agricultura sobre la extensión de los maizales, indican un aumento de cosa de 1,200,000 acres sobre la del año pasado.

La condición de las plantaciones es de 89.5, contra 86.5 el 1° de julio de 1899, y un promedio de 90.7 durante diez años. La condición del trigo chamorro ha declinado durante el mes de junio, habiendo sido á fines de dicho mes 80.8, contra 82.7 en junio de 1899.

El promedio en la condición del trigo de primavera es de 55.2, contra 87.3 hace un mes y 91.7 el 1° de julio de 1899. La condición del trigo chamorro y de primavera combinados era el 1° de julio de este año 69.8, contra 76.2 el 1° de julio de 1899. La condición de la avena es de 85.5, contra 91.7 hace un mes y 90 el 1° de julio de 1899. La condición de la cebada es de 76.3, contra 86.2 hace un mes y 92 el 1° de julio de 1899. El promedio en la condición del centeno es 89.6, contra 83.3 el 1° de julio de 1899. Ha habido un aumento de 30,000 acres en la extensión del terreno sembrado de patatas, y la condición de éstas el 1° de julio era de 91.3, contra un término medio de 93.2 durante diez años. La condición de la batata es muy favorable. La del tabaco es casi la misma que en los últimos diez años. Los informes relativos á la cosecha de heno no son muy favorables. De las manzanas, melocotones y uvas se esperan buenas cosechas.

Con respecto á la lana, se cree que el peso de cada vellón será de 6.17 libras, contra 5.95 libras en 1899.

La condición media del algodón el 1° de julio era de 75.8, contra 82.5 en el mes pasado y 87.08 el 1° de julio de 1899.

Se calcula que la producción total de trigo será de 510,356,000 *bushels* y la de maíz de 2,240,770,000 *bushels*.

GUATEMALA.

LEY DE INMIGRACIÓN.

Se han recibido en esta Oficina varios ejemplares de las leyes de Inmigración, Expropiación Forzoza, Ferrocarriles y Trabajadores de la República de Guatemala.

En la Ley de Inmigración se dice que no se contratarán como inmigrantes ni se aceptarán como tales los individuos del Celeste Imperio ni los de cualquiera otro país que sean mayores de sesenta años. Tampoco serán aceptados como inmigrantes los que por cualquier delito hubiesen sido condenados en sus respectivos países.

Con el fin de fomentar la inmigracion, el Gobierno de la República prestará á los inmigrados que vengan sin ser contratados los auxilios y franquicias siguientes:

I. Pago de su pasaje marítimo desde el puerto de su embarco.

Puede también, si así lo juzga conveniente, pagar el pasaje terrestre desde el lugar de la residencia del inmigrado hasta el puerto de su embarco.

II. Exención del pago de derechos de importación por las prendas de uso, vestidos, muebles del servicio doméstico, instrumentos de agricultura, herramientas, útiles del arte ó profesion que ejerza, semillas y animales domésticos, siempre que racionalmente juzgado no sean para comerciar con ellas, sino para su uso inmediato y diario.

III. Exención del pago de derechos consulares, inclusive el de pasaporte y certificación, de que deberán venir provistos y en la que se expresará su condición de inmigrados.

Los inmigrantes pertenecientes á las categorías primera y tercera serán trasladados por cuenta de las empresas particulares y del Gobierno, respectivamente, hasta los lugares á donde vengan destinados.

ACLARACIONES Á LA LEY DE MINAS.

La Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas ha recibido una importante comunicación del Señor Don Rafael Montúfar, uno de los miembros correspondientes honorarios de la Unión Internacional en aquella República, en la cual al referirse á la nueva Ley de Minas, de Guatemala, que fúe publicada en el Boletín Mensual correspondiente al mes pasado, se expresa de esta manera:

"Para mejor inteligencia de las disposiciones de la preinserta ley, debo decirle que las minas en Guatemala pertenecen exclusivamente á la nación cuando son de oro, plata, cobre, platino, mercurio, plomo, zinc, bismuto, cobalto, níquel, estaño, antimonio, arsénico, hierro, manganeso, molibdeno, y siempre que requieran para su explotación trabajos y operaciones que puedan calificarse de industria minera, así como el carbón de piedra que fué equiparado.

"También pertenecen á la nación las minas de sal, petróleo y demás substancias fósiles y combustibles minerales, que se encuentren en terrenos nacionales, aun cuando éstos pasen en lo sucesivo á propiedad particular.

"Las minas forman una propriedad inmueble distinta y separada del terreno ó fondo superficial, aunque aquéllas y éstos pertenezcan á un mismo dueño.

"Se adquieren por medio de una tramitación que se inicia ante la Secretaría de Hacienda ó ante la Jefatura política del Departamento donde se encuentre la mina, por denuncia ó solicitud de concesión, según los casos.

"El espíritu de las leyes españolas es el que aun prevalece sobre la materia.

En su citada comunicación el Señor Montúfar da la noticia de que el Gobierno de Guatemala ha declarado libre de todo impuesto local la

exportación de frutas frescas del país, reformando el artículo primero del Decreto gubernativo que gravó la exportación de bananos con 10 centavos el racimo.

En el número 71 de "El Guatemalteco," correspondiente al 18 de mayo de este año, aparece publicado el anterior decreto.

AGENTE COMERCIAL BRITÁNICO.

El Secretario de Relaciones Exteriores del Gobierno británico acaba de nombrar á Mr. E. H. MELVILLE Agente Comercial en la América Central, con residencia en Guatemala. Mr. MELVILLE es uno de los varios agentes comerciales que van á ser nombrados por un período experimental de dos años. Uno de estos empleados estará agregado á las Embajadas inglesas en Rusia y los Estados Unidos y á la Legación en Suiza. El deber de estos agentes será hacer observaciones y dar informes relativos al comercio, industria y productos especiales, y contestar á las preguntas que se le dirijan sobre asuntos comerciales.

HONDURAS.

MENSAJE DEL PRESIDENTE.

"El Pabellón de Honduras," periódico semi-oficial, publica en su No. 57 el Mensaje que el Señor General Don TERENCIO SIERRA, Presidente de Honduras, dirigió al Congreso Nacional al inaugurarse sus sesiones extraordinarias el 17 de mayo próximo pasado.

Á continuación se reproducen algunos párrafos de dicho Mensaje:

"Señores Diputados: El Gobierno se ha visto obligado á convocaros á sesiones extraordinarias, movido por uno de los asuntos de más interés para el país.

"Al veros reunidos en este recinto, cúmpleme saludaros con toda deferencia y consideración que se deben á los Representantes del pueblo, llamados en este caso á resolver un problema en que todos los hondureños han cifrado las más halagüeñas esperanzas para el bienestar de la patria.

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"En 1897 el Gobierno aprobó una contrata que había comenzado á cumplirse por ambas partes, pero cuyos trabajos se suspendieron en 1898, y en 1899 el Sindicato presentó otras proposiciones para sustituir la primera contrata que juzgaba impracticable. En mi Mensaje de 1° de enero último os manifesté la esperanza de un arreglo razonable y conveniente de las bases que se venían discutiendo; pero no habiéndose llegado al deseado acuerdo, el representante de dicho Sindicato sometió al Gobierno nuevas estipulaciones consideradas más atendibles y que, después de un maduro examen, fueron aceptadas.

"El Señor Ministro de Fomento os dará cuenta de la mencionada contrata.

"Todos los Estados de la América Central, á excepción del nuestro, tienen hoy ferrocarriles, que partiendo del interior van á terminar á uno de sus puertos.

"Se hace indispensable, pues, poner particular atención á una empresa que ofrece facilidades al desarrollo de nuestra riqueza. El arreglo en referencia contiene condiciones que llenan este objeto.

"La paz de que disfrutamos hace ya palpar sus ventajas en todo orden de progreso alcanzado en el país: aumento de inmigración, concurso de capitales extranjeros, solicitud de terrenos para nuevas plantaciones, otras propuestas de empresas ferrocarrileras y de navegación, explotación de minas y de maderas y, sobre todo, el aumento de la produccion, auguran días prósperos á la República.

"Una vía férrea como la comprendida por la contrata impulsará, pues, nuevas industrias, además de favorecer á las existentes, y la confianza en los negocios ha influído, á no dudarlo, en el arreglo de las dificultades que existían entre el Ejecutivo y el Sindicato.

"Aunque dicha línea solo llegase á Comayagua, ya se obtendrían mediante ella positivas ventajas, porque nuestro territorio interior se comunicaría rápidamente con el Atlántico, pasando por lugares fértiles y facilitando la salida de los productos.

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"Tengo la confianza de que el soberano Congreso Nacional tomará en consideración los expuestos antecedentes é inspirándose en el bien del país y siempre que crea conveniente el arreglo hecho con el Sindicato, se servirá concederle su aprobación."

CONTRATA DE FERROCARRIL.

En el número 1880 de "La Gaceta," periódico oficial de la República, se ha publicado la contrata de ferrocarril celebrada entre el Gobierno hondureño y el Doctor Don Marco Aurelio Soto, Presidente que fué de dicha República, para la construcción de un ferrocarril desde el puerto de Trujillo hasta Olanchito, y para la navegación del río Aguán y sus afluentes.

El concesionario se obliga á construir por su cuenta un ferrocarril del sistema Decauville, ú otro mejor, entre los puntos indicados.

Para la construcción de esta obra el Gobierno cede al concesionario una faja de terreno de 150 pies ingleses de anchura, sea de propiedad nacional ó particular. En este ultimo caso, el Gobierno hará la expropiación, pero pagará únicamente el terreno; el valor de los edificios ú otros bienes que se encontrasen sobre dichos terrenos serán pagados por el concesionario.

Cuando la línea férrea pase por ciudades, pueblos, aldeas ó caseríos ya establecidos, la anchura del terreno de que se ha hablado atrás se reducirá á la mitad.

Dentro del término de un año, contados desde la fecha en que fué aprobada la contrata, el concesionario deberá practicar, á su costo, un trazo preliminar de la vía férrea, y presentará en debida forma un plano ó mapa de dicho trazo al Poder Ejecutivo para su aprobación. Al estar aprobado por el Poder Ejecutivo el trazo preliminar, el concesionario deberá dar principio á la construcción del ferrocarril dentro de los seis meses siguientes á la fecha de la aprobación del plano ó mapa, y deberá quedar concluida dicha vía férrea dentro de los dos años siguientes, salvo caso fortuito ó fuerza mayor legalmente comprobados por el concesionario.

El ferrocarril, al abrirse al servicio público, deberá estar equipado y provisto de suficiente fuerza motriz, carros para pasajeros y para carga, herramientas y demás accesorios necesarios.

Los oficiales, empleados y operarios del Gobierno, tanto civiles como militares, las tropas, los correos nacionales, la correspondencia oficial ó particular que el Gobierno remita, las municiones de guerra y las especies fiscales, serán conducidos en los trenes ordinarios gratuitamente.

El concesionario tendrá el derecho de explotar dicho ferrocarril en todo ó en parte, á medida que vaya construyéndose y abriéndose al público, conduciendo pasajeros y acarreando carga, de conformidad con las siguientes condiciones:

1. El concesionario formará y publicará reglamentos lo mismo que una tarifa para carga y pasajeros.

2. La tarifa no podrá establecer precios más altos que los que ahora se cobran en la línea férrea existente entre Puerto Cortés y La Pimienta por el acarreo de una tonelada de carga por milla ó la conducción de una persona por cada milla.

3. Los precios de tarifa por fletes para los productos de Honduras serán tan bajos como sea posible, atendiendo á la compensación razonable por el servicio, el riesgo y capital invertido, pero en ningún caso podrá ser obligado el concesionario á transportar dichos productos ó cualesquiera carga ó pasajeros por menos del costo de servicio, más un 25 por ciento.

4. Los reglamentos y tarifa de dicho ferrocarril se notificarán al público, fijándolos en todas las estaciones de la línea y publicándolos íntegros, una vez al mes, en el periódico oficial. Los cambios de la tarifa se publicarán de la misma manera.

5. No se permitirá al concesionario ninguna preferencia ni favoritismo á persona ó empresa alguna, debiendo ser la tarifa igual para todos, salvo lo estipulado en el artículo 7°.

Es entendido que el concesionario y todos los empleados de la empresa

estarán sujetos á las leyes y autoridades de Honduras y gozarán de los mismos derechos civiles que los hondureños.

Al cabo de cincuenta años, contados desde la aprobación de la contrata, el Gobierno tendrá el derecho de comprar el ferrocarril y sus accesorios, dando aviso al concesionario de su propósito por escrito con un año de anticipación. Si el Gobierno no tuviere por conveniente comprar el ferrocarril en el tiempo señalado, podrá hacerlo á la terminación de cada cinco años subsiguientes.

Si el concesionario no terminare el ferrocarril en el tiempo y forma convenidos, caducarán los derechos que le otorga esta contrata en cuanto á la parte de la línea no construída.

Por la construcción y mantenimiento del ferrocarril el Gobierno otorga al concesionario los siguientes derechos, exenciones y privilegios:

1. El derecho exclusivo de navegación en el río Aguán durante veinticinco años contados desde la aprobación de la contrata.

2. El derecho de usar las maderas de terrenos nacionales que sean necesarias para la construcción y mantenimiento del ferrocarril, excepto caoba, cedro, las demás maderas de ebanistería y las de tinte.

3. Podrá también usar el concesionario los materiales de construcción que se encontraren en terrenos nacionales, tales como rocas, cal, etc.

4. El derecho de construir y mantener, á su costa, líneas telegráficas y telefónicas para el uso de la empresa.

5. El libre uso de la fuerza motriz del agua de las corrientes naturales adyacentes al ferrocarril.

6. El derecho de denunciar y adquirir las minas que se descubran dentro de mil metros á cada lado de la vía férrea y sus ramales.

7. El concesionario recibirá, una vez construida y abierta al público la mencionada línea férrea, 6,500 hectareas de terrenos nacionales.

8. El uso de terrenos nacionales que sean necesarios para construir diques, muelles, desembarcaderos, oficinas, estaciones, talleres y bodegas para el servicio del ferrocarril.

9. Exención de todo impuesto fiscal y municipal, ordinario y extraordinario, para lo que se relacione con la construcción y mantenimiento del ferrocarril.

10. Exención del servicio militar y de los ejercicios doctrinales de los empleados matriculados, en tiempo de paz; y en tiempo de guerra, de los indispensables á la empresa, á juicio del Gobierno.

11. La facultad de importar al país, libre de derechos de aduana y de todo impuesto fiscal y municipal, las maquinarias, carros, rieles, herramientas, dinamita y otros explosivos, y en general todos los materiales necesarios para la construcción, equipo, mantenimiento, administración, y funcionamiento del ferrocarril y todas sus dependencias; sin embargo, no comprende esta autorización los artículos cuya importación esté monopolizada ó prohibida por la ley.

12. Derecho de introducir al país, para emplearlos en los trabajos del ferrocarril, los operarios que sean indispensables, excepto chinos, *coolies*, y negros; pero estos últimos podrán ser admitidos previo arreglo especial con el Gobierno.

El Gobierno se obliga á no otorgar concesión alguna para la construcción de ninguna línea férrea paralela á la de Trujillo á Olanchito, dentro de una distancia de veinte millas á cada lado de la misma.

El Gobierno otorga al concesionario el derecho de preferencia de construir ramales del ferrocarril á puntos convencionales.

MÉXICO.

EXPORTACIONES.

Con este lema publica el periódico "El Tiempo," que sale á luz en el capital de México, un interesante artículo de cual se han tomado los siguientes párrafos:

"Días pasados nos ocupamos del movimiento mercantil de importación habido en los nueve primeros meses del año fiscal actual y señalamos su considerable aumento respecto de igual período del año anterior.

"Ahora vamos á ocuparnos del movimiento de exportación que es tan interesante ó acaso más que aquél, porque demuestra que la capacidad productora de nuestro país en todos los ramos de comercio, va en aumento de año en año y ofrece las más halagadoras esperanzas para un futuro no remoto.

"He aquí en conjunto el valor de ese comercio de exportación, de julio de 1899 á marzo de 1900:

	Año de 1898 á 1899.	Año de 1899 á 1900.
Productos minerales	$65,361,060	$61,732,923
Productos vegetales	29,388,736	35,782,508
Productos animales	6,966,663	7,896,031
Productos manufacturados	1,855,103	1,285,085
Diversos	20,775	502,633
Sumas	103,592,337	107,199,182
Aumento en 1899-1900 respecto del año anterior		3,606,845

"Consistente éste en su gran mayoría en productos vegetales y animales, pues los minerales y los manufacturados sufrieron una considerable disminución, principalmente los primeros, por causas accidentales y transitorias que no merecen tomarse en consideración.

"Como se ve, ese aumento, si bien no es tan considerable como los de otros años, es de bastante importancia, sin embargo, y demuestra que el desarrollo del país es gradual y constante y que la agricultura es la que,

después de la minería, hará figurar á México en un lugar distinguido entre los países productores, si se sigue atendiéndola de preferencia y mejorando los cultivos con la introducción en ellos de los métodos modernos. Sentimos que el resumen publicado por la Secretaría de Hacienda no exprese todavía cuáles fueron aquellos frutos naturales que fueron exportados en mayor cantidad, para poder consignar sus nombres, aunque tenemos entendido que el henequén, que todavía estaba en alza en ese período, ocupa el primer lugar y el segundo el café, por más que los precios de éste estuvieran bastante abatidos por la competencia del Brasil.

"Los países que han recibido nuestros productos y artefactos en el período que analizamos son los siguientes:

Estados Unidos	$84,192,144
Gran Bretaña y sus colonias	7,054,009
Francia y sus colonias	5,908,790
Cuba	4,551,147
Alemania	2,940,919
Bélgica	1,336,263
España	567,801
Holanda	164,345
Guatemala	161,299
Rusia	109,740
Italia	81,747
Salvador	56,195

"Obsérvase que al paso que nuestras exportaciones hacia los Estados Unidos aumentaron en más de ocho millones de pesos, disminuyeron hacia Inglaterra en más de cuatro y en menores cantidades para Alemania, Bélgica, España y Guatemala; sólo se nota un pequeño aumento para Cuba y algo más considerable para Francia. Respecto de Cuba, se comprende que, mientras aquella isla no consiga curar los males que le trajeron las guerras de que fué teatro, importe de nuestro país acémilas y frutos de la agricultura que le son indispensables; pero ya se observa que la exportación á esa isla ha llegado al máximum y que no tardará en decrecer acaso con la misma rapidez con que subió.

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"Tampico es el puerto que nuestros exportadores prefieren para enviar al extranjero sus productos; éstos por valor de $29,693,094 salieron por él. El segundo lugar lo ocupó Progreso, que figura con $19,733,011, y en tercer lugar figuró Veracruz, por cuyo puerto salieron mercancías por valor de poco más de dieciseis millones de pesos.

"Cada año ha venido acentuándose la competencia que Tampico hace á Veracruz, y en la que hasta ahora aquél ha llevado la mejor parte, aunque es probable que con la terminación de las obras que se están llevando á cabo en el primer puerto de la República, éste recobre la preponderancia que ha tenido durante cerca de cuatro siglos.

"Los demás puertos y aduanas principales exportaron efectos nacionales por los valores siguientes:

Paso del Norte	$12,628,067
Nogales	5,860,257
Santa Rosalía	4,347,355
Mazatlán	4,332,705
Piedras Negras	1,938,627
Soconusco	1,276,318
Isla del Carmen	1,161,042
Tuxpan	797,768
Boquillas (Frontera del Norte)	697,263
Frontera	671,618

"Las demás Aduanas, en número de 22, exportaron efectos que no llegaron á valer en cada una medio millón de pesos; la única que merece mencionarse es la de Chetumal, nuevamente creada, que en nueve meses del año actual exportó por valor de $144,593, contra $128,001 en igual período del año pasado; esas sumas se hubieran perdido para el país si el gobierno, no se hubiera propuesto vigilar la costa oriental de Yucatán y la frontera con los colonos ingleses de Belice."

LA INDUSTRIA DE ALGODÓN.

"El Progreso de México," en su edición de 15 de junio próximo pasado, publicó, con el lema que encabeza estas líneas, el artículo siguiente:

"Puede ser de algún interés la estadística de la industria de algodón en esta República como al presente está desarrollada," dice Edward Garcynski.

"Ocupa el estado de Veracruz el primer lugar por motivo de las fábricas de Orizaba. El consumo del algodón es de 10,743,482 libras, y las ventas, como se han comunicado á Hacienda para las contribuciones, ascienden á $6,664,983.

"El estado de Puebla está al presente en segundo lugar, pero dentro de pocos años pasará á Veracruz con motivo de los desenvolvimientos en Atlixco. El consumo actual de algodón en rama es de 7,994,225 libras, y ascienden las ventas á $3,931,724. Un ligero cálculo mostrará que los tejidos manufacturados en este Estado no obtienen precios tan elevados como los de Veracruz.

"El tercer lugar pertenece al Distrito Federal. Algodón en rama usado, 4,862,756 libras; ventas, $2,812,511. La especialidad de obras de punto debe resultar en un gran aumento en lo futuro, pero es dudoso que el Distrito Federal pueda mantenerse en el tercer lugar. Tiene que competir con el Estado de México, donde hay muchas cascadas que suministrarán la fuerza eléctrica. Se ha tenido la idea de llevar esta fuerza á México, pero hasta la fecha esto no ha resultado siempre práctico, como en el caso de la caída de agua cerca de Tenancingo. Pero fácilmente podría establecerse una fábrica en Tenango,

que tiene comunicación por ferrocarril con Toluca, la Capital de un hermoso Estado, y no cabe duda de que esto así se hará.

"Al presente las fábricas de México consumen 4,645,512 libras de algodón en rama y se calculan las ventas en $2,285,642.

"El quinto lugar le corresponde á Guanajuato, que además de ser importante por sus manufacturas, lo es por sus minas. El consumo de algodón en rama es de $3,732,416 libras; sus ventas, $1,381,364.

"Viene después Coahuila con el sexto lugar. Su consumo de algodón es 3,520,024; sus ventas, $1,692,435. Estas ventas son mayores que las de Guanajuato, de lo que podemos deducir que existe una demanda para tejidos superiores de algodón.

"Ocupa Jalisco el séptimo lugar; pero como ahora se están utilizando las grandes cascadas para fuerza eléctrica, es de creerse que la industria en este Estado se desarrollará con más rapidez. Al presente su consumo de algodón en rama es de 2,520,843 libras; sus ventas, $1,019,089.

"El Estado de Guerrero ocupa el último lugar, siendo su consumo de algodón 44,980 libras; las ventas, $122,184."

LA CIUDAD DE MONTERREY.

"La Semana Mercantil" de 4 de junio próximo pasado dice, refiriéndose á un periódico de Monterrey, que esta ciudad es en la actualidad una de las principales de México, por su actividad en el comercio, por sus grandes capitales invertidos en diversas industrias, por sus explotaciones minerales y por sus fundiciones.

Se ha operado en Monterrey en el transcurso de pocos años una verdadera transformación. El número de construcciones casi se ha triplicado, y asimismo ha aumentado el número de sus habitantes. Por medio de tres vías férreas que ponen á la ciudad en comunicación con el resto de la República y con los Estados Unidos, es fácil desarrollar cualquier industria y hacer que prospere sin obstáculos.

Las fundiciones que existen en Monterrey trabajan constantemente, habiendo siempre gran acopio de material. La nueva fundición de hierro y acero, que se está instalando y que ha obtenido una concesión del gobierno del Estado, es uno de los establecimientos que representa más capital en México. En el término de siete años se habrán invertido en dicha fundición $10,000,000. Además de estas industrias, hay en la ciudad muchas otras que funcionan con buenos resultados y que tienen sus instalaciones especiales.

EXPORTACIÓN DE NARANJAS.

Dice "El Tiempo," de la capital de México, que á pesar de que esta rica fruta es exportada en grandes cantidades para los Estados Unidos, no por eso ha escaseado, ni los precios de costumbre en los mercados de aquella ciudad han subido.

Agrega dicho periódico que del Estado de México se han exportado cerca de cien toneladas de mangos con destino á Nueva Orleans y otras poblaciones americanas en la última quincena de mayo y en los primeros días de junio del año corriente.

LAS FÁBRICAS EN PUEBLA.

Refiriéndose á este asunto, dice "El Tiempo," de la capital de México, que dentro de poco va á inaugurarse una nueva fábrica de tejidos en Puebla.

El desarrollo de la industria fabril en la República es cada día más notable, y es evidente que antes de muchos años México ocupará un lugar prominente entre las naciones industriales del globo.

NOTAS MISCELÁNEAS.

En el número 913 de "Las Novedades" se lee lo siguiente:

"He aquí un inventario del material rodante que la compañía del ferrocarril Central tiene en uso en su línea de México: 240 locomotoras, 2,733 furgones, 442 plataformas, 97 carros para frutas, 8 carros para hielo, 62 estanques para agua, 48 carros para carbón, 266 jaulas para ganado, 111 vagones de cola y varios centenares de carros para diversos usos.

"Para el servicio de pasajeros dispone de 28 coches de primera, 12 de primera y segunda reunidas, 19 de segunda y 32 de tercera clase, 28 carros de *express*, equipaje y correo, y dos carros para el pagador. Tiene, además, 13 carros de salvamento, y 136 de balastre."

Anuncia "La Gaceta Comercial de México," que continúan con gran actividad las obras de construcción de la vía férrea entre Guadalajara y el Puerto de Manzanillo. Los trabajos de terraplén llegan hasta Cuesta de Sayuya y se han vencido las dificultades que se encontraron en aquel punto para continuar la obra. La nivelación del terreno se ha hecho duidadosamente, y se han tendido ya los rieles. En cuanto al material rodante se ha recibido, procedente de Inglaterra y los Estados Unidos, la mayor parte del pedido que se hizo, lo mismo que una gran cantidad de durmientes de acero que se colocarán en algunos puntos donde se creen necesarios.

Refiere "El Nacional," de México, que acaba de ser descubierta una planta cuyo tallo y flor producen un color rojo pálido, y que, habiendo sido examinada detenidamente por su descubridor, encontró éste, después de varios días de análisis, que la flor, convenientemente preparada, produce un líquido espeso que puede servir para barnizar cualquier objeto.

NICARAGUA.

LÍMITES CON HONDURAS.

Del periódico "El Comercio," de Managua, correspondiente al 28 de junio de 1900, tomamos lo siguiente:

"La Comisión Mixta de Límites de las Repúblicas de Honduras y Nicaragua, con presencia de los documentos públicos presentados por ambas partes para comprobar sus respectivos derechos; siendo dichos documentos los títulos territoriales criados y expedidos en los siglos XVII y XVIII por la autoridad superior del antiguo Reino de Guatemalo, de que formaban parte las Provincias Coloniales de Comayagua y de León; apareciendo de los documentos en referencia la designación de la jurisdicción á que pertenecen los sitios á que ellos se refieren, cuyos términos limítrofes hacia las Provincias mencionadas, coinciden, en lo general, en una misma línea; no constando por documentos de otra clase ni de mayor fuerza otra demarcación á que sea preciso atenerse; y perteneciendo á ambos Estados aquella parte del Golfo ó Bahía de Fonseca adyacente á sus costas, sin que haya entre éstas la distancia de seis leguas marinas; después de haber hecho un reconocimiento cuidadoso del territorio que se extiende desde el citado Golfo ó Bahía de Fonseca hasta la Cordillera de La Botija; ejecutadas las operaciones geodésicas del caso y consultados los mapas hidrográficos que se han creído aceptables:

"ACUERDA:

"1. La línea divisoria de los territorios de Honduras y Nicaragua en la sección precedentemetce referida queda fijada de la manera que sigue: desde el punto conocido con el nombre de Amatillo, en la parte inferior del río Negro, la línea limítrofe es una recta trazada en dirección al volcán de Cosigüina, con rumbo astronómico Sur, ochenta y seis grados treinta minutos Oeste (S. 86° 30′ O.) y distancia aproximada de treinta y siete kilómetros (37 kms.) hasta el punto medio de la Bahía de Fonseca, equidistante de las costas de una y otra República, por este lado; y de este punto sigue la división de las aguas de la Bahía por una línea, también equidistante de las mencionadas costas, hasta llegar al centro de la distancia que hay entre la parte septentrional de la punta de Cosigüina y la meridional de la Isla de El Tigre. Del mismo punto, Amatillo, la línea continúa por el centro del precitado río Negro, aguas arriba, con dirección general Este-Nordeste (E. N. E.) hasta su confluencia con el río Guasaule en distancia aproximada de diez kilómetros (10 km.): de dicha confluencia la línea prosigue con dirección general Nor-nordeste (N. N. E.) por el centro del río Guasaule, también aguas arriba, hasta su unión con el

río Torondano á la distancia de veinte y seis kilómetros (26 kms.); del encuentro de estos dos ríos continúa la línea por el centro del río Torondano hasta la confluencia de la quebrada denominada Quebrada Grande; sigue por el cauce de ésta, primero, y por el de su afluente la Quebrada de Peña Blanca, después, hasta la cabecera de esta última en un portillo situado ciento cincuenta metros (150 ms.) al Este de la Peña de las Dantas, en la cima de la cordillera de La Botija; siendo el rumbo general de esta parte Nordeste (N. E.) y la longitud doce kilómetros (12 kms.): del portillo referido prosigue la línea con rumbo Este-sudeste (E. S. E.) sobre el filo de la Cordillera connotada; pasa por el alto de El Cedro y por la Peña Grande, y termina en la cúspide del cerro El Variador, con cinco kilómetros (5 kms.) de distancia. Para fijar permanentemente esta sección de la línea divisoria, se construirán dos mojones, uno en el lugar Amatillo, sobre la margen derecha del río Negro, y otro en el portillo contiguo á la Peña de las Dantas.

"2. La línea precedentemente demarcada será representada en un plano, al cual se acompañará una descripción de ella; y esta descripción será transcrita en el libro de Actas de la Comisión."

PROYECTO DE COLONIZACIÓN.

El diario "El Comercio," que se publica en la capital de la república, y que es un periódico muy bien informado, publica lo siguiente:

"El Gobierno, comprendiendo la gran importancia que reportaría al país la llegada de hombres sanos, trabajadores y sobrios, ha acogido con entusiasmo el proyecto de colonización europea y se ocupa en estudiar los detalles del contrato que se le ha propuesto.

"Nosotros esperamos que el proyecto en referencia sea aceptado, siempre que tenga por base y límites la equidad y la justicia, pues estamos penetrados de la conveniencia práctica de introducir á nuestro gastado organismo social nuevos elementos de vido, para que ocupe la patria de Jerez un distinguido y honroso lugar entre las naciones cultas y civilizadas."

RIQUEZA MINERA.

Dice "La Revista Industrial y Comercial de Minas," de Santiago de Chile, que casi todas las montañas, cerros y ríos de Nicaragua contienen oro, plata, estaño, antimonio, plomo y otros metales. En la exposición de París de 1889 se exhibieron muestras de estos metales, que llamaron mucho la atención. Hasta hoy día muchas de estas regiones permanecen inexploradas.

En el Departamento de León se trabajan minas de oro y plata en grande escala por una sociedad inglesa con muy buenos resultados.

El Código de Minas de Nicaragua, dictado en 1897, es muy liberal en sus providencias. Toda maquinaria aplicada á la minería entra libre de derecho, y no existe impuesto alguno sobre las minas.

LA COSECHA DE CAFÉ.

El Cónsul de los Estados Unidos en San Juan del Norte dice que la actual cosecha de café de Nicaragua ascenderá, según cálculos, á 150,000 sacos, contra 75,000 en el año anterior. Los derechos de exportación, que montarán como á 300,000 pesos, serán suficientes para pagar los intereses de la deuda exterior, dejando un superávit considerable.

PARAGUAY.

NUEVA LÍNEA DE VAPORES.

El periódico titulado "Review of the River Plate" asegura que el Gobierno paraguayo ha recibido de la "Export Shipping Company" una propuesta para el establecimiento de una línea directa de vapores entre los Estados Unidos y el Paraguay.

PERÚ.

LOCOMOTORAS EN EL PERÚ.

Firmado por Mr. J. G. Barclay, ingeniero mecánico, publica el periódico "La Voz del Sur," de Arequipa, un artículo en el que se dice que desde 1891 se han construido ó reconstruido con calderas nuevas en la factoría de aquella ciudad 24 locomotoras. Las más notables de éstas son seis muy poderosas, todas de igual tipo, construídas para el servicio de carga en la división Mollendo. Estas locomotoras tienen seis ruedas acopladas, con truco delantero de cuatro ruedas; llevan parte de la provisión de agua en tanques laterales, necesitando sólo un pequeño ténder que va montado sobre cuatro ruedas. Debido á que parte de la provisión de agua se lleva en la máquina, el ténder pesa un 30 por ciento menos, lo cual aumenta la potencia de aquélla para arrastrar un tren. Y, en efecto, dichas locomotoras arrastran un 25 por ciento más de peso, del cual un 7 por ciento se debe á la diminución de peso en el ténder.

En la construcción de las citadas máquinas se siguieron en gran parte los modelos de locomotoras usadas en los Estados Unidos. Todas las piezas de las máquinas han sido forjadas ó fundidas en la factoría de Arequipa, en la cual se han construido, además, tres vapores que miden más de cien pies de eslora cada uno, coches y carros para ferrocarriles, etc.

CAMINO DEL CUZCO AL RÍO INAMBARI.

El Gobierno del Perú ha celebrado un contrato con la "Société Anonyme Industrielle et Financiere de la Amerique du Sud" para la construcción de un camino de herradura entre el departamento del Cuzco y las márgenes del río Inambari, con una extención de doscientos cincuenta y cinco kilómetros, más ó menos, y provisto de los puentes de madera y otras obras que fueren necesarias, tales como estaciones y almacenes para el alojamiento de pasajeros y el depósito de la carga. La empresa se compromete á terminar el trabajo en el término de tres años á partir de la fecha de la concesión, debiendo empezar los trabajos de construcción dentro del primer año, so pena de caducidad del contrato. El camino deberá tener dos metros de ancho.

El Gobierno cede en propiedad á la empresa cincuenta mil hectáreas de terrenos de montaña, concediéndole el derecho exclusivo de transportar carga para el público por dicho camino, empleando para ello mulas, burros ó carretas. La empresa se obliga á transportar gratuitamente las valijas del correo durante todo el tiempo de la concesión, y dar pase libre á los militares, jueces y en general á todo funcionario que viaje en comisión del servicio, así como también á los misioneros.

Se conceden gratuitamente á la empresa los terrenos que fuesen necesarios para la construcción del camino de herradura, así como para sus estaciones y demás dependencias, y podrá disponer también de las aguas, materiales de construcción y combustibles vegetales que sean necesarios y que se encuentren en terrenos que pertenezcan al estado.

La empresa explotará el camino durante treinta años, después de cuyo plazo pasará á ser propiedad del estado.

El Gobierno concede á la empresa el derecho exclusivo durante cinco años para construir y explotar una línea telegráfica, siguiendo la dirección del camino de herradura. Después de treinta años de explotación dicha línea pasará también á ser propiedad de la nación.

Todos los materiales necesarios para la construcción, equipo y explotación de las obras mencionadas se introducirán en la república con las franquicias acordadas por las leyes.

Las cuestiones que se susciten entre la empresa y el Gobierno ó particulares, que no sean de carácter administrativos, serán resueltas por los tribunales de la república.

La empresa podrá transferir esta concesión con todos sus derechos y obligaciones á cualquier sociedad nacional ó extranjera, pero para hacer esto debe obtener previamente la aprobación del Gobierno, sin cuyo requisito no será válida la transferencia y quedará rescindido este contrato.

SALVADOR.

REFORMA DE LA LEY SOBRE CERTIFICACIÓN DE FACTURAS CONSULARES.

El Diario Oficial de la República del Salvador publicó en su edición del 18 de abril del año en curso el importante decreto que á continuación se leerá:

"La Asamblea Nacional Legislativa de la República del Salvador,

Considerando: que para mejor evitar el contrabando de mercaderías extranjeras, dar facilidades al comercio y mejorar el servicio consular de la República, conviene reformar la ley sobre certificación de facturas consulares, ha tenido á bien decretar y

DECRETA:

"ARTÍCULO 1. Cualquiera que de país extranjero envíe objetos de comercio á la República, aun cuando fuesen libres de derechos, formará factura por cuadruplicado de cuanto constituye su envío á cada comitente. Estas facturas deben estar escritas en español, y contendrán:

(*a*) El nombre y domicilio del remitente, el del vapor en que se embarcan las mercaderías y el del capitán que lo manda, el puerto adonde van, el nombre de la persona á quien van consignadas y el de la persona por cuya orden y cuenta se remiten.

(*b*) La marca y número de orden de cada bulto.

(*c*) La clase de bulto (sacos, cajas ó fardos, etc.).

(*d*) El peso bruto de cada bulto expresado en kilogramos, excepto en maquinaria, madera y hierro, que puede ponerse en globo el peso y precio.

(*e*) El nombre de la mercadería ó mercaderías que contiene cada bulto y la procedencia de las mismas.

(*f*) El valor de las mercaderías en moneda del país de donde se mandan.

(*g*) Cuando se manden vinos ó licores, se expresará la fuerza alcohólica que tienen.

"ART. 2. Los Cónsules no admitirán facturas con entrerrenglonaduras, tachas, enmiendas ó roeduras, si éstas no están anotadas al pie por el remitente; y en este caso pagarán una multa de un peso por cada ejemplar defectuoso.

"ART. 3. Es prohibido poner en la misma factura dos ó más bultos con la misma marca, el mismo número ó la misma marca y número; exceptuando el hierro en cualquiera forma sin empaque, la madera en bruto para construcciones, la maquinaria, y también poner en una misma factura mercaderías para dos ó más personas.

"ART. 4. En la inteligencia de que la factura consular tiene valor legal en los juicios ó exclarecimientos que pudieran ocurrir, el remitente de las mercaderías hará al pie de cada factura una declaración en la forma siguiente, escrita en letras: "('Fulano' ——— jura y declara bajo su palabra de honor que (m. / ó n. /). Factura que precede, consta de ——— folio ——— comprende ——— bultos, con peso en junto de ——— kilogramos y valor total de ——— (aquí la moneda del país de donde vienen las mercaderías); que la marca y número de cada bulto, el peso y contenido de los mismos y el precio con que aparecen, es el que tienen los bultos remitidos y con el que figuran en nuestros libros, y que la suma porque van asegurados es de ———."

"ART. 5. Los Cónsules solamente certificarán facturas á los comerciantes ó fabricantes que, personalmente ó por medio de sus apoderados legales, se presenten á firmar la declaración juramentada relativa á mercaderías compradas ó suministradas por tales comerciantes ó fabricantes.

Se abstendrán los Cónsules, en absoluto, bajo pena de destitución de su empleo, de certificar factura alguna á simples agentes embarcadores ú otros, pues el objeto fundamental de la presente ley, para cortar todo fraude posible, es que la referida declaración sea verdadera y firmada únicamente por los legítimos corresponsales del comercio salvadoreño, compradores ó abastecedores de las mercaderías embarcadas.

"ART. 6. La falsa declaración en cuanto al peso contenido de los bultos, nombres de las mercederías, precio de éstas y de todo lo demás prescrito en la presente ley, así como la contravención en lo estatuido en el artículo 3°, será penado conforme á las leyes sobre la materia. La falsa declaración en cuanto á la suma asegurada será penada con decomiso.

"ART. 7. El Cónsul pondrá el sello del Consulado en cada folio de la factura que se le presente, y al pie de la última foja la certificación en esta forma: "Certifico: que la factura que precede me fué presentada por ———; que la firma al pie de la declaración jurada que antecede es auténtica, y que los remitentes ejercen el comercio en esta plaza." Cuando por falta de agente consular de la República tenga que dar la certificación un agente consular de otra nación, podrá venir la factura con los requisitos que exijan las leyes del país que el agente consular representa, y si la certificación se da por dos comerciantes, se atenderá á lo establecido por las leyes del páis de donde se hace el envío. En ambos casos el interesado está en la obligación de mandar las copias de que habla el artículo 9°.

"ART. 8. El Cónsul anotará en cada factura los derechos que perciba, según la siguiente tarifa, calculando el peso á la par con la moneda del país en que se hagan efectivos, es decir, en Inglaterra por 48

peniques, Francia 5 francos, Alemania 4 marcos, Italia 5 liras, España 5 pesetas.

Por factura hasta $25	$1.00
Pesando de $25 hasta $100	2.00
Pesando de $100 hasta $500	4.00
Pesando de $500 hasta $1,000	6.00

Pesando de $1,000, 25 centavos por cada $100 ó fracción de $100 hasta $5,000.

Pesando de $5,000, 10 centavos por cada $100 ó fracción de $100.

"ART. 9. De los 4 ejemplares de factura uno se entregará al remitente; el Cónsul mandará, si es posible por el mismo vapor, uno á la Contaduría Mayor y otro al Administrador del puerto de destino y guardará uno en el archivo del Consulado.

"ART. 10. En la Aduana de la República no se hará registro de mercaderías sin que el consignatario presente factura certificada.

Si la falta de presentación de la factura consular fuere motivada por extravío, ó demora del ejemplar del consignatario, podrá hacerse el registro en vista del ejemplar recibido en la Aduana, y, si faltare éste, con certificación del recibido en la Contaduría Mayor.

"ART. 11. Toda carga que sea destinada á puertos salvadoreños que atraviese el Istmo de Panamá, el sobordo ó manifiesto será visado, forzosamente, por el funcionario consular del Salvador en Panamá, á quien únicamente corresponde hacerlo.

"ART. 12. Toda embarcación que traiga carga para cualquier puerto de la República y que no atraviese el Istmo de Panamá tiene obligación de traer el manifiesto ó sobordo visado por el Cónsul del Salvador en el puerto en que se haga el embarque.

"ART. 13. Los Administradores de Aduana que admitieren mercaderías á registro sin las formalidades establecidas en la presente ley sufrirán por cada infracción una multa de cien pesos.

"ART. 14. El presente decreto comenzará á regir tres meses después de su promulgación."

URUGUAY.

DATOS ESTADÍSTICOS.

Debido á una atención del Departamento de Estado de los Estados Unidos, la Oficina de la Repúblicas Americanas puede publicar los datos que á continuación se verán relativos á la República del Uruguay.

Los departamentos más grandes de la República—Rocha, Río Negro, Artigas, Rivera, Cerro Largo, Minas, Tacuarembó y Treinta y Tres—son los menos poblados. No contienen, por término medio, más de 2.5 habitantes por kilómetro cuadrado.

Si se toman en consideración los 18 departamentos según su posición geográfica, se verá que en los que quedan sobre el Atlántico y el río de la Plata la proporción es de 7.4 habitantes por cada dos kilómetros cuadrados; los que quedan sobre el río Uruguay contienen 2.8, los de la frontera 2.1, y los del interior 2.5 habitantes por cada dos kilómetros cuadrados.

En el primer grupo de estos departamentos el promedio de nacimientos es de 41.5 por cada mil habitantes. El departamento de Minas es el que ofrece la proporción mayor de nacimientos, 47.2 por cada mil habitantes. En cuanto á la mortalidad, es menor en el departamento de Cerro Largo que en ningún otro, 10.1 por mil habitantes.

Durante los primeros tres meses de 1900 la población en el departamento de Montevideo aumentó en 281 habitantes. En el mismo período de 1899 hubo una diminución de 992 habitantes. El número de nacimientos fué de 1,883.

Entre los inmigrantes que llegan á Montevideo predominan el elemento español y el italiano. La gran mayoría de estos inmigrantes se compone de agricultores. Las condiciones higiénicas de la capital son muy satisfactorias.

RECAUDACIÓN EN EL MES DE ABRIL DE 1900 EN LA ADUANA DE MONTEVIDEO.

Á continuación se publican las cantidades recaudadas en la aduana de la capital de la República del Uruguay durante el mes de abril del corriente año:

Importaciones	$826,944.98
Exportaciones	83,813.92
Importaciones de los Departamentos	100,000.00
Total	1,010,758.90

Los ingresos en el mismo mes del año 1899 fueron $1,078,362 y en 1898 $1,018,950.

EL BRASIL Y LA PRÓXIMA EXPOSICIÓN DE BÚFALO.

Parece que el Gobierno del Brasil ha aceptado con gusto la invitación que le hiciera el de los Estados Unidos por medio de su Ministro en Rio de Janeiro, Honorable CHARLES PAGE BRYAN, para participar en la Exposición Pan-Americana que se celebrará el próximo año en la ciudad de Búfalo. Han sido invitados oficialmente por el Gobierno brasilero todos los centros agrícolas é industriales de la República, con el fin de que dicho país tome participación en la mencionada Exposición en las condiciones más ventajosas posibles.

LA INDUSTRIA AMERICANA DESDE EL PUNTO DE VISTA INGLÉS.

En la serie de notables artículos que ha publicado el "Times," de Londres, sobre la competencia que hacen á la Gran Bretaña los Estados Unidos en obras mecánicas, se trata, entre otras cosas, de las locomotoras, y se habla del alto concepto en que se tiene á las que se fabrican en los Estados Unidos. Dice el autor del artículo que en la competencia con la Gran Bretaña en los mercados extranjeros los Estados Unidos ofrecen precios más favorables. Tratándose de los dos países cada tipo de locomotora se adapta muy bien á las condiciones existentes, pero cuando es cuestion de otros países, como, por ejemplo, las colonias inglesas, es evidente que las locomotoras de fabricación inglesa, en la construción de las cuales se han seguido los métodos rutinarios, no se adaptan bien al sistema de ferrocarriles que en ellas existen. Hasta la fecha la Gran Bretaña es la nación que exporta mayor número de locomotoras, pero es evidente que no está muy segura del porvenir, debido á la competencia que le hacen los Estados Unidos. Como es bien sabido, las compañías de ferrocarriles ingleses poseen grandes talleres para la fabricación de locomotoras. En los Estados Unidos, por regla general, las compañías de ferrocarriles hacen construir sus locomotoras en establecimientos particulares que se dedican á esta industria, de lo que resulta que estas fábricas hacen grandes negocios. La industria de locomotoras en Inglaterra fluctúa notablemente. En 1899, por ejemplo, la demanda exterior fué considerable, y las fábricas no pudieron suplir á los ferrocarriles ingleses todas las locomotoras que necesitaron. El resultado de esto fué que hubo necesidad de importar locomotoras americanas.

El articulista habla del sistema de locomoción en las ciudades de la Gran Bretaña y de los Estados Unidos, y dice que el sistema americano es tan superior al inglés, que no hay comparación posible entre los dos. Atribuye esto al gran progreso que ha hecho la electricidad en los Estados Unidos, y agrega que, en vista del desarrollo que ha alcanzado el sistema de tracción eléctrica en dicho país, no es de extrañar que los aparatos eléctricos fabricados en los Estados Unidos sean preferidos á los de otros países.

En otro artículo que trata sobre herramientas para maquinarias, se describen las manufacturas de la Nueva Inglaterra y de varias ciudades de los Estados centrales y del oeste, y afirma el autor que los ingleses pueden aprender más en los Estados Unidos que en ningún otro país del mundo.

EL ESTAÑO EN EL MUNDO.

El periódico "La Nature," de Paris, ha publicado sobre este particular un artículo interesante que ha sido reimpreso en "El Comercio," de La Paz, Bolivia. Á continuación se le reproduce íntegro:

"No se puede, en realidad, considerar al estaño como un metal precioso, y con todo él es relativamente raro. Esta rareza se siente tanto más cuanto que ese metal se aplica á usos múltiples, que aumentan más y más la demanda.

"No hay para que enumerar sus aplicaciones, pero es muy cierto que la hojalato requiere para su fabricación cantidades considerables, y que la industria de las conservas alimenticias, que toma cada día mayor incremento, hace gran consumo de esa materia prima á pesar del poco espesor de los envases á que se aplica. Es por esto, sobre todo, que el precio del estaño sube enormemente desde hace algún tiempo, y no deja de ser objeto de curiosidad el darse cuenta de las fuentes conocidas de donde la industria saca esta materia prima.

"La producción del estaño en todo el mundo alcanzaba á 55,100 toneladas en 1890, pero pudo subir á 87,380 en 1896 y á 77,330 en 1898. Y, de una manera general, durante los últimos años á que se refieren las estadísticas, á la península de Malaca corresponde la masa más considerable de esa producción. Los establecimientos de los Estrechos exportan, por término medio, un 60.6 por ciento, mientras que la parte de las Indias Orientales holandesas sólo exportan 19 por ciento, la de la Australia 7.9, la de Cormealles de 6.1 y, finalmente, se aplica á Bolivia el resto de 6 por ciento.

"Tanto más curiosa es esta aplicación que, si uno echa una mirada cuarenta años atrás, el Cormealles era el que tenía la primacía en el mercado del estaño, suministrando la mitad de la producción del mundo. La mina principal de ese país era, y lo es aun, por lo mismo que acaba de celebrar una fiesta conmemorativa de su centenario, la de Dolcoath, que ha producido estaño desde el comienzo de la explotación por valor de la enorme cifra de 6,000,000 de libras esterlinas, ó sean 125,000,000 de francos. Pero, generalmente hablando, la producción de todo el condado ha disminuido visiblemente, así como el número de las minas explotadas, por cuanto éstas ya no daban utilidad por su maquinaria anticuada y lo caro de la mano de obra.

"La extracción del estaño en vasta escala se hace al presente en extensa zona asiática que se dilata desde la Rumania y Siam, al norte, hasta Sumatra, al sur, en una longitud de 18,000 kilómetros, por lo menos, una buena porción de la cual todavía no está explotada y en la que hasta el día sólo se ha trabajado en las capas de aluvión, á causa de la fácil extracción del metal. Al hablar de la producción acabamos de dar la cifra de la exportación, porque en la prática es imposi-

ble tener los guarismos exactos de la extracción, al contrario de los del comercio. Por eso es que hemos omitido hablar de la China y aun del Japón entre los países productores, porque el consumo local absorbe una gran parte de la producción sin que pueda ser ésta avaluada.

"En Australia es Tasmania la que suministra la mayor porción de este precioso metal; en seguida está la Nueva Gales del Sur.

"Antes de concluir indicaremos en síntesis los principales consumidores de estaño, en cuanto las estadísticas nos permiten recoger tal dato. En primera línea hállanse los Estados Unidos con 25,000 toneladas, cuyo enorme consumo se explica por la fabricación de la hojalata, lo mismo que en la Gran Bretaña, á la que se atribuye unas 15,000 toneladas; Alemania presenta casi la misma cifra y, en fin, la parte de Francia es de unas 8,000 á 9,000 toneladas."

LOS FERROCARRILES DEL MUNDO.

Un periódico alemán que trata de ferrocarriles, el "Archiv für Eisenbahnwesen," ha publicado últimamente una tabla en que se da la extensión total de los ferrocarriles del mundo. Según dicha publicación, había á principios de 1899, 466,500 millas de vías férreas. De este total correspondían á Europa 167,000 millas; á la América del Norte, 213,000; á la América del Sur, 27,000; al Asia, 33,000; al África, 11,000; y á Oceanía, 14,500. Los Estados Unidos tenían en aquella fecha 186,800 millas, ó sea cerca de 20,000 millas más que toda Europa. La construcción de vías férreas no progresó tan rápidamente en 1898 como en años anteriores. En cuanto al total de millas y á la proporción entre el número de millas y el número de habitantes, se nota gran diferencia en las diversas naciones. Á continuación se verá una tabla en la cual se da el número de millas existentes en diferentes países y la proporción entre el número de habitantes y las millas de vía férrea.

Países.	Millas.	Número de millas por cada mil habitantes.
Estados Unidos	186,800	2,645
Alemania	30,776	568
Rusia	26,400	248
Francia	25,897	670
India Británica	21,970	76
Austria	21,805	484
Gran Bretaña é Irlanda	21,528	534
Canadá	16,860	3,210
República Argentina	9,822	2,080
Italia	9,759	310
Brasil	8,718	509
México	8,498	627
España	8,102	445
Suecia	6,359	1,247
Bélgica	3,781	571
Japón	2,948	68
Chile	2,662	830
Suiza	2,302	758
Egipto	2,085	174

LA GUTAPERCHA Y LOS CABLES SUBMARINOS.

Mr. Carl Suts, de Berlín, ha publicado en uno de los últimos números del "Kolonial Zeitung" un artículo sobre la gutapercha y su importancia en la construcción de cables submarinos, como que es la única substancia que puede emplearse como medio de aislamiento. Mr. Suts recomienda que se estimule á la Sociedad Colonial Alemana para que cultive la gutapercha en grande escala en las colonias alemanas de África. La posibilidad de hacer esto fué demostrada en la obra titulada "Investigaciones sobre la Gutapercha y el Caucho hechas en las Colonias del Mar del Sur." Los datos relativos á los cables existentes en el mundo, que á continuación se publican, son tomados de los escritos del Doctor Thomas Lenschau. La extensión total de los cables submarinos del mundo es de 300,000 kilómetros, de los cuales la Inglaterra posee 200,000. El resto está dividido así: Francia, 40,000; los Estados Unidos, 30,000; Dinamarca, Alemania, España, Japón, Italia y otros países, 30,000. Cada kilómetro de cable requiere 80 kilogramos de gutapercha. El consumo de esta substancia excede á la producción. De 1885 á 1896 se exportaron de Singapore 31,000 kilogramos.

El cultivo de la gutapercha en las colonias inglesas y holandesas de la India data de fecha demasiado reciente para que se pueda apreciar todo el desarrollo de que es capaz en lo futuro. Todas las tentativas que se han hecho para sustituir el caucho á la gutapercha como aislador han sido inútiles.

MUERTE DE UN MIEMBRO CORRESPONDIENTE HONORARIO.

La Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas lamenta la muerta prematura del Señor Don Miguel José Romero, uno de sus miembros correspondientes honorarios en Venezuela, acaecida en Caracas hace pocos días. Durante su permanencia en los Estados Unidos el Señor Romero, comisionado para ello por el Gobierno de Venezuela, dedicó todo su tiempo al estudio de la agronomía, con el objeto de mejorar las condiciones agrícolas de su país, donde murió á poco de haber llegado. Fué Delegado de Venezuela en la Exposición de Atlanta, el Congreso Comercial Internacional de Filadelfia y el Congreso Nacional de Agricultura, y acababa de ser nombrado miembro de la Comisión de Venezuela para la Exposición de Búfalo.

CONGRESO INTERNACIONAL MARÍTIMO.

Un Congreso internacional marítimo va á celebrarse en París durante la Exposición. Las sesiones comenzarán el 4 de agosto próximo en un edificio especialmente construído al efecto. Se discutirán todas aquellas cuestiones que se relacionan con la marina mercante de todas las naciones. El Presidente del Congreso será M. CHARLES ROUX, miembro de la Cámara de Diputados de Francia, y persona muy entendida en asuntos marítimos. Todas las comunicaciones deben ser dirigidas á M. DAL PïAZ, Secretario General, 6 rue Auber, París. Las Cámaras de Comercio de las principales ciudades de los Estados Unidos han sido invitadas para que envíen delegados á dicho congreso.

LA PRODUCCIÓN DE CARBÓN EN EL MUNDO.

Segun datos oficiales, la producción de carbón en el mundo durante el año pasado fué de 775,000,000 de toneladas, que es la cantidad mayor que se ha producido en el término de doce meses. Á pesar de esta enorme producción, los precios aumentaron y muchas fábricas se vieron obligadas á suspender sus trabajos por falta de combustible.

Los Estados Unidos produjeron 258,539,650 toneladas. Por primera vez en su historia este país produjo más que la Gran Bretaña en el mismo período.

Según informes recientemente obtenidos, se han fletado vapores para llevar carbón de los Estados Unidos á Rusia, Suecia, Francia, Alemania é Italia. No cabe ya duda de que antes de mucho tiempo los Estados Unidos suplirán una gran parte del carbón que se necesita para las industrias extranjeras, que hasta hoy han dependido del mercado inglés. Durante el año económico de 1899 la exportación de carbón de los Estados Unidos alcanzó á 5,052,033 toneladas, valoradas en $13,661,028, contra 4,008,996 toneladas, con un valor de $11,683,749, en 1898.

CULTIVO DE LA GOMA ELÁSTICA EN LA INDIA.

Por recomendación del Inspector General de Bosques, el Gobierno de la India ha tomado importantes medidas relativas al cultivo del hule ó goma elástica en el país. Á juzgar por los experimentos ya realizados, las especies brasileras de esta planta prometen buen éxito,

si se cultivan en la costa del Tenasserim, en la Burma inglesa. Con este objeto el Gobierno ha sancionado la compra de una finca compuesta de 10,000 acres de terrenos en la región mencionada, cuyo valor se estima en unos $43,470, esperándose que sus rendimientos serán altamente satisfactorios. No se abriga otro temor sino el de que los precios del hule bajen á causa del abarrotamiento del mercado por exceso de producción.

INVENCIÓN DE UN SUBSTITUTO DEL HULE Y DE LA GUTAPERCHA.

Un químico de Londres ha hecho varios experimentos ante la Sociedad Industrial Química de esa Capital con un producto de su invención al que ha dado el nombre de *vevril*, y que él afirma está destinado á substituir en la industria al hule y á la gutapercha.

El *vevril* es una substancia muy semejante al caucho llamado de Para, y se obtiene mexclando un litro de nitrocelulosa con dos de aceite, sometiendo esta aleación á una fuerte presión ó á la acción del calor. Los aceites más á propósitos son el de castor y el de linaza, siendo el primero de éstos el que da resultados más satisfactorios.

El mejor medio de usar el *vevril* es ablandándolo con un solvente cualquiera, haciendo evaporar éste después. Se asegura que la razón por la cual esta substancia es preferible al caucho americano es porque no afecta en nada al cobre.

BIBLIOGRAFÍA.

En esta sección del Boletín Mensual se tratará de los libros y folletos enviados á la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas, que se refieren á asuntos relacionados con los países de la Unión Internacional de Repúblicas Americanas.

El canje de publicaciones de Centro y Sud América puede efectuarse por conducto de la "Smithsonian Institution," Wáshington, D. C., por medio de las agencias de distribución que tiene en aquellos países, y que son las siguientes:

Argentina: Museo Nacional, Buenos Aires.

Bolivia: Oficina Nacional de Inmigración, Estadística y Propaganda Geográfica, La Paz.

Chile: Universidad de Chile, Santiago.

Colombia: Biblioteca Nacional, Bogotá.

Costa Rica: Oficina de Depósito, Reparto y Canje Internacional, San José.

El Salvador: Museo Nacional, San Salvador.

Guatemala: Instituto Nacional de Guatemala, Guatemala.

Honduras: Biblioteca Nacional, Tegucigalpa.

México: Todos los envíos gozan de la franquicia del correo.

Nicaragua: Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Managua.

Paraguay: Oficina General de Informaciones y Canje y Comisaría General de Inmigración, Asunción.

Perú: Biblioteca Nacional, Lima.

Uruguay: Oficina de Depósito, Reparto y Canje Internacional, Montevideo.

Venezuela: Museo Nacional, Caracas.

Mr. William L. Scruggs, que fué Ministro de los Estados Unidos en Colombia de 1873 á 1875 y de 1884 á 1885, y en Venezuela de 1889 á 1893, ha publicado un libro muy interesante con este título: "The Columbian and Venezuelan Republics, with Notes on other parts of Central and South America" (Las Repúblicas de Colombia y Venezuela, con apuntes relativos á otras partes de la América del Sur y Central"). La casa editora es la de Little, Brown & Co. La obra es una adquisición muy valiosa, porque los trabajos que existen sobre esa parte de la América del Sur son muy pocos.

Lo que el autor dice acerca de los países de que trata es el resultado de su propia experiencia en un período de más de veintiocho años, durante el cual sus relaciones oficiales y de otro género con los Gobiernos de Colombia y Venezuela le ofrecieron oportunidades muy favorables para hacer sus investigaciones.

Aunque su tratado sobre Colombia se limita á Bogotá y Cartagena, no deja por eso de ser muy interesante. El capítulo relativo á los hábitos y costumbres de los colombianos muestra que fué escrito sin la menor prevención y con espíritu de verdadera imparcialidad. La descripción de la ciudad de Bogotá y sus habitantes es esencialmente gráfica y de mucho interés.

Hay un corto artículo sobre las riquezas naturales y el comercio del país. De acuerdo con otros escritores, Mr. Scruggs opina que el lento desarrollo del tráfico exterior del país se debe á la falta de medios de transportación en el interior.

Después de un capítulo interesante dedicado á la Isla de Curazao, Mr. Scruggs pasa á hablar de Venezuela, y describe sus costas, puertos y Capital, Caracas, llamando la atención hacia los progresos que se han hecho durante los últimos veinticinco años.

La parte histórica de la obra es, probablemente, la más interesante, pues trata de la cuestión de razas, de la democracia, de las revoluciones en la América del Sur, de los derechos de los extranjeros, de la doc-

trina de Monroe, de la dificultad relativa á límites entre Venezuela é Inglaterra y del principio de arbitraje internacional. El libro contiene tres mapas; el de la Guayana anglo-venezolana, que se encuentra opuesto á la página 324, es muy claro y hermoso.

Está para publicarse el "Blue Book of American Shipping" (El Libro Azul de la Marina Americana). Lo da á luz la "Marine Review Publishing Company," de la ciudad de Cleveland, Ohio. Contendrá esta obra una relación exacta de todos los buques de guerra y mercantes pertenecientes á los Estados Unidos. Al hablar de los progresos que se han hecho en la construcción de estos últimos, el prólogo del libro dirá, entre otras cosas, lo siguiente:

"El desarrollo en la construcción de barcos de hierro y de acero, de que se hizo referencia en la última edición de esta obra, continúa de la manera más activa. En las costas del Atlántico y del Pacífico se han establecido nuevos arsenales. La 'New York Shipbuilding Company' está construyendo uno en Camden, New Jersey, que figurará entre los más grandes del país. En New London, Connecticut, la 'Eastern Shipbuilding Company' está erigiendo en la actualidad un arsenal de dimensiones enormes. El trabajo principal de éste será la construcción de dos vapores de carga para el tráfico del Pacifico, y que pertenecerán á Mr. James J. Hill, del 'Great Northern Railway.' Estos vapores tendrán un porte de 34,000 toneladas y serán los mayores barcos del mundo. Para tener un idea de su tamaño, basta pensar que serán más grandes que el *Lucania* y *Campania* juntos, y que la cubierta tendrá una extensión de cosa de cinco acres."

La última edición del "Atlas Pan-Americano," publicado en la ciudad de Berlín, y cuyo objeto no es otro que señalar al pueblo alemán la importancia de su raza, indicando aquellos puntos del globo donde ésta se encuentra, contiene, entre otras cosas de interés, los siguientes importantes datos:

En el año 1895 la población de Alemania era de 49,000,000 de habitantes, y en la misma época había fuera del Imperio alemán 39,475,000 personas de nacimiento alemán ó descendientes en línea directa de los mismos. De esta suma se calcula habían 10,000,000 en los Estados Unidos; 400,000 en el Canadá; 493,000 en los países del Centro y Sud América y las Antillas; 106,000 entre Australia y Nueva Zelandia, y cerca de 300,000 en los países del sur de África.

Según el mismo estadísta que compiló los anteriores datos, existen hoy día en los Estados Unidos 2,993,000 alemanes. En el Estado de Nueva York es donde mayor número de éstos residen, calculándose el número en unos 553,000. Luego sigue Illinois con 336,000 y Wisconsin con 283,000. La proporción en que figuran los alemanes con respecto al total de habitantes de varias ciudades americanas es como

sigue: Milwaukee, 66 por ciento; Hoboken, 57; Detroit, 43; Cincinnati y Buffalo, 41 cada una; Jersey City y Cleveland, 40 cada una; Nueva York, 38; Newark y Chicago, 37, y Boston 3 por ciento.

La Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas publicará pronto un mapa de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos formado con datos oficiales y de otro género, el cual contendrá informes que solamente se encuentran en numerosos mapas especiales de difícil acceso para el público. En dicha carta, hecha en una escala de 50 millas por pulgada, aparecerán indicados, además de la geografía física y política de México, todos los distritos mineros y la clase de minas que en ellos se explota, las calzadas y ferrocarriles, líneas telegráficas, áreas de terrenos cultivados y otros informes de interés general. Las principales fuentes de información, consultadas para la preparación de este mapa fueron las siguientes: (1) U. S. Navy Hydrographic Charts. (2) Official map of Sonora by C. E. Herbert, 1885. (3) Carta General de la República Mexicana formada en el Ministerio de Fomento, 1890. (4) Carta Minera de la República Mexicana formada por disposición del Secretario de Fomento, 1893. (5) Carta General del Estado de San Luís Potosí, 1894. (6) Carta de Comunicaciones de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos, 1895, 1896, 1899. (7) Carta Geográfica General de la República Mexicana.

El periódico "Petermann's Mitteilungen" correspondiente al mes de junio próximo pasado contiene un artículo del Professor W. Sievers titulado "Descubrimientos Geográficos en la América del Sur durante el Siglo XIX." Comenzando con los primeros esfuerzos hechos por Humboldt en 1799, el autor hace una relación de los trabajos de los diferentes exploradores en la América del Sur. Acompañan al artículo once mapas diferentes. El autor dice que después de examinar los trabajos que se han llevado á efecto se observa que la mayor parte de las exploraciones han sido hechas por empresas particulares con excepción de los países que quedan más al sur, especialmente la República Argentina, donde en 1875 se dió principio á varias investigaciones, y en 1882 se publicó un gran atlas, que se considera un trabajo excelente. Generalmente hablando, sin embargo, queda mucho por hacer en cuanto á exploraciones en la América Meridional.

"A Través del Amazonas" es el título de una Memoria presentada por el Señor Ballesteros á la Sociedad Geográfica Argentina, describiendo en ella el viaje que realizó en el año 1896 de la Paz á Pará. En dicha Memoria el Señor Ballesteros describe las regiones de las cordilleras orientales y las del alto Purus, relatando su historia y exponiendo los progresos que se han podido realizar en ellas durante los últimos años. Sus habitantes llegan hoy á 10,000, y el total de las recaudaciones de Aduana se calcula en unos £120,000. La producción

allí de la goma elástica, que hoy día alcanza á 2,000 toneladas, se cree habrá de subir á 20,000 anualmente tan pronto esté en operación el ferrocarril que una compañía francesa está construyendo y que habrá de enlazar el Acre con las regiones del Madre de Dios.

Dice el "Montevideo Times" que el Ministro de Agricultura de la República Argentina ha dado instrucciones al Bibliotecario Nacional para que prepare una obra que contenga una descripción de la República y que trate de su progreso social, intelectual y económico, así como de otros asuntos de información general. Se ha resuelto que esta obra ha de estar terminada para su distribución el 31 de julio de 1900, y que se harán ediciones en español, francés é inglés. El objeto de esta publicación es dar á conocer en Europa las ventajas que presenta la República Argentina.

Mr. William E. Curtis ha escrito un artículo para el "National Geographic Magazine," de Washington, cuyo título es "The Road to Bolivia" (El Camino á Bolivia). La primera parte de este interesante artículo fué publicada en el número del periódico correspondiente al mes de junio y trata de los incidentes relacionados con el viaje de los Estados Unidos á Bolivia. La segunda parte, publicada en el número del 10 de julio, es una descripción de la República de Bolivia, sus habitantes, las costumbres, las antiguas ruinas, etc. Cada artículo va acompañado de hermosas ilustraciones.

Mr. O. Christophersen ha publicado recientemente la segunda edición de su obra titulada "River Plate Navigation and Shipping," que contiene los últimos informes relativos á reglamentos de puertos, documentos que se exigen, servicio de prácticos, camarotes, tonelaje, vapores, buques de vela, gastos de puerto, gastos de muelle, agencia de comisiones, y, en general, todo lo esencial y necesario respecto á la navegación y embarques. La obra está escrita en inglés, profusamente ilustrada.

Con el sano propósito de prestar la debida protección á los pájaros de bonito plumaje, á los canoros y á los insectivoros, que constituyen el 80 por ciento de las especies que abundan en el Continente americano y que hasta ahora han estado expuestos á los mayores abusos y crueldades, el Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos ha publicado un folleto, preparado por Mr. T. S. Palmer, 2° Jefe de la Sección de Biología, en el que se dictan leyes muy oportunas para la protección de los referidos pájaros.

La casa editora de Saalfield Publishing Company, de Akron, Ohio, ha publicado una interesante obra titulada "South America," cuyo

autor es Mr. Frank G. Carpenter, en la que dicho señor relata sus largos y provechosos viajes por los países de la América Central y del Sur. La obra contigne informes del mayor interés, que han sido recopilados con el mejor acierto y discreción, y está profusamente ilustrada con preciosos grabados que contribuyen en gran medida al mérito y utilidad del trabajo.

En Consulado General del Perú en Nueva York ha tenido la atención de remitir á esta Oficina varios ejemplares de la Sinópsis Geográfica y Estadistica del Perú, 1895–1898, trabajo en que se encuentran noticias muy útiles sobre aquella República. La descripción geográfica del país que está al principio de la obra es de sumo interés, y da una idea muy clara de la situación, límites y topografía de aquella rica sección de la América del Sur.

El número 3 del volumen 32 del Boletín de las Sociedades Geográficas de Nueva York contiene un artículo escrito por Mr. Herbert L. Wilson, de la Sección Geológica de los Estados Unidos, cuyo título es "Puerto Rico; su Topografía y Aspecto." El autor da noticias detalladas sobre la situación y extensión de la isla, su suelo, clima, topografía, bosques, productos, habitantes, costumbres, etc. Acompaña al artículo un mapa de Puerto Rico á una escala de 10 millas por pulgada.

El Boletín publicado por el Ministerio de Estado de Italia correspondiente á los meses de abril y mayo contiene un artículo suscrito por el Vicecónsul de Italia en la República Argentina sobre la cría y exportación de ganado en la región del Plata. Contiene también un informe del Cónsul italiano en Florianopolis, Brasil, acerca de los italianos al sur del Estado de Santa Catalina.

El Señor L. Darapsky, quien por varios años estuvo haciendo importantes trabajos de investigación por la costa norte de Chile, en la región denominada Puna de Atacama, ha publicado un interesante trabajo sobre dichos parajes, incluyendo en él numerosos mapas é ilustraciones de sumo interés.

Se ha recibido en esta Oficina el último número de "La Producción Nacional," notable revista que salía á luz en la ciudad de Buenos Aires. Se anuncia que su publicación va á suspenderse, cosa que es de sentirse pues el mencionado periódico figuraba entre los mejores de la América del Sur.

El Código Civil hábilmente preparado por el Dr. Clovis Bevilacqui, llena gran parte del "Diario Oficial" del Brasil, correspondiente al 15 de mayo próximo pasado. Dicho Código será sometido á las Cámaras legislativas para su formal adopción en la República.

Ha llegado también á esta Oficina el número 11 de la revista pedagógica "México Intelectual," publicación que contiene datos muy valiosos para todos aquellos que se interesan en la instrucción pública.

Se ha recibido el último número de la "Revista Nacional," de Buenos Aires, publicación literaria muy notable que contiene artículos de distinguidos escritores de la República Argentina.

BOLETIM MENSAL

DA

SECRETARIA DAS REPUBLICAS AMERICANAS,

União Internacional das Republicas Americanas.

VOL. IX. JULHO DE 1900. No. 1.

REPUBLICA ARGENTINA.

CONGRESSO INDUSTRIAL.

Com grande solemnidade se verificou em Buenos Aires a inauguração do Congresso Industrial Argentino. Presidiram a Assemblea, o Ministro da Agricultura, Dr. Don MARTÍN GARCÍA MÉROU e o engenheiro Don FRANCISCO SEGÚE. O Dr. GARCÍA MÉROU pronunciou um discurso muito notavel, do qual tomamos os seguintes paragraphos:

"A reunião do Congresso Industrial Argentino, que o cargo official que desempenho me permitte presidir nesta occasião, não pode ser considerada pelo Governo de que formo parte e por todos os elementos do nosso povo, senão como um acontecimento feliz que prognostica para nossa patria um progresso economico cada vez mais solido. No vasto dominio dos assumptos que devem ser objecto de vossas deliberações, cabem todas as materias que affectam de uma maneira essencial á legislação e á politica, tal como ella é entendida nas nações modernas, todos os problemas com que se occupam os pensadores do mundo ao cerrar-se este seculo de incomparavel desenvolvimento scientifico.

"As grandes questões que hoje interessam a humanidade, são questões economicas. Os movimentos humanos obedecem a mesma lei que nos impulsiona ao trabalho pelo incentivo poderoso do desejo ou pelo estimulo da necessidade.

"Até ha pouco tempo, nossa vida nacional tem estado encerrada em moldes que faziam prematura qualquer tentativa em favor do estudo das manifestações rudimentarias de um organismo industrial, então apenas esboçado, e que hoje se nos apresenta joven, mas vigoroso, reclamando nossa attenção mais intensa e provocando o assombro dos

que presentam sua proxima madurez. * * * Aqui, como nos Estados Unidos, existem lado a lado e se desenvolvem ao mesmo tempo, uma sociedade velha e uma sociedade joven, uma communidade pastoril que não tem sahido ainda do estado agricola primitivo, com suas terras virgens abertas á actividade do *pioneer;* e uma civilização acabada, transplantada de golpe a nosso territorio.

* * * * * * *

"E desde logo, permitta-me indicar um destes factos que devem ser tidos em conta para o exito de vossas investigações. Fallo, Senhores, da importancia primordial que em nossa actualidade economica possue entre nos a industria agricola. Segundo os algarismos do ultimo recenseamento, o valor do gado subio a $1,373,660,232. Esse dado é eloquente mas convem confrontal-o com as cifras da producção agricola em 1899. No total da producção daquelle anno, o trigo figura com um valor de $151,000,000 em numeros redondos; o milho com um valor de $39,000,000; outros cereaes com um valor de $20,000,000; o assucar com um valor de $31,000,000; o vinho com um valor approximado de $37,000,000; o tabacco com um valor de $3,000,000; a lã com um valor de $129,000,000. Assim, sobre um valor total de exportação de $184,000,000 ouro; os productos do gado figuram com $115,000,000, em numeros redondos, os de agricultura com $65,000,000; os productos florestaes, da mineração e da caça com $3,000,000.

"A mesma publicação registra 24,204 estabelecimentos industriaes em toda a Republica, com um pessoal de 196,000 empregados e um capital empregado de $439,000,000. Creio que estas cifras são inferiores á realidade. A secção de commercio do Ministerio da Agricultura realiza neste momento um recenseamento industrial da Republica. Quando este trabalho estiver terminado, será uma nova e valiosa contribuição ao estudo das condições de nossa industria, de sua importancia real e de seu porvir."

* * * * * * *

"PRODUCÇÃO, COMMERCIO E EXPORTAÇÃO DE CEREAES."

No numero 26 da importante revista de Buenos Aires, "La Industria Molinera," se publica um artigo com o titulo acima que em seguida traduzimos:

"Os que se interessam e observam o desenvolvimento do nosso commercio de cereaes, sabem que nos ultimos tempos se teem realizado progressos na organização que comprehende as operações diversas que ha que executar desde o momento do recebimento dos productos no lugar de producção, até o de depositál-os para embarque ou carregal-os no porão dos navios. Corresponde a uma publicação do genero da nossa contribuir a que esses progressos sejam conhecidos por todos, porque assim se despertará o interesse e as iniciativas de emprezas

para dar maior desenvolvimento a esse commercio de grãos, chamado a ser na Argentina uma de suas fecundas fontes de prosperidade.

"Constituem em primeira linha os progressos a que nos referimos, as praticas scientificas que teem começado a adoptar as Bolsas de cereaes nesta Capital e do Rosario de Santa Fé, para determinar o peso do hectolitro e para a verificação, em certos casos, dos caracteres physicos dos grãos, os carregamentos de trigo *á granel* que começam a pedir-se, a multiplicação dos depositos particulares, e, muito especialmente, as facilidades que offerecem as estradas de ferro para o transporte dos productos de Santa Fé, Córdoba e norte de Buenos Aires até os portos de embarque, facilidades que existem igualmente na Provincia de Entre Ríos. Indubitavelmente temos ainda muito que fazer para alcançar uma organização regular, e nos faltam todavia grandes elementos para combater os effeitos da baixa dos preços, diminuindo o custo das colheitas pelo barateamento dos arrendamentos, dos transportes, dos gastos de armazenagem, embarques, etc.

"O grande movimento deste anno assim o demonstra. O anno passado, nesta epocha, haviam sido embarcadas 910,000 toneladas de trigo, 87,000 toneladas de milho e 133,000 ditas de linho; e no anno actual temos já embarcado 1,367,000 toneladas dos tres cereaes, o que deve attribuir-se á acção dos gremios impulsionados por seus proprios interesses e os progressos a que nos temos referido.

"Algumas companhias de estradas de ferro que não dispõem de sufficiente numero de wagões, os teem encommendado. A recente lei nacional sobre elevadores está já dando seus resultados, e o Governo nacional tem dado uma concessão para estabelecer um no porto desta capital e está-se tratando de fazer concessões para outros tres. No Rosario funccionam dous elevadores com capacidade, um para 12,000,000 de kilos, e outro para 10,000,000, ambos ligados com depositos onde, em caso dado e em circumstancias especiaes, pode armazenar-se o cereal depois de limpo, ventilado ou mesclado.

"O trabalho diario que estes elevadores podem fazer é, approximadamente, o seguinte: descarga de wagões, pesar 2,300,000 kilos; ventilar 1,400,000; limpar 900,000 e embarcar 2,000,000. Um destes tem seis embocaduras, e o outro tres, sendo servidos por correias sem fim, que transportam o cereal á razão de 2,000 kilos por minuto, além dos tubos por onde se embarca á granel e directamente a bordo.

"Cado elevador tem quatro balanças de 15,000 kilos cada uma, combinadas de maneira que em todo movimento que se execute com o cereal, ou ao receber-se ou ao ventilar-se, passe por ellas.

"Os elevadores estão illuminados a luz electrica.

"Tem a empreza 16 depositos, podendo armazenar 700,000 saccos de cereaes. Um destes tem uma capacidade de 650,000 saccos. O director destes elevadores julga que podem carregar-se em vinte e quatro horas, 3,000 toneladas de cereaes.

"Outro elevador funcciona nesta capital no Riachuelo, construido pela companhia da Estrada de ferro do Sul.

"Pelo precedente se vê o que se faz e se está em via de fazer para que a Argentina occupe no mercado do mundo o lugar que lhe corresponde como paiz productor de cereaes, e para que homens e capitaes possam vir a fomentar este movimento."

NOVO METHODO PARA CORTIR.

Diz "El Boletín de la Unión Industrial Argentina" que recentemente se tem annunciado o descobrimento de um systema para cortir pelles, baseado na acção de uma solução acida de bichromato de potassa sobre o couro limpo de pellos. Depois de limpo completamente na fórma acostumada, o couro é submergido n'uma forte solução de sal commum; logo lava-se em salmoura e se procede a cortil-o com um licor quente que se obtem dissolvendo como um 5 por cento de bichromato de potassa em agua, e misturando-o com acido hydroclorico. Quando tem ficado neste banho por espaço de tres horas o bichromato, inalterado, é reduzido com o sulphureto de hydrogenio até que os couros tenham uma côr amarella. Logo lavam-se bem e preparam-se na forma ordinaria.

O QUE SE FAZ COM O MILHO.

Sob esta rubrica "La Industria Molinera," de Buenos Aires, publica o artigo que se segue:

"Na secção dos Estados Unidos na Exposição de Pariz, haverá um departamento especial, no qual se exhibirão os productos derivados do milho.

"Os productos principaes que actualmente se extraem desse grão são: assucar, glucosa, dextrina, farinha de amido, azeite, massa feita com os residuos do milho depois da extracção do azeite, aguardente e um substituto da borracha.

"Tambem se emprega o milho na fabricação de cerveja, de conservas e manufacturas de couro, nas fabricas de papel como material para acolchoar e como materia crúa para solos, etc.

"Tratando-se do emprego mais novo de milho para fins industriaes, diremos que são duas as applicações que dão margem a um grande consumo desse grão: 1ª o emprego do milho na fabricação da polvora sem fumaça, pois já se tem consumido e se seguirão consumindo milhões de hectolitros de aguardente de milho nas fabricas de polvora; 2ª para a fabricação de um substituto da borracha, cujos inventores pretendem tel-o fabricado com um custo de 6 centavos por libra e que este producto pode ser empregado em combinação com igual quantidade de certa gomma para a fabricação de qualquer artigo de borracha."

MEMORIAL DO MINISTERIO DA FAZENDA.

O Memorial do Ministerio da Fazenda da Republica Argentina, correspondente ao anno de 1899, é uma extensa obra que mostra estudo minucioso, e que contem dados do maior interesse sobre todas as questões economicas da nação.

De tão notavel documento traduzimos os trechos seguintes, que mostram o estado satisfactorio das finanças da Republica:

"O acto mais saliente e transcendental no sentido de liquidar o passado e fixar novos cursos á marcha economica da nação, tem sido, indubitavelmente, a lei monetaria de 4 de Novembro proximo passado. Sua execução tem demonstrado sua efficacia.

"Sua acção sobre o passado tem tido por effeito liquidar desde o momento de sua promulgação a situação monetaria. O typo fixado, ao que todos teem ficado sujeitos para o reembolso, reduz a circulação da moeda á somma de $126,197,325 ouro sellado, e a mesma lei estabelece o meio de alimentar o movimento circulatorio com todo o papel que as necessidades do commercio e da industria requeiram.

"A consolidação que essa lei tem produzido da situação creada pelos phenomenos monetarios e a fixação definitiva do typo segundo o valor real do papel inconvertivel, se teem operado sem que ninguem tenha soffrido perdas, sem que interesses particulares possam dizer-se prejudicados e sem que nenhuma perturbação se tenha causado. Uma transição mais feliz não podia esperar-se.

"A amortização de mais de cento sessenta milhões de pesos que se tem effectuado em virtude dessa lei, do valor nominal da moeda circulante, é de pouca importancia perante a immensa vantagem de dar aos contratos, uma base certa, ao commercio, ás industrias e ás emprezas uma medida fixa dos valores e a todas as relações economicas a segurança que reclama seu desenvolvimento."

COMMERCIO DE ROSARIO EM 1899 E 1900.

O "Bollettino Mensile della Camera Italiana di Commercio ed Arti" publica, em seu numero de 10 de Maio de 1900, um relatorio sobre o commercio do Rosario no primeiro trimestre deste anno comparado com o do mesmo periodo de 1899. Segundo este relatorio, a importação em 1899 foi no valor de $2,113,858.14, contra $2,309,387.83 em 1900. O valor da exportação nos primeiros tres mezes de 1899 foi de $7,954,159.97, comparado com $10,150,670.93 no mesmo periodo de 1900.

Os quatro principaes paizes que tomaram parte neste commercio foram os seguintes: Inglaterra, com $733,872.88 em importações e $1,614,158.51 em exportações; os Estados Unidos, com $436,980.88 em importações e $1,062,781.19 em exportações; Italia, com importações

no valor de $421,301.41; Allemanha, com $296,224.68 em importações e $982,942.89 em exportações. As exportações para Portugal feitas pelo porto do Rosario durante os primeiros tres mezes do presente anno foram no valor de $5,412,001.13, emquanto que as mercadorias importadas de Portugal no mesmo periodo foram no valor de só $1,687.50.

No primeiro quartel do anno de 1900, entraram 169 vapores, arqueando 280,079 toneladas e 30 navios de vela arqueando 22,502 toneladas, contra 158 vapores e 50 barcos, arqueando 244,720 e 35,447 toneladas respectivamente, no periodo correspondente de 1899.

No mesmo periodo sahiram do Rosario 162 vapores e 51 navios de vela levando 307,945 toneladas de cereaes, 5,636 fardos de lã (desta quantidade os Estados Unidos tomaram 2,272 fardos), 143 toneladas de farinha de trigo, e 47,566 toneladas de linho.

A importação e a exportação gravada e livre, no primeiro trimestre de 1900 se destingue como segue:

IMPORTAÇÃO.

	Gravada.	Livre.
Productos alimenticios	$434,217.03	.....
Licores	116,736.96	.....
Tabaco	45,067.05	.....
Filaças e tecidos	204,135.67	$139,244.80
Roupa feita	15,486.48	48,085.91
Productos chimicos, etc	80,099.07	1,514.96
Madeiras e suas manufacturas	220,223.40	29,177.00
Papel e suas manufacturas	39,850.08	5,490.00
Couro e suas manufacturas	853.65	4,117.00
Ferro e suas manufacturas	293,496.35	15,532.00
Material de construcção	9,067.95	346,256.55
Metaes e suas manufacturas	23,061.75	1,938.97
Louça de barro, obras de vidro, etc	55,790.33	1,874.44
Combustivel	60,744.38	61,677.21
Artigos diversos	45,041.59	10,606.30
Total	1,643,871.74	665,516.09

EXPORTAÇÃO.

Animaes vivos	$931,744.53	$30.00
Productos agricolas	.....	8,877,301.00
Productos industriaes	.....	14,124.00
Productos florestaes	.....	50,198.62
Productos mineiros	.....	35,627.30
Productos animaes e vegetaes	40,141.44	194,865.44
Productos diversos	6,641.60	.....
Total	978,527.57	9,172,146.36

ESTRADA DE FERRO DO SUL.

"La Nación" em sua edição de 12 de Abril de 1900, diz que a companhia da Estrada de Ferro do Sul tem auctorizado o emprego da quantia de £3,000,000 em obras de melhoramento desta linha. Essas obras comprehendem a construcção e ampliação de estações e a rectificação de certos trechos da linha.

PATENTES CONCEDIDAS A CIDADÃOS AMERICANOS.

Durante o mez de Abril foram concedidos a cidadãos americanos os seguintes privilegios de invenção:

Patente No. 2798 concedida por dez annos aos Srs. HENRY JAMES KIMMAN e EDWARD NASH por melhoramentos introduzidos em machinas especialmente adaptadas a martinetes pneumaticos.

Patente No. 2805 concedida por quinze annos a "The Marsden Company," concessionario de D. Mark Worsnop Marsden de Philadelphia, pela invenção de um novo producto para gacheta.

BRAZIL.

REPRESENTAÇÃO DO BRAZIL NA EXPOSIÇÃO PAN-AMERICANA.

Diz-se, que, como resultado dos esforços do Honrado Sr. CHARLES PAGE BRYAN, Ministro dos Estados Unidos em Rio de Janeiro, o Governo do Brazil resolveu fazer-se representar na proxima Exposição Pan-Americana que terá lugar no anno vindouro em Buffalo. O Governo vai expedir circulares ás associações agricolas e industriaes do Brazil afim de que a representação do Governo seja sob as condições mais favoraveis.

ESTRADA DE FERRO DO RECIFE AO LIMOEIRO.

O "Jornal do Commercio," no seu numero de 23 de Maio, publica a seguinte noticia: "Verificou-se em Londres, em 25 do mez passado, a assembléa geral annual dos accionistas da Great Western of Brazil Railway Company, proprietaria da E. de F. do Recife ao Limoeiro.

"Na ausencia, por doente, do Sr. FRANK PARISH, Presidente da Companhia, o Sr. W. COTESWORTH presidio a assembléa.

"O Sr. PARISH preparou algumas notas sobre o estado e o futuro da estrada de ferro, e destas notas, que forão lidas pelo Secretario da Companhia, o Sr. HENRY WATTS, parece que os resultados do anno, apezar de certas influencias contrarias, accusavão um augmento de 80. 5 por cento no lucro liquido.

"O trafego do corrente anno promettia tamben ser muito satisfactorio, ao passo que as chuvas davão promessas de uma boa safra.

"O cambio, que chegou a descer a $5\frac{1}{16}$ d., estava então a 8 1/2 d., com tendencia para melhorar mais.

"As relações da companhia, tanto com o governo estadoal como com o Governo Federal, durante o anno, forão as mais cordeaes.

"A estrada soffreu durante o anno de fortes enchentes e inundações, que damnificárão a linha e occasionárão grandes concertos, suspensão

temporaria e perda de trafego. Quasi toda esta despeza pesou sobre a receita.

"As boas receitas obtidas durante o anno provierão de assucar durante os mezes de Outubro, Novembro e Dezembro. A ultima safra havia de fazer sentir a sua influencia no corrente exercicio. Nos primeiros tres mezes deste anno, a receita havia attingido ao total de £20.460 contra £10.280 do anno passado, tendo-se elevado a renda por milha de £9.22 em 1899 a £18 este anno. Esses algarismos não se baseavão no cambio theorico de 27 d., porém na conversão ás taxas do mercado. As safras de algodão e de cereaes accusavão grandes augmentos, especialmente a dos ultimos generos. Tambem augmentava o de oleo ricino e baga de mamona.

"Até o anno passado, o custeio havia deixado saldos que se iâo tornando cada vez menores; diminuindo gradualmente os dividendos distribuidos, e o cambio que estava a 11 d. em 1893, cahio a 7¼ d. em 1899. Esta baixa do cambio fôra uma das causas da diminuição dos lucros da companhia. Elle não tinha a menor hesitação em affirmar que, se o cambio se houvesse conservado ao par a companhia estaria independente da garantia de juros que o Governo lhe dá. Tinha esperanças que a maré agora virára.

"A administração do paiz com o actual Presidente inspirava confiança. Os productos do paiz começavão a subir de valor, e o dinheiro em circulação tambem estava subindo de valor.

"A terminação do prolongamento de Timbanha ao Pilar, de que uma parte se devia inaugurar em 1 de Julho proximo futuro—teria effeito importante no futuro da compannia. Poria Pernambuco ligado, não sómente com o territorio servido por ella, mas tambem pela linha da E. de F. Conde d'Eu, com o Estado da Parahyba e mais tarde com o Estado do Rio Grande do Norte. Esse prolongamento pouco augmentaria as despezas de custeio, pois provavelmente não seria necessario novo material e pouco augmento de pessoal exigiria. Haveria, além do trafego inter-estadoal, consideravel augmento em transporte de gado de Itabayana. Havia a idéa de que as duas companhias, a Great Western of Brazil e a Conde d'Eu, pudessem entrar em um accôrdo e fazer a obra juntas, porém, depois de certos *pourparlers*, a directoria desta companhia julgou que seria mais conveniente para ellas incorporar esse prolongamento á sua rede, e que, depois de construido o prolongamento, seria então tempo de fallar-se em amalgamento. A directoria desejava ter o apoio dos accionistas para esta sua politica.

"A distribuição de um dividendo final de 2½ por cento, fazendo 3½ por cento ao anno, seria uma surpreza agradavel aos accionistas. Punha-os na mesma situação que em 1897, o ultimo anno em que receberão a garantia por inteiro, mas quando o saldo foi de £5.328 contra £15.392 no ultimo anno.

"O relatorio e as contas forão approvados unanimemente."

TRATADO DE EXTRADIÇÃO ENTRE AS REPUBLICAS DOS ESTADOS UNIDOS DO BRAZIL E DO CHILE.

"O Presidente da Republica dos Estados Unidos do Brazil e o Presidente da Republica do Chile, tendo resolvido celebrar um tratado que regule a extradição de criminosos, nomeárão para esse fim seus Plenipotenciarios, a saber:

"O Presidente da Republica dos Estados Unidos do Brazil ao Sr. General de Brigada DIONYSIO EVANGALISTA DE CASTRO CERQUEIRA, Ministro de Estado das Relações Exteriores;

"O Presidente da Republica do Chile ao Sr. D. JOAQUIM WALKER MARTINEZ, Enviado Extraordinario e Ministro Plenipotenciario da mesma Republica;

"Os quaes, depois de haverem communicado reciprocamente seus plenos poderes, achados em boa e devida fórma, convierão nos artigos seguintes:

"ART. 1.° As duas Republicas contratantes se obrigão a entregar os delinquentes refugiados nos respectivos territorios, sempre que concorrão as seguintes circumstancias:

"1.ª Que a reclamante tenha jurisdicção para processar e julgar a infracção que motivou a reclamação;

"2.ª Que se invoque a perpetração de um crime de caracter commum, que as leis do paiz requerente punão com pena restrictiva da liberdade não menor de dous annos, quanto aos indiciados e de um anno da mesma pena, no minimo, quanto aos sentenciados;

"3.ª Que a reclamante apresente documentos que, segundo suas leis, autorisem a prisão preventiva, antes ou depois de culpa formada, e o julgamento do réo;

"4.ª Que o delicto ou pena não esteja prescripto, segundo a lei do paiz reclamado;

"5.ª Que o réo não tenha sido condemnado pelo mesmo delicto ou cumprido a sentença.

"ART. 2.° A extradição poderá ser concedida sendo o réo nacional do paiz reclamado, devendo, porém, neste caso ser processado e julgado, para o que o paiz reclamante fornecerá os elementos de convicção.

"Deixará de prevalecer esta regra se o réo tiver adquirido a nacionalidade depois da perpetração do crime que motiva a extradição.

"ART. 3.° Não autorisão a extradição os delictos politicos e os connexos a elles.

"Não serão reputados delictos politicos para a applicação das regras que precedem os actos de anarchismo dirigidos contra as bases da organisação social.

"ART. 4.° Os individuos cuja extradição houver sido concedida não poderão ser julgados e punidos por delictos politicos anteriores á extradição nem por actos connexos.

"Poderão ser processados e julgados, com prévio consentimento do Estado requerido, de conformidade com o presente tratado, os delictos susceptiveis de extradição que não tenhão motivado a já concedida.

ART. 5.° Se outro ou outros Estados, em virtude do tratado, solicitarem a entrega de um mesmo individuo por motivo de differentes delictos, attender-se-ha em primeiro logar ao pedido daquelle que, a juizo do Estado requerido, se tenha commettido a infracção mais grave. Se os delictos forem julgados da mesma gravidade, se dará preferencia ao Estado que tiver prioridade no pedido de extradição; e se todos os pedidos tiverem a mesma data, o paiz requerido determinará a ordem da entrega.

"ART. 6.° A entrega do réo poderá ser adiada emquanto elle se achar sujeito á acção penal do Estado requerido, sem que isso prejudique a effectividade da extradição.

"ART. 7.° Os pedidos da extradição serão apresentados pelos agentes diplomaticos ou consulares, e, na falta destes, directamente de Governo a Governo, e acompanhados dos seguintes documentos:

"1°, quanto aos indiciados, cópia legalisada da lei penal applicavel á infracção que motivar o pedido, e do mandado de prisão e mais requisitos a que se refere o n. 3 do art. 1°;

"2°, quanto aos sentenciados, cópia legalisada da sentença condemnatoria, exhibindo-se ao mesmo tempo e por igual fórma a prova de ter sido citado o réo, representado em juizo ou declarado revel.

"ART. 8.° Quando um dos dous Governos contratantes ou as respectivas autoridades reputarem o caso urgente, poderão solicitar por via postal ou telegraphica, ou por intermedio do agente diplomatico, que se proceda á detenção provisoria do réo, assim como á apprehensão dos objectos concernentes ao delicto, allegando-se a existencia de sentença ou de mandado de prisão ou de auto de prisão em flagrante.

"Si dentro de um mes, contado do dia em que se effectuou a prisão do réo em virtude deste artigo, o Governo requerido não receber o pedido de extradição em devida fórma o detido será posto em liberdade.

"ART. 9.° Se o Governo do Brazil ou o do Chile considerar improcedente o pedido de extradição por vicios de fórma, os documentos deverão ser devolvidos ao Governo requerente, expondo-se os motivos que impedirão o andamento do processo da extradição.

"ART. 10.° O pedido de extradição pelo que respeita aos seus tramites, á apreciação da legitimidade de sua procedencia e á admissão e qualificação das excepções com que possa ser impugnado por parte do réo ou profugo reclamado, ficará dependente das autoridades competentes do paiz de refugio, as quaes procederão neste caso de accôrdo com as disposições e praticas legaes em vigor no mesmo paiz. Fica, porém, salva ao mesmo réo ou profugo a faculdade de usar do recurso do habeas corpus ou amparo de suas garantias individuaes.

"ART. 11.° Se a sentença fôr favoravel ao pedido de extradição, o tribunal que proferio o julgamento informará immediatamente o Poder Executivo, afim de que se dê as providencias para a entrega do réo.

"Se fôr contraria, o juiz ou tribunal ordenará immediata liberdade do detido, communicando esse acto ao Poder Executivo, ao qual remetterá cópia da sentença para que a leve ao conhecimento do Governo reclamante. Da sentença caberá recurso voluntario do Ministerio Publico.

"Nos casos de recurso, por insufficiencia de documentos, dever-se-ha instaurar novo processo de extradição todas as vezes que o Governo reclamante apresente outros ou complete os já apresentados.

"ART. 12.° Os objectos concernentes ao delicto que motivar a extradição e que forem encontrados em poder do réo serão remettidos á Republica que obtiver a entrega. Os que existirem em poder de terceiros serão apprehendidos, mas não remettidos sem que os possuidores sejão ouvidos previamente e resolvidas as excepções que exponhão.

"ART. 13.° Caberá á Republica requerida effectuar o transporte do réo até o porto mais apropriado ao embarque dos agentes designados pela Republica requerente.

"A dita Republica poderá mandar um ou mais agentes de segurança ou força publica, militar ou policial, mas a acção destes ficará subordinada aos agentes ou autoridades do territorio da Republica requerida.

"ART. 14.° O transito, pelo territorio de uma das partes contratantes, de algum individuo entregue por terceira potencia á outra parte, e que não pertença ao pais de transito, será concedido mediante a simples apresentação, em original ou cópia authentica, de um dos documentos mencionados no art. 7°, uma vez que o facto que houver motivado a extradição esteja comprehendido no presente Tratado.

"ART. 15.° As despezas resultantes da extradição do réo serão por conta da Republica requerida até o momento da entrega, e depois ficarão a cargo do Governo requerente.

"ART. 16.° Quando a extradição fôr concedida e se tratar de um individuo sujeito a processo e julgamento, o Governo que a tiver obtido communicará ao que a concedeu a sentença definitiva proferida no processo que a motivou.

"ART. 17.° Todo o réo preso em virtude de pedido de extradição poderá solicitar a soltura sob fiança, nas condições estabelecidas pela lei da Republica requerente.

"ART. 18.° A extradição será concedida em virtude do presente Tratado , ainda que se trate de factos anteriores á sua celebração.

"ART. 19.° O presente Tratado vigorará por tempo indeterminado, cessando em todos os seus effeitos um anno depois que uma das Altas Partes Contratantes o houver denunciado á outra.

"Será ratificado, e as ratificações trocadas no Rio de Janeiro depois de approvado pelos Congressos das duas Altas Partes Contratantes.

"Em fé do que os Plenipotenciarios das Republicas dos Estados Unidos do Brazil e do Chile o firmárão e sellárão.

"Feito no Rio de Janeiro, aos 4 dias do mez de Maio de 1897.

[L. S.] "DIONYSIO E. DE CASTRO CERQUEIRA.

[L. S.] "J. WALKER M."

CHILE.

VITICULTURA.

O "Diario Oficial" de Santiago, em sua edição de 1° de Maio de 1900, publica o texto de um decreto que dá autorisação ao director da Escola de Viticultura de Cauquénes, para que estude na Europa a preparação e o fabrico do vinho. As despezas serão pagas pelo Governo. Elle visitará as principaes fabricas de vinho da Hespanha e Portugal e fará um estudo cuidadoso das condições de viticultura naquelles paizes com o objecto de applical-as na região de Maule ao Sul do Chile. Elle deverá apresentar, a seu regresso, uma memoria sobre o assumpto ao Ministerio de Industria e Obras Publicas.

SALITRE.

Os Senhores W. MONTGOMERY & COMP.ª, em sua revista semestral do salitre, dizem que o mercado deste producto tem seguido sua marcha habitual durante quasi todo o anno, mas que nos mezes de primavera, devido á insufficiencia no supprimento, se fizeram sentir fortes fluctuações nos preços. O anno iniciou-se com 7s. 7½d. por quintal. A exportação para a Europa durante o anno tem sido de 1,140,000 toneladas, das quaes 1,017,000 teem sido importadas no Continente e 123,000 no Reino Unido. O estado do tempo durante a primavera favoreceu, em geral, o consumo de salitre, assim como os altos preços de outras substancias nitrogenas. Quanto ao supprimento para a proxima estação diz a "Revista Commercial-Industrial de Minas," da qual tomamos estes dados, que é de temer que seja insufficiente. Ha em vista até hoje 730,000 toneladas, das quaes se pode contar que chegarão 700,000 a tempo para ser entregues ao consumo entre o 1° de Janeiro e o 30 de Abril proximo.

Tem-se fallado muito de levar a cabo uma combinação salitreira, mas até aqui não se tem chegado a um resultado pratico. O consumo na proxima estação será, provavelmente, muito satisfactorio, e só é de temer que seja restringido pela baixa de preços dos cereaes e da beterraba. A producção de salitre é de 730,000 toneladas annualmente, e o anno passado foi de 703,000.

COBRE.

"La Revista Comercial é Industrial de Minas" publica o seguinte artigo:

"O emprego incessante deste material em muitas industrias, especialmente na da electricidade, tem augmentado seu valor até fazel-o um dos metaes de maior preço. Na Inglaterra só teem sido organizadas treze sociedades de cobre com um capital de mais de £3,600,000.

"Quando estas principiarem seus trabalhos nos diversos paizes productores de cobre, augmentarão visivelmente as existencias nos mercados consumidores e, por conseguinte, os preços do cobre em barra serão reduzidos a £50 ou £55 a tonelada ingleza. Não é tão grande o consumo de cobre no mundo que, augmentando-se a producção em proporção tão consideravel, como o farão as novas companhias de cobre, possa manter seu preço actual de £78 a tonelada. Muitas destas companhias teem encontrado já a base de suas operações nos Estados Unidos e a Australia em jazidas mais ou menos poderosas de mineraes de cobre.

"Até este momento não se conhece que deste immenso capital reunido para trabalhar o cobre, tenha sido empregado no Chile uma só libra.

"É sabido que em quasi todos os mercados financeiros do mundo somos conhecidos por nossas minas de cobre e seu excellente rendimento; entretanto, os poderosos capitaes que o anno passado reuniram-se com este objecto em Londres não teem buscado nossas minas de cobre, que só esperam o apoio destes capitaes para fazer-se o factor mais importante da producção de cobre no mundo.

"Que razões teem as companhias para não vir a nosso paiz a empregar seus valiosos capitaes, sendo assim que teem sido organizados com o unico objecto de trabalhar em cobre, e aqui o encontrariam em abundancia e em condições com que não pode competir paiz algum?

"De Tacna a Magalhães, o Chile está cuberto de mineraes preciosos.

"A região de cobre comprehende mais de dez mil minas, contando-se entre estas algumas das mais ricas do mundo. Que mercado europeo ou americano não conhece os poderosos centros de cobre de Tocopilla, Catico, Cobija, Antofagasta, Chañaral, Puqios, Cerro Blanco, Huaśco, Vallenar, La Higuera, Tamaya, etc., etc.

"O dinheiro empregado no Chile em minas de cobre é muito pouco em relação com a grande abundancia em que se encontra este mineral. Com a metade do capital que teem subscripto as companhias inglezas, Chile poderia produzir mais cobre que todos os demais paizes productores juntos.

"Em nossa zona cobreira se apresenta o mineral sob quasi todas as formas conhecidas na natureza, reinando entre elles os sulphuretos, bronzes morados, prateados, amarellados, etc.

"Nas provincias do norte do Chile, Antofagasta, Atacana e Coquimbo, a maior parte das minas de cobre principiam suas explorações com mineraes de côr, passam aos bronzes morados, prateados, etc., e em uma profundidade que varia entre os 100 e 250 metros dos bronzes amarellos."

EXPORTAÇÃO DE MANGANEZ.

"La Revista Comercial é Industrial de Minas," de Santiago, diz que Chile começou sua exportação de manganez em 1884, com 4,324 toneladas; seguio anno após anno augmentando sua exportação até chegar, em 1890, a 50,000 toneladas. A média da exportação desde 1888 até 1898, tem sido entre 23,000 e 51,000 toneladas. Nos ultimos quatro annos se tem notado uma consideravel diminuição nas exportações deste mineral, sem que tenha havido uma causa positiva que a motivara. Em 1899, se embarcaram 23,000 toneladas, em sua maior parte de Vallenar e Coquimbo. O total de manganez exportado nos dez ultimos annos chega á não desprezivel somma de 344,087 toneladas.

Não é possivel perder de vista negocios tão positivos e de tanta importancia como são os de exploração de Manganez que existe em abundancia no Chile e que, uma vez que se obtenham fretes baratos, será uma das fontes de riqueza mais poderosas.

Si tomamos como base para nossos calculos a média de 13½ pence como valor em Europa por unidade de manganez, temos que nos dez annos passados temos exportado deste mineral por valor de $12,145,179, moeda chilena de 18 pence. Geralmente, estes dados são pouco conhecidos dos industriaes e só alguns commerciantes estão ao corrente de seus detalhes e podem applical-os em seus negocios. Si da somma de $12,145,179 deduzimos os fretes para a Europa, que, são mais ou menos de 26 xelins por tonelada, cuja somma total chega a $5,943,508, temos que a utilidade que fica ao Chile é de $6,201,671, de 18 pence.

CUBA.

RENDAS ADUANEIRAS.

Segundo estatisticas publicadas pela Secretaria da Guerra dos Estados Unidos, a renda arrecadada pelas alfandegas de Cuba nos primeiros cinco mezes de 1900, ascendeu a $6,708,077, ou a $1,058,250 mais que a quantia arrecadada no mesmo periodo de 1899, que foi de $5,649,827. Desta quantia cerca de 90 por cento corresponde aos direitos de importação e o resto foi o producto de impostos diversos.

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

COMMERCIO EXTERIOR EM MAIO DE 1900.

Segundo dados estatisticos publicados pelo Governo, o valor do commercio exterior dos Estados Unidos no mez de Maio, 1900, foi de $185,158,586, contra $164,001,620, no mesmo mez de 1899. As importações em Maio de 1900, montaram a $71,643,735, e as exportações a $113,514,851, ao passo que em Maio de 1899 as importações montaram a $70,160,373 e as exportações a $93,841,247.

As importações classificam-se assim:

Artigos.	Maio de 1900.	Maio de 1899.
Animaes e productos alimenticios	$19,267,484	$24,116,276
Materias primas para manufacturas	25,405,915	22,056,703
Artigos em parte manufacturados	7,454,323	6,518,736
Artigos manufacturados	10,143,217	8,700,273
Artigos de luxo, etc	9,372,796	8,768,385

A porcentagem de mercadorias que entraram isentas de direitos foi de 43.04 em maio de 1900, contra 45 por cento no mesmo mez de 1899. Os direitos cobrados em Maio de 1900 montaram a $17,396,573, contra $18,367,907, no mesmo mez de 1899.

A exportação de mercadorias nacionaes foi no valor de $111,307,195 em Maio de 1900, e a de mercadorias estrangeiras no de $2,207,656. Em Maio de 1899, a exportação de mercadorias nacionaes montou a $91,250,855, e a de mercadorias estrangeiras a $2,590,392.

As exportações nacionaes, nos dous periodos em consideração, foram como se seguem:

	Maio de 1900.	Maio de 1899.
Productos agricolas	$61,353,322	$52,975,612
Productos manufacturados	40,460,367	30,816,314
Productos mineiros	3,567,185	2,624,493
Productos florestaes	5,154,613	4,219,844
Productos da pesca	297,373	267,361
Productos miscellaneos	----------	----------

O commercio exterior dos Estados Unidos nos onze mezes findos em Maio foi no valor de $2,075,106,530 em 1900, contra $1,766,020,255 em 1899. A importação neste periodo foi no valor de $788,880,722 e a exportação no de $1,286,225,808. No mesmo periodo de 1899, a importação montou a $635,391,180, e a exportação a $1,130,629,075. As importações nos onze mezes do presente anno fiscal foram $153,489,542 mais que as no mesmo periodo do anno anterior, e as exportações foram $155,596,733 mais que as no mesmo periodo de 1899.

RECEITA E DESPEZA.

As receitas do Governo no exercicio findo em 30 de Junho de 1900, montaram a $568,988,948, e as despezas a $487,759,171, deixando um saldo para o anno de $81,229,777.

As receitas provieram das seguintes fontes: Das alfandegas, $233-857,958, ou $28,729,577 mais que a do anno de 1899; renda interna, $296,299,388, ou $22,862,227 mais que a do anno anterior; outras fontes, $38,831,601, ou $2,400,000 mais que a do anno anterior.

As despezas foram distribuidas assim: Administracão civil e despezas diversas, $105,796,753, comparado com $119,191,255 no anno de 1899; guerra, $134,653,998, contra $229,841,354 em 1899; marinha, $56,089,982, contra $63,942,104 em 1899; indios, $10,166,132, contra $12,805,711; pensões, $140,875,992, contra $139,394,929; juros, $40,176,313, contra $39,896,925. As despezas deste anno foram $116,313,008 menos que as do exercicio de 1899.

MOEDA CUNHADA EM 1899-1900.

A cunhagem total das casas de moeda dos Estados Unidos no exercicio findo a 30 de Junho de 1900 foi de 184,323,793 peças, no valor de $141,301,960, dividida assim: ouro, 7,662,786 peças, no valor de $107,937,110; prata, 75,359,254 peças, no valor de $31,121,833; moeda miuda, 101,301,753 peças, no valor de $2,243,017. Em 1899, a cunhagem total foi de 122,270,945 peças, no valor de $136,855,675, pelo que se vé que houve um augmento na cunhagem de 1899–1900 sobre a do exercicio anterior de 62,000,000 peças, o qual evidencia grande actividade no commercio.

EXPORTAÇÃO EXTRAORDINARIA.

Diz o "Scientific American" que no mez de Abril deste anno se exportaram dos Estados Unidos manufacturas no valor de $40,000,000, e que, si, como é de suppôr, tudo continua como até agora, ao terminar o presente anno fiscal a exportação de artigos manufacturados deste paiz passará de $400,000,000, ou seja uma quantia quasi tres vezes maior que a que se exportava ha apenas uma decada. Este extraordinario augmento na exportação de manufacturas é sobretudo notavel quando se compara com o que tem occorrido na Europa. A Grã Bretanha, por exemplo, exportava ha dez annos quasi o mesmo que exporta hoje e o augmento em outros paizes europeos na exportação de productos das fabricas, não tem sido mais de 20 por cento no mencionado periodo, ao passo que nos Estados Unidos tem sido mais de 150 por cento.

Diz o citado periodico que é principalmente na exportação de effectos de metal que os Estados Unidos sobrepujam as demais nações. Em 1889, os artigos de metal constituiam menos de 20 por cento da expor-

tação total de manufacturas do paiz, e em 1900 chegaram a formar 45 por cento.

O rapido augmento na exportação de effectos de metal é mostrado pelo facto de que em 1889, o valor da exportação de latão e suas manufacturas foi de só $321,137, ao passo que em 1900 a quantia ascenderá a $1,700,000.

O cobre e suas manufacturas, que tiveram em 1889 um valor de $2,348,954, chegarão em 1900 a mais de $50,000,000. A exportação de ferro e aço augmentou de $21,156,077, que foi seu valor em 1889, a $70,406,885 em 1898, emquanto que no anno economico de 1900 excederá de $100,000,000.

É digno de nota que os paizes europeos offerecem vasto mercado ás manufacturas dos Estados Unidos, ainda aquelles em que a industria tem chegado ao mais alto grao de adiantamento. Tambem tem havido grande augmento na exportação de trilhos para estradas de ferro, especialmente os de aço. A exportação total de trilhos de aço foi, em 1889, de 7,398 toneladas no valor de $235,387, e em 1898, de 229,782 toneladas por valor de $4,613,376. Crê-se que no exercicio de 1900 não será menos de $8,000,000. Os paizes que importam este producto em maior escala são a Russia, o Canadá e o Japão.

RESUMO DO PROGRAMMA REPUBLICANO.

Damos em seguida o summario do programma republicano approvado por unanimidade na Convenção de Philadelphia:

O Partido Republicano prometteu restabelecer a prosperidade do paiz por meio de duas medidas legislativas: Uma tarifa proteccionista e uma lei declarando o ouro como base do systema monetario. A promessa tem sido realizada.

Recommenda-se á consideração do paiz a administração do Presidente McKinley, cujos actos, patriotismo, firmeza e claridade de juizo o fazem merecedor da confiança de seus concidadãos.

O Partido Republicano reaffirma sua adhesão ao principio do padrão de ouro e repete sua incondicional opposição a livre e illimitada cunhagem da prata.

Reconhece-se a necessidade e equidade da honrada cooperação do capital para fazer frente á nova condição dos negocios; mas se condemnam toda combinação e conspiração que possam resultar na restricção dos negocios, creação de monopolios, limitação de producção ou encarecimento nos preços.

Reconhece-se que o paiz tem direito a esperar uma diminuição nos impostos de guerra. O Partido Republicano promette reduzir os ditos impostos em $40,000,000.

Advoga-se pela excavação de um canal entre o Atlantico e o Pacifico, da propriedade e sob a protecção e o dominio do Governo dos Estados Unidos.

Approva-se em todas suas partes a politica estrangeira da Administração McKinley, com especial menção de sua conducta respeita da questão chineza, procurando fazer validos os direitos commerciaes dos Estados Unidos nos mercados do extremo Oriente, com a adopção da politica de "porta aberta," e na partição de Samoa, todo isto verificado sem contrahir allianças europeas sempre vexatorias aos Estados Unidos e contrarias ao espirito e lettra de suas leis.

Reaffirma-se a inalteravel adhesão do Partido Republicano á doutrina de Monroe.

Qualifica-se de patriotica e ajustada ás provisões do convenio de Haya, a conducta do Presidente McKinley ao offerecer sua mediação de modo amistoso á Grã Bretanha e ás Republicas Sul-Africanas em interesse da paz.

O Partido Republicano approva sem reservas a politica do Presidente nas Philippinas, e do Senado, ao sanccionar o tratado de Pariz. Não ficando vestigios da autoridade hespanhola naquellas ilhas a responsabilidade de governal-as incumbia aos Estados Unidos e o Presidente a tem desempenhado nobremente, dando aquelles povos um governo com as bençõs da liberdade e a civilização, determinado ao proprio tempo a reprimir com mão de ferro toda assistencia armada contra a soberania americana, unica indisputavel e legitima nas ilhas Philippinas. Promette-se legislar opportunamente para dar-lhes a maior somma de governo proprio compativel com seu bem-estar e os deveres e direitos dos Estados Unidos.

A declaração de guerra incluia promessas de governo proprio e independencia para Cuba, promessas que se cumprirão ao pé da lettra.

O Partido Republicano promette ao paiz leis que promovam o augmento da marinha mercante americana, maiores restricções á immigração estrangeira, a creação de um Ministerio de Industrias e Commercio, a reorganização do serviço consular e protecção aos cidadãos de côr nos Estados do Sul para que possam emittir livremente seus suffragios, em conformidade com o que prescreve a emenda decimaquinta da Constituição dos Estados Unidos.

PROGRAMMA DO PARTIDO DEMOCRATICO.

Damos em seguida extractos do programma do Partido Democratico, approvado na convenção de Kansas City:

Nos, os representantes do Partido Democratico dos Estados Unidos, reunidos em convenção nacional no anniversario da adopção da Declaração da Independencia, reaffirmamos nossa fé naquella immortal proclamação dos direitos inalienaveis do homem e nossa fidelidade á Constituição lavrada de conformidade com os mesmos pelos padres da Republica. * * *

Sustentamos que alli onde se levante nossa bandeira como symbolo de nossa soberania, se estabelece assim mesmo o imperio de nossa Con-

stituição, e condemnamos a doutrina de que o Poder Executivo ou o Legislativo, que derivam sua existencia e suas faculdades da Constituição, podem exercer auctoridade legitima fóra della ou em violação da mesma.

Pedimos que se cumpram prompto e honradamente as promessas feitas ao povo cubano e ao mundo inteiro, de que os Estados Unidos não tinham a intenção de exercer soberania, jurisdicção ou dominio sobre a ilha de Cuba, excepto para obter sua pacificação. Ha já cerca de dous annos que terminou a guerra; reina na ilha a mais completa paz e, sem embargo, a administração mantem o povo cubano afastado do Governo, emquanto que empregados do Partido Republicano roubam as rendas publicas para vergonha do povo americano. * * *

O cubiçoso mercantilismo que dictou a politica republicana nas Philippinas trata de justificar-se allegando que ao fim produzirá grandes beneficios, mas ainda este argumento, sordido e indigno, resulta falso quando é submettido á prova. Esta guerra criminal contra os Philippinos, que consome muitos milhões de dollares por anno, tem custado já mais que quanto poderá produzir-nos todo o commercio das Philippinas em muitos annos. Além disto, estender o commercio ao custo da liberdade, é pagar por elle demasiado caro.

Não estamos oppostos á expansão territorial sempre que se trate de territorios aceitaveis, capazes de ser convertidos em Estados da União e cujos habitantes queiram e possam convertir-se em cidadãos dos Estados Unidos. Estamos em favor da expansão por meios pacificos e legitimos, mas estamos oppostos sempre á conquista ou compra de ilhas remotas que não podem ser governadas de conformidade com a Constituição e cujos habitantes não podem jamais chegar a ser cidadãos dos Estados Unidos.

Estamos em favor de que se estenda a influencia da Republica entre as outras nações, mas cremos que essa influencia deve estender-se não pela força e violencia, mas pela influencia persuasiva do bom exemplo. * * *

O Partido Democratico se compromette a combater sem descanso na nação, no Estado e na cidade os monopolios privados, seja qual for a forma em que se apresentem. Todas as leis vigentes contra as ditas combinações devem ser postas em execução e deveriam emittir-se outras, ainda mais estrictas, nas quaes se disponha que se dê publicidade aos negocios das corporações que se occupam no commercio entre os Estados e que as corporações, antes de entrar em negocios em um Estado que não seja o de sua origem, provem que seu capital social é legitimo e que não teem feito, nem tratam de fazer nenhuma tentativa para monopolizar um ramo qualquer de negocios ou a producção de algum artigo. * * *

Condemnamos a lei de tarifa de Dingley como productor de combinações illegaes e como habilmente calculado para dar aos poucos favores

que não merecem e pôr sobre os mais cargos que não deviam sobrelevar.

Reaffirmamos e sustemos os principios do Programma Democratico adoptado em Chicago em 1896, e reiteramos o que nelle se disse relativamente ao estabelecimento de um systema economico americano feito pelo povo americano, que restabeleça e mantenha o bimetalismo, e que como parte deste systema se restabeleça immediatamente a livre e illimitada cunhagem da prata e o ouro na presente proporção legal de 16 a 1, sem aguardar a cooperação ou consentimento de nenhuma outra nação.

Denunciamos a lei sobre moeda emittida na ultima sessão do Congresso como uma medida da politica republicana para desacreditar o direito soberano do Governo Nacional de pôr em circulação toda classe de moeda, já seja metallica ou de papel e para dar aos bancos nacionaes a faculdade de emittir e fixar a quantidade do papel moeda em beneficio proprio. * * *

Estamos em favor da construcção immediata do Canal de Nicaragua pelos Estados Unidos e de que a obra seja da propriedade desta nação e esteja sob seu dominio, e denunciamos a falta de sinceridade do programma republicano ao referir-se a um canal pelo isthmo, em vista de que a maioria republicana no Congresso não poude adoptar o projecto de lei que ainda está pendente. Condemnamos o Tratado Hay-Pauncefort como uma renuncia aos direitos e interesses americanos, cousa que não pode ser tolerada pelo povo dos Estados Unidos.

Crêndo que nossas mais caras instituições estão em grave perigo; que está em jogo a existencia mesma da Republica e de que as proximas eleições decidirão si nossos filhos gozarão ou não dos beneficios de um Governo livre que tem feito dos Estados Unidos uma grande nação, prospera e respeitada, pedimos ao povo americano, amante da liberdade, que dê seu apoio aos principios que deixamos expostos, sem referencia ás antigas affiliações de partido.

RIQUEZA MINERAL DOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

Acaba de sahir á luz um novo volume da "Mineral Industry" (Industria Mineral), que é reconhecido como autoridade em materias relativas a productos mineraes. Este é o volume VIII da serie e contem quadros estatisticos mostrando a quantidade e o valor dos mineraes produzidos nos Estados Unidos no anno de 1899. O valor total destes productos, como calculado nas minas ou lugares de producção, foi de $1,118,780,830, quantia de que não ha exemplo na historia dos Estados Unidos ou de outro qualquer paiz. Este total, comparado com $799,518,033, que foi o valor total dos productos mineraes em 1898, mostra um augmento de $319,262,797, ou 39.9 por cento, em um só anno. Este enorme augmento do valor é devido em parte ao augmento na quantidade produzida e em parte á elevação nos preços de ferro, aço, carvão e outras substancias mineraes.

Em 1899, os Estados Unidos occuparam o primeiro lugar na producção de carvão, sal, ferro, cobre, prata e chumbo assim como na producção de muitos metaes de menor importancia. Contribuem para a producção universal de carvão com 25.4 por cento; ferro, com 20.9 por cento; cobre, 8.3 por cento; productos de barro, 6.1 por cento; ouro, 5.8 por cento; petroleo, 5.3 por cento; pedra, 3.5 por cento; prata, 2.8 por cento; chumbo, 1.6 por cento; cimento, 1.03 por cento; zinco, 1.02 por cento; e gaz natural, 1 por cento.

A AREA SEMEADA DE ALGODÃO EM 1900.

O Director da Secção de Estatisticas da Secretaria da Agricultura calcula em 125,558,000 geiras a area total semeada de algodão, ou sejam 2,036,000 geiras (equivalentes a 8.7 por cento) mais que a area sob cultivo em 1899. O augmento de terrenos cultivados nos principaes Estados, é como segue: Alabama e Carolina do Sul, 7 por cento; Georgia e Texas, 8; Louisiana e Tennessee, 9; Arkansas, Mississippi e Carolina do Norte, 10; Territorio Indian, 15; Oklahoma, 18; Virginia, 35, e Missouri, 27. O augmento de terreno semeado foi menor naquelles Estados e Territorios que produzem a maior quantidade do algodão, e maior naquelles em que até agora se tem consagrado pouco terreno a esse cultvio, porque as condições do clima não eram consideradas favoraveis a sua cultura. Em geral, a area tem sido limitada devido á falta de braços, ao alto preço das sementes, o augmento havido na area semeada em outros productos, e, em algumas partes do paiz, ao máo tempo. Na parte septentrional da zona productora do algodão, terrenos, de que se tem colhido o trigo, foram semeados de algodão nos fins de Junho, os quaes estão comprehendidos na area calculada.

A condição média do algodão em 1° de Junho, foi 82.5, contra 85.7, que foi a média em 1° de Junho de 1899, e 87.1, que tem sido a média em Junho durante os ultimos dez annos. A condição média de 82.5 é o menor, com uma unica excepção, de que ha recordo nos ultimos vinte annos.

Agentes especiaes da Secretaria da Agricultura visitaram em principios de Junho os nove principaes Estados e Territorios cultivadores de algodão, e os resultados de suas investigações foram publicados no ultimo relatorio da Secretaria. Este trabalho de inspecção continuará durante toda a estação, e as modificações que forem necessarias a fazer na area semeada, serão promptamente publicadas.

O MOVIMENTO DO PORTO DE GALVESTON.

O desenvolvimento de Galveston, Texas, como um porto de commercio, tem sido muito notavel desde o anno de 1895, sendo de especial significação esse facto em relação ao commercio entre os Estados Unidos e os portos do Mexico, da America Central e da parte septentrional da America do Sul. Em 1895, as importações foram no valor de $387,347

e as exportações no de $36,182,388, ao passo que em 1899 as importações subiram a $2,243,400, e as exportações a $76,143,069.

As obras de melhoramento executadas pelo Governo americano na entrada da bahia de Galveston teem feito o porto muito seguro para navios de grande calado. Grande parte do algodão que se produz nos Estados além do rio Mississippi é exportada pelo porto de Galveston. Tambem se exportam por este porto grandes quantidades de trigo e milho, sendo calculado em 15,000,000 até 20,000,000 alqueires, a exportação total destes cereaes por este porto no presente anno fiscal. Em certas estações se empregam nas docas deste porto cerca de 4,000 operarios.

A INDUSTRIA DO SALMÃO NA ALASKA.

Nos ultimos vinte annos os pescadores de Alaska teem colhido 700,000,000 de libras de salmão fresco no valor de $33,000,000. A industria de pesca do salmão é explorada ao longo da costa de Alaska desde Sitka até a ilha Kadiak e ainda mais ao norte nos mares de Behring, que contribuem a quinta parte da pesca total. As aguas de Kadiak e Chigmik supprem cerca de tres setimas partes do producto total, Alaska do Sul a quarta parte e o resto vem de Cooks Inlet, Prince William Sound e Cook River.

UM NOVO PORTO NAS PHILIPPINAS.

O cruzador *Baltimore*, em uma viagem que fez recentemente ao redor da ilha de Luzon, descobriu um porto bem abrigado que não é indicado nas cartas hespanholas. Este é o porto e estreito de Casguran situados na costa oriental da ilha. O estreito tem nove kilometros de comprimento e de 2 a 6 kilometros de largura, com grande profundidade em toda sua extensão. O estreito communica com o porto por meio de um canal que tem 1,200 metros de largura. O porto mede 3.2 kilometros de extensão e 2.5 kilometros de largura, com uma profundidade média de 30 metros, e, excepto na entrada, está cercado por altas montanhas que o abrigam completamente dos ventos e temporaes.

A PREPARAÇÃO DO FUMO DE PORTO RICO.

O periodico "La Correspondencia de Puerto Rico," em sua edição correspondente ao 21 de Junho proximo passado, contem um artigo relativo ao systema que se emprega na ilha para curar o fumo.

Do dito artigo se tomam os seguintes paragraphos:

"Quando as folhas do tabaco estão maduras e promptas para fazer a colheita, se vão recolhendo e se estendem no solo afim de que se seccam que faz que se rompam com facilidade. Depois se atam em feixes e se amontoam para que suem. Os montões se cobrem com esteiras, e pouco depois começam a ir-se aquentando gradualmente por causa de certa alteração que se produz na substancia das folhas mesmas.

A humidade que sae dellas em forma de vapor se condensa ao pôr-se em contacto com as esteiras por estar mais frias, e isto é o que se chama suor.

Emquanto que as folhas estão amontoadas tem de cuidar que não se aquentem demasiado porque o calor excessivo produz nellas manchas que diminuem seu valor. Quando teem suado bastante se seccam estendendo-as no campo mesmo ou em quartos providos de estufas que fazem mais curto o procedimento, mas de todos modos tem de cuidar de que não se cubram de terra vegetal nem se apodereçam. Si todas estas operações teem sido bem feitas, ao fim de seis ou oito semanas as folhas terão tomado uma boa côr, mas não terão todavia o sabor e o aroma que deleita aos fumadores. Depois disto, as folhas se põem em ar humido que as suaviza, e por ultimo se põem a fermentar, sendo esta uma das operações mais importantes da curação, pois se affirma que della depende, mais que de nenhuma outra cousa, a qualidade do producto final.

* * * * * * *

Para pôr o tabaco a fermentar se classificam as folhas; se atam em feixes de 8 ou 10 e se fazem com ellas grandes montões, alguns dos quaes conteem até 50 toneladas de tabaco. A fermentação começa depois que as folhas se teem amontoado, e então é tambem quando começam a desenvolver-se o aroma e o sabor do tabaco.

CONDIÇÕES AGRICOLAS EM JUNHO.

As informações preliminares recebidas pela Secção de Estatisticas do Departmento da Agricultura sobre a extensão dos terrenos semeados de milho indicam um augmento de cerea de 1, 200,000 geiras sobre a do anno passado.

A condição das plantações é de 89.5 contra 86.5, o 1° de Julho de 1899, e a condição média durante dez annos tem sido de 90.7. A condição do trigo de inverno tem declinado durante o mez de Junho, tendo sido em fins do dito mez 80.8, contra 82.7 em Junho de 1899.

A condição média do trigo de primavera é de 55.2, contra 87.3 ha um mez, e 91.7 o 1° de Julho de 1899. A condição do trigo de inverno e de primavera combinados era o 1° de Julho deste anno 69.8, contra 66.2 o 1° de Julho de 1899. A condição da aveia é de 85.5, contra 91.7 ha um mez, e 90 o 1° de Julho de 1899. A condição da cevada é de 76.3, contra 86.2 ha um mez, e 92 o 1° de Julho de 1899. A condição média do centeio é de 89.6, contra 83.3 o 1° de Julho de 1899. Tem havido um augmento de 30,000 geiras na extensão do terreno semeado de batatas, e a condição destas o 1° de Julho foi de 91.3, contra 93.2 que tem sido a condição média durante dez annos. A condição da batata é muito favoravel. A do tabaco é quasi a mesma que a dos ultimos dez annos. As informações relativas á colheita de feno não são muito favoraveis. De maçãs, pecegos e uvas se esperam boas colheitas.

Com respeito á lã, se crê que o peso de cada tosquia será de 6.17 libras, contra 5.95 libras em 1899.

A condição média do algodão o 1° de Julho era de 75.8, contra 82.5 no mez passado, e 87.08 o 1° de Julho de 1899.

Calcula-se que a producção total de trigo será de 510,356,000 alqueires e a de milho de 2,240,770,000 alqueires.

MEXICO.

A INDUSTRIA DE ALGODÃO.

"El Progreso de México," em sua edição de 15 de Junho proximo passado, publicou com o titulo acima o artigo seguinte:

Pode ser de algum interesse a estatistica da industria de algodão desta Republica como ao presente está desenvolvida, diz EDWARD GARCYNSKI.

Occupa o Estado de Veracruz o primeiro lugar por motivo das fabricas de Orizaba. O consumo do algodão é de 10,743,482 libras, e as vendas ascendem a $6,664,983.

O Estado de Puebla está ao presente no segundo lugar, mas dentro de poucos annos passará Veracruz por motivo dos desenvolvimentos em Atlixco. O consumo actual de algodão em rama é de 7,994,225 libras, e ascendem as vendas a $3,931,724. Um ligeiro calculo mostrará que os tecidos manufacturados neste Estado não obteem preços tão elevados como os de Veracruz. O terceiro lugar pertence ao Districto Federal. Consumo de algodão em rama, 4,862,756 libras; vendas, $2,812,511. A especialidade de obras de meia deve resultar em um grande augmento no futuro, mas é duvidoso que o Districto Federal possa manter-se no terceiro lugar. Tem que competir com o Estado do Mexico, onde ha muitas cascatas que subministrarão a força electrica.

Ao presente as fabricas de Mexico consomem 4,645,512 libras de algodão em rama e se calculam as vendas em $2,285,642.

Occupa o quinto lugar o Estado de Guanajuato, que além de ser importante por suas manufacturas, o é por suas minas. O consumo de algodão em rama é de 3,732,416 libras; suas vendas, $1,381,364.

Vem depois Coahuila com o sexto lugar. Seu consumo de algodão é de 3,520,024 libras; suas vendas, $1,692,435. Estas vendas são maiores que as de Guanajuato, do que podemos deduzir que existe uma demanda para tecidos superiores de algodão.

Occupa Jalisco o setimo lugar; mas como agora se estão utilizando as grandes cascatas para força electrica, é de crer-se que a industria neste Estado se desenvolverá com mais rapidez. Na actualidade seu consumo de algodão em rama é de 2,520,843 libras; suas vendas, $1,019,089.

O Estado de Guerrero occupa o ultimo lugar, sendo seu consumo de algodão 44,980 libras e as vendas, $122,184.

A CIDADE DE MONTEREY.

"La Semana Mercantil" de 4 de Junho proximo passado diz, referindo-se a um periodico de Monterey, que esta cidade é na actualidade uma das principaes da Republica, por sua actividade no commercio, por seus grandes capitaes empregados em diversas industrias, por suas explorações mineraes, e por suas fundições.

Tem-se operado em Monterey no decurso de poucos annos uma verdadeira transformação. O numero de construcções quasi tem-se triplicado, e assim mesmo tem augmentado o numero de seus fabricantes por meio de tres vias ferreas que põem a cidade em communicação com o resto da Republica e com os Estados Unidos é facil desenvolver qualquer industria e fazer que prospere sem obstaculos.

As fundições que existem em Monterey trabalham constantemente, tendo sempre grande quantidade de material. A nova fundição de ferro e aço que se está installando e que tem obtido uma concessão do governo do Estado, é um dos estabelecimentos que representa mais capital no Mexico. No periodo de sete annos terão-se empregado na dita fundição, $10,000,000. Além destas industrias ha na cidade muitas outras que funccionam com bons resultados e que teem suas installações especiaes.

EXPORTAÇÃO DE LARANJAS.

Diz "El Tiempo," da capital do Mexico, que apezar de que esta rica fructa é exportada em grandes quantidades para os Estados Unidos os preços de costume não teem subido nos mercados daquella cidade.

Accresceuta o dito periodico que do Estado do Mexico se teem exportado cerca de cem toneladas de mangos com destino a Nova Orleans e outras cidades americanas na ultima quinzena de Maio e nos primeiros dias de Junho do anno corrente.

AS FABRICAS EM PUEBLA.

Referindo-se a este assumpto, diz "El Tiempo," da capital do Mexico, que dentro de pouco vai a inaugurar-se uma nova fabrica de tecidos em Puebla.

O desenvolvimento da industria fabril na Republica é cada dia mais notavel, e é evidente que antes de muitos annos Mexico occupará um lugar proeminente entre as nações industriaes do globo.

PATENTE DE INVENÇÃO.

Uma patente foi concedida ao Sr. William P. Healy pela invenção de uma machina para coser livros. O inventor desta machina é o Sr. Frederic P. Rosback, quem cedeu seus direitos ao Sr. Healy.

EXPORTAÇÃO DE HENEQUEN DO PORTO DE PROGRESSO.

Exportaram-se de Progresso, Estado de Yucatan, no mez de Abril proximo passado, 38,998 fardos ou 6,284,740 kilogrammas de henequen no valor de $2,136,811.60, moeda mexicana. Dá-se em seguida a exportação do henequen do Mexico no mez de Abril desde 1896:

Anno.	Fardos.	Kilogrammas.
1896	30,479	5,048,165
1897	26,829	4,461,250
1898	38,415	6,338,453
1899	43,530	7,075,447

NOVOS VAPORES PARA A NAVEGAÇÃO DE RIOS.

Tres vapores, destinados á navegação de alguns dos principaes rios do Estado de Veracruz, foram encommendados recentemente a uma firma de Chicago. Estes serão empregados no serviço de navegação do rio Coatzacoalcos e outros rios. Propõe-se construir no Estado de Veracruz cinco vapores de pequenas dimensões, para os quaes serão enviados de Chicago os planos, assim como as obras de madeira e ferro. Diz-se que o Estado de Tabasco vai comprar nos Estados Unidos alguns pequenos vapores para o serviço de navegação do rio Usumacinta.

NOTAS COMMERCIAES.

Diz "La Gaceta Oficial," da cidade do Mexico, que por meio de um processo barato e pratico, feito pelo Sr. Dr. V. Lacavalerie, se pode extrahir do *pulque* um vinho branco, suave e dilicado. Os peritos que o teem examinado dizem que possue qualidades iguaes ás dos melhores vinhos da California. O vinho de *pulque* só requer seis semanas para estar em condições de ser consumido e melhora muito com o tempo.

PERU.

CAMINHO DO CUZCO AO RIO INAMBARI.

O Governo do Peru tem celebrado um contracto com a Société Anonyme Industrielle et Financière de la Amérique du Sud para a construcção de um caminho entre o Departamento do Cuzco e as margens do rio Inambari com uma extensão de duzentos cincoenta e cinco kilometros, mais ou menos, e provisto das pontes de madeira e outras obras que forem necessarias, taes camo estações e armazens para o alojamento de passageiros e o deposito da carga. A empreza obriga-se a concluir o trabalho no prazo de tres annos a partir da data da concessão, devendo começar os trabalhos de construcção dentro do primeiro anno, sob pena de caducidade do contracto. O caminho deverá ter dous metros de largura.

O Governo cede á empreza 50,000 hectares de terrenos de montanha, concedendo-lhe o direito exclusivo de transportar carga para o publico pelo dito caminho, empregando para isto mulas, burros ou carretas. A empreza obriga-se a transportar gratuitamente as malas durante todo o tempo da concessão, e dar passagem livre aos militares, juizes e em geral a todo funccionario que viaje em commissão de serviço, assim como tambem aos missionarios.

Concedem-se gratuitamente á empreza os terrenos que fossem necessarios para a construcção do caminho, assim como para suas estações e demais dependencias, e poderá dispor tambem das aguas, materiaes de construcção e combustiveis vegetaes que sejam necessarios e que se encontrem em terrenos pertencentes ao Estado.

A empreza gozará da concessão durante trinta annos, depois de cujo prazo passará a ser propriedade do Estado.

O Governo concede á empreza o direito exclusivo durante cinco annos para construir e exploitar uma linha telegraphica, seguindo a direcção do caminho. Depois de trinta annos de exploração a linha passará tambem a ser propriedade da Nação.

Todos os materiaes necessarios para a construcção, equipamento e exploração das obras mencionadas serão isentos do pagamento de direitos de entrada. As questões que se suscitem entre a empreza e o Governo ou particulares, que não sejam de caracter administrativo, serão determinadas pelos tribunaes da Republica.

A empreza poderá transferir esta concessão com todos seus direitos e obrigações a qualquer sociedade nacional ou estrangeira, mas para fazer isto, deve obter previamente a approvação do Governo, sem cujo requisito não será valida a transferencia e ficará rescindido este contracto.

LOCOMOTIVAS NO PERU.

Firmado pelo Sr. J. G. Barclay, engenheiro mechanico, publica o periodico "La Voz del Sur," de Arequipa, um artigo no que se diz que desde 1891 se teem construido ou reconstruido com caldeiras novas na fabrica daquella cidade 24 locomotivas. As mais notaveis destas são seis muito poderosas, todas de igual typo, construidas para o serviço de carga na divisão Mollendo. Estas locomotivas teem seis rodas ajuntadas, com trucks dianteiros de quatro rodas; levam parte do supprimento d'agua em tanques lateraes, necessitando só um pequeno tender, que está assentado sobre quatro rodas. Devido a que parte da provisão d'agua se leva na machina o tender pesa um 30 por cento menos, o qual augmenta a potencia daquella para arrastar um trem. Com effeito, as ditas locomotivas arrastam um 25 por cento mais de peso, do qual um 7 por cento se deve á diminuição de peso no tender.

Na construcção das citadas machinas se seguiram em grande parte os modelos de locomotivas usadas nos Estados Unidos. Todas as peças das machinas teem sido forjadas ou fundidas nas officinas de Arequipa,

nas quaes se teem construido tres vapores que medem mais de 100 pes de comprimento, cada um; wagões e carros para estrados de ferro, etc.

O PAVILHÃO DO PERU NA EXPOSIÇÃO UNIVERSAL DE PARIZ.

O pavilhão do Peru na Exposição de Pariz foi officialmente inaugurado no dia 7 de Junho. O edificio está situado na rua das Nações e foi construido no estylo hespano-lusitano dos seculos 16° e 17°, de accordo com os planos do francez Sr. FERNAND GAILLARD. Tem a forma de um rectangulo com uma cupola e duas torres quadradas de que fluctua o pavilhão peruano.

O edificio contem numerosos e interessantes especimens dos productos nacionaes. No primeiro andar estão exhibidos lá da vicunha, do lhama e alpaca, café, milho de diversas qualidades, cacáo, sementes, resinas, gommas, quinquina, folhas do cocó, tabaco, etc. O segundo andar contem uma collecção de mineraes, comprehendendo ouro, prata, cobre e chumbo. As minas de ouro e prata, tão celebres em todos os tempos, estão sendo exploradas agora com grande actividade, as quaes por muito tempo foram quasi abandonadas devido á falta de facilidades de transporte e á exploração dos depositos de guano.

URUGUAY.

RENDAS ADUANEIRAS EM ABRIL DE 1900.

Dá-se em seguida as rendas arrecadadas nas alfandegas da Republica durante ó mez de Abril de 1900:

Direitos de Importação	$826,944.98
Direitos de Exportação	83,813.92
Renda interna	100,000.00
Total	1,010,758.90

As rendas no mesmo mez de 1899 montaram a $1,078,362, e no mez correspondente de 1898, a $1,018,950.

EXTENSÃO DAS ESTRADAS DE FERRO DO MUNDO.

O "Archiv für Eisenbahnwesen," úm periodico allemão dedicado ás vias ferreas, publicou recentemente um quadro mostrando a extensão total das estradas de ferro do mundo. Segundo esta publicação, a extensão total das vias ferreas em principios de 1899 foi de 466,500 milhas. Deste total, 167,500 milhas pertencem á Europa; 213,000 milhas, á America do Norte; 27,000 milhas, á America do Sul; 33,000 milhas, á Asia; 11,000 milhas, á Africa, e 14,500 milhas á Australasia.

Na data mencionada, os Estados Unidos tinham 186,800 milhas de estradas de ferro, ou cerca de 20,000 milhas mais que toda a Europa. Não houve grande actividade na construcção de vias ferreas em 1898 comparado com annos anteriores, pois a extensão total das novas linhas construidas neste anno foi de só 11,800 milhas, que é inferior ao numero de milhas que tem-se construido em um só anno nos Estados Unidos. Passando em revista os annos desde 1875 até 1899, se vê que tem sido maravilhoso o augmento na extensão das vias ferreas. A extensão das linhas europeas, que foi de 83,600 milhas em 1875, ascendeu a 167,400 milhas em 1899, o que mostra um augmento de 100 por cento. No mesmo periodo, a extensão das vias ferreas dos Estados Unidos ascendeu de 72,385 milhas a 186,800 milhas, o que mostra um augmento de 158 por cento.

O seguinte quadro demonstra a extensão das vias ferreas por paizes e o numero de milhas por 1,000,000 habitantes:

Paiz.	Extensão de estradas de ferro.	No. de milhas por 1,000,000 habitantes.
Estados Unidos	186,800	2,645
Allemanha	30,776	563
Russia	26,400	248
França	25,897	670
India Ingleza	21,970	76
Austria	21,805	484
Grã Bretanha e Irlanda	21,528	534
Canadá	16,860	3,210
Republica Argentina	9,822	2,080
Italia	9,759	310
Brazil	8,718	509
Mexico	8,498	627
Hespanha	8,102	445
Suecia	6,359	1,247
Belgica	3,781	571
Japão	2,948	68
Chile	2,662	830
Suissa	2,302	758
Egypto	2,085	174

UM NOVO MAPPA DO MEXICO.

A Secretaria das Republicas Americanas vai publicar em breve um mappa da Republica do Mexico, compilado de publicações officiaes e contendo informações que só se encontram agora em mappas especiaes. Este mappa é feito sobre uma escala de 1: 3,168,000 e indica, além da geographia physica e politica do Mexico, os districtos mineiros, caminhos publicos e estradas de ferro, linhas telegraphicas, principaes areas de cultivo e outros dados de interesse geral. As principaes publicações empregadas na sua compilação, foram:

(1) U. S. Navy Hydrographic charts.

(2) Official map of Sonora, by C. E. Herbert, 1885.

(3) Carta General de la República Mexicana, formada en el Ministerio de Fomento, 1890.

(4) Carta minera de la República Mexicana, fundada por disposição do Secretario de Fomento, 1893.

(5) Carta General del Estado de San Luis Potosí, 1894.

(6) Carta de Comunicaciones de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos, 1895, 1896, 1899.

(7) Carta Geográfica General de la República Mexicana.

GUTTA-PERCHA E CABOS SUBMARINOS.

O Sr. Karl Supf, de Berlim contribue a um numero recente do "Kolonial-Zeitung" um artigo sobre a gutta-percha e sua importancia na construcção de cabos submarinos. O Sr. Supf crê que a Sociedade Colonial Allemã deve ser estimulada a cultivar em grande escala a gutta-percha nas colonias allemãs da Africa do Sul. Que este producto pode ser cultivado com proveito neste paiz tem sido demonstrado no livro intitulado "Die Gutta percha und Kautschuk—Expedition nach den Süd-See Kolonien." As seguintes estatisticas relativas aos cabos do mundo são tomadas do livro do Dr. Thomé Lenschau ("Deutsche Kabellinien")—

A extensão total dos cabos do mundo é de 300,000 kilometros, dos quaes 200,000 kilometros pertencem á Inglaterra, 40,000 á França, 30,000 aos Estados Unidos, e 30,000 kilometros á Dinamarca, Allemanha, Hespanha, Japão, Italia, os Paizes-Baixos, e outros.

Os cabos em projecto são:—

	Kilometros.
Inglaterra:	
Na Africa do Sul	16,000
Australia	15,000
Total	31,000
França:	
Diversos cabos projectados	30,000
Estados Unidos:	
Cabo do Pacifico	15,000
Allemanha:	
Africa	12,500
Teneriffe-Faial ou	1,600
Cabo Verde	3,100
Boavista—	
Trinidade-Rio de Janeiro	
Trinidade-Buenos Aires	10,000
Guam—Nova guiné	2,300
Kiautschou—Shanghai	1,000

Como cada kilometro de cabo exige 80 kilogrammas de gutta-percha, se necessitarão para estes cabos 80,000 kilogrammas de gutta-percha. O preço médio por kilogramma é de 9 marcos.

A producção de gutta-percha não basta o consumo. A exportação deste producto feita de Singapore no periodo de 1885 a 1896, montou a 31,000,000 kilogrammas, ou a 2,500,000 kilogrammas por anno.

O cultivo de gutta-percha nas Indias inglezas e hollandezas é de data tão recente que não se pode calcular sua producção. As experiencias feitas com a borracha como substituto da gutta-percha não teem tido exito. Uma expedição vai partir da Allemanha em Novembro deste anno para fazer um estudo cuidadoso do assumpto. Os fundos necessarios para fazer essa expedição teem sido subscriptos em sua maior parte por fabricantes e outros interessados no assumpto.

BIBLIOGRAPHIA.

Nesta secção do Boletim Mensal se tratará dos livros e folhetos enviados á Secretaria das Republicas Americanas que se referem a assumptos de interesse aos paizes da União Internacional das Republicas Americanas.

"Através del Amazonas," por Ballesteros. Publicado pela Imprensa Nacional de La Paz, 1899.

Este trabalho é a descripção de uma viagem que o autor fez em 1896 de La Paz, ao longo dos rios Beni e Madeira, até Pará. Nelle se dá uma descripção geographica e historica da região a leste dos Andes e do alto Purus. A importancia desta região é evidenciada pelo facto de que sua população tem attingido a 10,000 habitantes e suas rendas aduaneiras, a £120,000. Ao concluir-se a estrada de ferro, que uma companhia franceza está construindo desde Acre até o rio Madre de Dios, espera-se que a producção de borracha, que hoje é de só 2,000 toneladas por anno suba a 20,000 toneladas.

A parte mais interessante do relatorio é a descripção minuciosa do caminho que o autor seguio de La Paz a Sorata (150 kilometros), e deste ponto até Mapiri (200 kilometros) fazendo a viagem em cinco dias. O rio Mapiri é navegavel ate um ponto a distancia de 300 kilometros de Rurenabaque. Mas mais adiante o Beni não apresenta difficuldades á navegação e se pode chegar a Riberalta, á distancia de 799 kilometros de La Paz, em dez e seis ou vinte dias. Riberalta, situada na foz do rio Madre de Dios, foi fundada em 1894 e já tem 2,000 habitantes.

"Pan-American Atlas" é o titulo de uma publicação de grande interesse e utilidade, publicada em Berlim. O ultimo numero desta publicação mostra o numero dos Allemães em differentes partes do mundo. Em 1895, a população da Allemanha foi de 49,000,000, e naquella data, houve 39,475,000 Allemães ou filhos de Allemães que residiram fóra do paiz. Deste numero, 10,000,000 foram acreditados aos Estados Unidos, 400,000 ao Canadá, 493,000 á America Central e do Sul e ás Antilhas, 106,000 á Australia e Nova Zelandia, e cerca de 300,000 á

Africa do Sul. Segundo o estatistico que organisou estes dados ha, na actualidade, 2,993,000 subditos Allemães nos Estados Unidos.

O Estado de Nova York, com 553,000, occupa o primeiro lugar, mas em proporção á sua população o Estado de Wisconsin, com 283,000, tem o maior numero. Segue-se a Nova York o Estado de Illinois, com 336,000. É de interesse notar a porcentagem de cidadãos allemães em algumas das principaes cidades dos Estados Unidos. Em onze cidades, a porcentagem é como se segue: Milwaukee, 66; Hoboken, 57; Detroit, 43; Cincinnati e Buffalo, 41, cada uma; Jersey City e Cleveland, 40, cada uma; Nova York, 38; Newark e Chicago, 37, cada uma; e Boston, 3.

"Producción Comercial, Finanzas e Interesses Generaes de la República Argentina" é o titulo de um trabalho volumoso que acaba de sahir á luz em Buenos Aires, pelo Sr. Cárlos Klett. Este livro contem mais de 1,700 paginas, 250 gravuras, um mappa da Republica e grande numero de tabellas estatisticas e é a obra mais completa que se tem publicado sobre este paiz.

O "Diario Official" do Brazil, em seu numero correspondente a 15 de Maio, 1900, publicou o novo projecto do Codigo Civil, lavrado pelo Sr. Dr. Clovis Bevilacqui, que será submettido á approvação do Congresso. O Codigo occupa 102 paginas do "Diario Official."

O numero do "Jornal do Commercio" correspondente a 3 de Maio é consagrado em grande parte ao 4° centenario do Brazil, e contem 40 paginas. Contem grande numero de artigos commemorativos. O trabalho typographico dos annuncios está muito bem feito.

Um livro de grande interesse intitulado "Tratado de Geografía Política, Civil e Histórica del Zulia," e escripto pelo Sr. Wilfrido Arocha, acaba de apparecer em Maracaibo, Venezuela. O trabalho contem um excellente mappa do Estado e informações valiosas.

Acaba de apparecer na capital do Estado de Barquisimiento, Venezuela, um livro intitulado "Mis Paisanos," escripto pelo Sr. Rosendo Perdomo. Trata de varios escriptores de Venezuela e está muito bem escripto.

Acaba de ser iniciada em Buenos Aires uma publicação mensal de informações litterarias e scientificas intitulada "El Derecho." O primeiro numero contem variados artigos de grande interesse e utilidade.

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RÉPUBLIQUE ARGENTINE.

COMMERCE DE ROSARIO EN 1899 ET 1900.

Le "Bulletin Mensuel de la Chambre de Commerce et Art," de Rosario (Bollettino Mensile della Camera Italiana di Commercio ed Arti), publie, dans son numéro du mois de mai 1900, un rapport sur le commerce de Rosario pendant le premier trimestre de l'année 1900 en comparaison de celui de la même période pendant l'année 1899. Dans ce rapport, la valeur totale des importations pendant l'année 1899 est donnée comme ayant été de $2,113,858.14, contre $2,309,387.83 en 1900; pendant que les exportations pour les trois premiers mois des deux années, en comparaison, se montaient respectivement à $7,954,159.97 et $10,150,670.93.

Voici, d'après ce document, les quatre contrées principales qui étaient intéressées dans ce commerce: L'Angleterre, avec $733,872.88 d'importations et $1,614,158.51 d'exportations; les Etats-Unis, avec $436,980.88 d'importations et $1,062,781.19 d'exportations; l'Italie avec des importations évaluées à $421,301.41 et l'Allemagne dont les importations et les exportations se montaient respectivement à $296,224.68 et $982,942.89. Il est nécessaire de remarquer que les exportations argentines de Rosario au Portugal pendant le premier trimestre de l'année courante sont données comme se montant à $5,412,001.13, tandis que les importations de ce pays figurent seulement pour $1,687.50.

Le tonnage du port, pendant le premier trimestre 1900 est représenté par 169 bateaux à vapeur avec une capacité enregistée de 280,079

tonnes et 30 voiliers avec un tonnage de 22,502 tonnes, contre 158 bateaux à vapeur et 50 voiliers avec une capacité respective de 244,720 et 35,447 tonnes pendant la période correspondante de 1899. Les exportations furent transportées dans 162 bateaux à vapeur et 51 voiliers et comprenaient 307,945 tonnes de grain, dont l'Angleterre prit la plus grande part; 5,636 balles de laine, 2,272 balles étant expédiées aux Etats-Unis; 143 tonnes de farine en Angleterre et 47,566 tonnes de lin.

Voici la table des valeurs comme elle est publiée dans le bulletin mentionné ci-dessus:

Premier trimestre de 1900.

IMPORTATIONS.

	Soumises aux droits de douane.	Exemptes de droits de douane.
Animaux vivants	.....	.....
Denrées alimentaires	$434,217.03	.....
Liqueurs	116,736.96	.....
Tabac	45,067.05	.....
Fil de laine et tissus	204,135.67	$139,244.80
Vêtement	15,486.48	48,085.91
Produits chimiques, etc	80,099.07	1,514.96
Bois et manufactures	220,223.40	29,177.00
Papier	39,850.08	5,490.00
Cuir	853.65	4,117.00
Fer	293,496.35	15,532.00
Matériaux de construction	9,067.95	346,256.55
Métaux et manufactures	23,061.75	1,938.97
Poterie et verrerie, etc	55,790.33	1,874.44
Chauffage	60,744.38	61,677.21
Divers	45,041.59	10,606.30
Totaux	1,643,871.74	665,516.09

EXPORTATIONS.

Bétail	$931,744.53	30.00
Produits agricoles	.....	8,877,301.00
Produits de l'industrie	.....	14,124.00
Produits des forêts	.....	50,198.62
Produits des mines	.....	35,627.30
Produits des végétaux et des animaux	40,141.44	194,865.44
Divers	6,641.60	.....
Totaux	978,527.57	9,172,146.36

NOUVELLE VOIE FERRÉE.

MM. Fould & Cie., du Chili, ont adressé une demande au Gouvernement Chilien dans le but d'obtenir une concession pour la construction d'une voie ferrée qui relierait Curico à la frontière des Andes en traversant Zeno et Vergara. Les plans ont été dessinés par M. Eugenio Bovillier. On se propose d'obtenir une autre concession du Gouvernement Argentin pour la continuation de cette ligne afin de la relier à celles de Buénos-Ayres et de Bahia Blanca. La dépense de la ligne chilienne est estimée à 831,067 livres sterlings.

AIDE À L'INDUSTRIE VINAIRE.

De nombreux rapports prouvent l'importance croissante de l'industrie du vin de San Juan et de Mendoza, et on a suggéré qu'elle pourrait encore prendre un plus grand développement si on employait en sa faveur les ressources de la science, c'est-à-dire, analyser les sols, classer les vins, rechercher les meilleures méthodes de culture, faire des investigations sur les maladies des vins et leur traitement; en un mot, substituer la science à l'empirisme. Pour atteindre ce but, on vient de proposer un Congrès Industriel qui aura lieu à Mendoza.

BRÉSIL.

PARTICIPATION À L'EXPOSITION DE BUFFALO.

En réponse aux représentations urgentes de l'Honorable CHARLES PAGE BRYAN, Ministre Plénipotentiaire des Etats-Unis à Rio de Janeiro, le Gouvernement brésilien aurait décidé, dit-on, de participer à l'Exposition "Pan-American" qui aura lieu l'année prochaine à Buffalo. Le Gouvernement communiquera à cet effet avec les centres agricoles et industriels du Brésil afin que la République puisse y prendre part dans les meilleures conditions.

PRODUITS EXPORTÉS EN 1899.

D'après les données du Trésor de l'Etat, il a été exporté en 1899, de l'Amazonas, 11,633,705 kilogrammes de caoutchouc évalués officiellement à 114,576 contos. Parmi les principaux produits exportés durant cette même année, se trouvaient: 2,025,281 kilos de cacao, 956,220 kilos de poisson salé, 94,546 hectolitres de noix, 120,660 kilos de passiaba, 175,757 kilos de cuirs verts, 667 kilos de salsepareille, 11,961 kilos d'huile de copahu et 33,963 kilos de guarana.

CUBA.

POPULATION URBAINE.

En faisant le recensement cubain, on a découvert que la majeure partie des habitants de cette île réside dans les villes. Si toutes les places qui ont une population de 8,000 habitants ou plus sont comprises parmi les villes, il y a 499,682 habitants, ou 32 pour cent, qui peuvent être considérés urbains. Si les bases sont arrangées de façon à comprendre les places qui ont une population de 1,000 habitants ou plus, on trouve que la population des villes se chiffre à 741,273 ou que la popu-

lation urbaine est 47 pour cent. La population de l'île est distribuée inégalement car, tandis que dans la province de Santiago, 67 pour cent des habitants vivent á la campagne; d'un autre côté, dans la province de Havana, 77 pour cent habitent les villes. On estime que Cuba a perdu près de 3.6 pour cent de sa population depuis 1887 et que cette perte a été constatée entièrement en dehors des villes.

ETATS-UNIS.

SOMMAIRE DU COMMERCE EXTÉRIEUR PENDANT LE MOIS DE MAI 1900.

D'après les chiffres officiels publiés par le Gouvernement, le commerce extérieur des Etats-Unis pendant le mois de mai 1900 s'est monté à $185,158,586 contre $164,001,620 en mai 1899. Dans le total général de mai 1900, les importations sont comprises pour $71,643,735 et les exportations pour $113,514,851 contre $70,160,373 d'importations et $93,841,247 d'exportations pendant le mois de mai de l'année antérieure.

Voici comment sont classées les importations:

Articles.	Mai 1900.	Mai 1899.
Denrées alimentaires et animaux	$19,267,484	$24,116,276
Articles bruts entrant dans les différents procédés de l'industrie du pays.	25,405,915	22,056,703
Articles partiellement manufacturés	7,454,323	6,518,736
Articles manufacturés	10,143,217	8,700,273
Articles du luxe	9,372,796	8,768,385

Le pour cent des articles exempts de droits de douane était 43.04 en mai 1900, contre 45 pour cent en mai 1899. Les droits de douane perçus en mai 1900 se sont montés à $17,396,573 contre $18,367,907 pendant le même mois de 1899.

Pendant le mois de mai 1900 les exportations des produits du pays et des produits étrangers se sont montées respectivement à $111,307,195 et $2,207,656 contre $91,250,855 de produits du pays et $2,590,392 de produits étrangers pendant le mois de mai 1899.

Ci-après un tableau comparatif des exportations du pays pendant les mois de mai 1900 et 1899:

	Mai 1900.	Mai 1899.
Produits agricoles	$61,353,322	$52,975,612
Produits manufacturés	40,460,367	30,816,314
Produits des mines	3,567,185	2,624,493
Produits des forêts	5,154,613	4,219,844
Produits des pêches	297,373	267,361
Produits divers		

Pour les onze mois finissant avec mai, le commerce extérieur du pays s'est monté en 1900 à $2,075,106,530 et en 1899 à $1,766,020,255. Du premier total général, $788,722 représèntent les importations et $1,286,225,808, les exportations. Dans le second total, les importations sont comprises pour $635,391,180 et les exportations pour $1,130,629,075. Les importations pour les onze mois de l'année fiscale courante ont excédé celles des mêmes mois de l'année antérieure de $153,489,542 pendant que les exportations ont dépassé de $155,596,733 celles de la même période pendant l'année 1899.

RECETTES ET DÉPENSES DU GOUVERNEMENT.

Les recettes du Gouvernement des Etats-Unis pendant les douze mois de l'année fiscale finissant le 30 juin 1900, se sont montées à $568,988,948 et les dépenses à $487,759,171, laissant un surplus pour l'année de $81,229,777.

Voici les différentes sources des recettes: Droits de douane, $233,-857,958, soit une augmentation sur l'année fiscale 1899 de $28,729,577; impôts de l'intérieur, $296,299,388, soit une augmention de $22,862,227 sur l'année fiscale antérieure; sources diverses, $38,831,601, soit une augmentation de $2,400,000.

Les dépenses de l'année, par items, sont rapportées avoir été les suivantes: Dépenses du Gouvernement civil et diverses, $105,796,753 contre $119,191,255 pour 1899; guerre, $134,653,998 contre $229,841,-354; marine, $56,089,982 contre $63,942,104; affaires indiennes, $10,166,132, contre $12,805,711; pensions, $140,875,992, contre, $139,394,924; intérêts, $40,176,313, contre $39,896,925. Les dépenses de cette année étaient, $116,313,008 moindre que celles de l'année fiscale 1899.

MONNAYAGE DANS LES HÔTELS DE LA MONNAIE.

Pendant l'année fiscale finissant le 30 juin 1900, la monnaie frappée dans les Hôtels de la monnaie des Etats-Unis s'est montée à 184,323,793 pièces, évaluées à $141,301,960 et divisées comme suit: or, 7,662,786 pièces, évalueés à $107,937,110; argent, 75,359,254 pièces, évaluées à $31,121,833; petites monnaies, 101,301,753 pièces, évaluées à $2,243,-017. En 1899, le nombre de pièces frappées se montait à 122,270,945 évaluées à $136,855,675. Comme valeur, l'augmentation de 1900 sur 1899 est très peu considérable mais il y a une augmentation de 62,000,000 pièces représentant beaucoup de travail supplémentaire pour les Hôtels de la monnaie et montrant l'activité qui règne dans les affaires.

PROGRAMME POLITIQUE RÉPUBLICAIN.

Les Républicains des Etats-Unis, par l'intermédiaire de leurs délégués à la Convention Nationale, après avoir contemplé les faits glorieux accomplis dans le passé et le vaste champ ouvert à leur activité dans

l'avenir, en appellent au jugement de leurs compatriotes et font les déclarations suivantes:

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Nous approuvons l'administration de WILLIAM MCKINLEY; ses actes ont été dictés par la sagesse et le patriotisme et out étendu, à l'intérisur comme à l'extérisur, l'influence de la nation américaine. Parcourant des sentiers inconnus et obligé d'affronter des responsabilités imprévues, le Président MCKINLEY a toujours été, dans toutes les circonstances, d'une clairvoyance et d'un esprit de discernement remarquables, d'une grande fermeté de caractère et a toujours inspiré et mérité la confiance de ses concitoyens.

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Nous adhérons de nouveau à l'étalon d'or et déclarons avoir confiance dans la sagesse des lois du Cinquante-sixième Congrès, qui ont assuré la parité de toute notre monnaie et la stabilité de sa circulation, sur l'étalon d'or. Nous reconnaissons que les taux d'intérêt sont un facteur puissant dans la production et dans l'activité commerciale, et, dans le but de les égaliser et de les réduire davantage, nous sommes en faveur de lois monétaires qui permettront de faire face promptement aux besoins des saisons dans toutes les sections du pays afin de maintenir le commerce au même niveau, trouver constamment des emplois pour la classe ouvrière et développer l'industrie. La circulation de la monnaie, par tête, n'a jamais été si grande qu'aujourd'hui. Nous déclarons notre ferme opposition à la frappe libre et illimitée de l'argent, ne pouvant considérer l'adoption d'une telle mesure sans l'appui des principaux pays commerciaux du monde. Bien que les lois fermement républicaines aient mis le pays à l'abri du péril d'une monnaie inférieure et discréditée, l'élection d'un Président démocratique ne manquerait pas de diminuer le crédit de la nation et de soulever de nouveau, chez les autres peuples, la question de savoir si les intentions du peuple américain sont bien de maintenir sur l'étalon d'or, la parité de leur monnaie en circulation. Le Parti Démocratique doit être convaincu que le peuple américain ne tolérera jamais le programme politique adopté à Chicago.

Nous reconnaissons la nécessité et l'équité d'une coopération honnête de capitaux pour faire face aux conditions nouvelles des affaires et étendre surtout notre croissant trafic extérieur, mais nous condamnons les conspirations et combinaisons pouvant nuire aux affaires, créant des monopoles, limitant la production ou contrôlant les prix, et nous sommes en faveur de telle législation qui, d'une manière efficace, restreindra et préviendra tels abus, protégera et augmentera la concurrence et garantira les droits des producteurs, des ouvriers et de toutes les personnes versées dans les affaires industrielles ou commerciales.

Nous croyons encore dans la politique de protection de l'ouvrier

américain, car c'est avec cette politique que nos industries ont été établies, diversifiées et maintenues. En protégeant nos marchés nationaux, nous avons encouragé la concurrence et rendu la production meilleure marché. Des occasions ont été offertes au génie inventif de notre peuple et les salaires des classes ouvrières n'ont jamais été aussi élevés qu'aujourd'hui, ce qui fait que nos ouvriers se trouvent dans de meilleures conditions d'existence que ceux de n'importe quel autre pays concurrent. Jouissant des bénéfices du système d'instruction publique américain, confiants dans leurs droits d'autonomie et protégés contre la concurrence dans leurs propres marchés, les ouvriers américains ont vu leur instruction et leur habileté se développer de jour en jour, ce qui leur a permis finalement d'entrer en concurrence avec les autres pays sur les marchés du monde.

Nous sommes en faveur d'une politique de réciprocité dirigée de façon à ouvrir nos marchés, dans des conditions favorables, aux articles que nous ne produisons pas et obtenir en échange le libre accès de nos produits sur les marchés étrangers.

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Nous favorisons la construction, les droits de propriété, le contrôle et la protection d'un canal isthmien par le Gouvernement des Etats-Unis. Il nous faut de nouveaux marchés pour nos produits agricoles qui augmentent continuellement, et on devrait faire tous les efforts pour les ouvrir et les acquérir, particulièrement en Orient, et l'Administration mérite les plus grandes louanges pour le succès qu'elle a remporté en obligeant toutes les nations commerciales et coloniales à adhérer à la politique d'une "porte ouverte" en Chine. Dans l'intérêt de l'extension de notre commerce, nous recommandons au Congrès la création d'un ministère du commerce et de l'industrie à la tête duquel sera placé un ministre qui sera aussi membre du cabinet. Le système consulaire des Etats-Unis devrait être réorganisé sous la surveillance de ce nouveau département de telle façon à le rendre encore plus utile au commerce national. Le Gouvernement des Etats-Unis doit protéger la personne et la propriété de tous les citoyens qui seront victimes d'une injustice ou dont la vie sera en péril.

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Le Président McKinley a conduit les affaires étrangères au grand honneur du peuple américain. En nous évitant les conditions vexatoires d'une alliance européenne pour le gouvernement de Samoa, son attitude mérite des éloges spéciaux, et en obtenant pour les Etats-Unis le contrôle indépendant de l'île la plus importante du groupe Samoa et le meilleur port dans le sud du Pacifique, il a protégé les intérêts américains.

Nous approuvous l'annexion des Iles Sandwich aux Etats Unis.

Nous félicitons le Gouvernement pour la part qu'il a prise dans la conférence internationale de la paix à la Haye.

Nous donnons de nouveau notre entière adhésion à la doctrine Monroe. Les dispositions de la convention de la Haye furent sagement appliquées quand le Président McKinley offrit ses bons offices dans l'intérêt de la paix entre la Grande Bretagne et la République sud africain. Tandis que le Gouvernement des Etats-Unis doit continuer la politique prescrite par Washington, suivie par tous les Présidents qui lui ont succédé et qui nous est imposée par le traité de la Haye, politique de non-intervention dans les controversées européennes, le peuple espère vivement que l'on trouvera bientôt un moyen honorable pour terminer les conflits qui pourront exister entre deux parties.

En acceptant, d'après le traité de Paris, la juste responsabilité de nos victoires dans la guerre espagnole, le Président et le Sénat ont obtenu l'entière approbation du peuple des Etats-Unis. Nous ne pouvions faire autrement que de détruire la souveraineté espagnole dans les Antilles et les Iles Philippines et en le faisant, nous avons assumé une grande responsabilité envers le monde et ces peuples désorganisés, que notre intervention a délivrés du joug espagnol, en promettant de maintenir la loi et l'ordre, d'établir un bon système de Gouvernement et de remplir les obligations internationales. Notre autorité ne pouvait pas être moindre que notre responsabilité et partout où les droits souverains s'étaient étendus, le Gouvernement devait maintenir son autorité, réprimer l'insurrection et conférer les bénéfices de la liberté et de la civilisation à tout le peuple délivré.

Des lois leur donneront un gouvernement autonome, compatible avec leur bien-être et nos devoirs. La même voix qui déclara la guerre assura à Cuba son indépendance et son autonomie et cette promesse sera tenue à la lettre.

Le Parti Républicain s'appuyant sur son histoire et sur la déclaration de ses principes et de sa politique, a confiance dans la considération et l'approbation du peuple américain.

PROGRAMME POLITIQUE DU PARTI DÉMOCRATIQUE.

Le Parti Démocratique des Etats-Unis a approuvé, par l'intermédiaire de ses délégués à la convention qui a eu lieu dans la ville de Kansas, le programme suivant:

Nous, représentants du Parti Démocratique des Etats-Unis, réunis en Convention Nationale, le jour de l'anniversaire de la Déclaration de l'Indépendance, réaffirmons notre foi dans cette proclamation immortelle des droits inaliénables de l'homme et notre fidélité à la Constitution établie conformément à cette déclaration par les fondateurs de cette grande République.

Nous soutenons que notre Constitution doit être établie partout où notre drapeau flotte et condamnons la doctrine que le pouvoir exécutif

et législatif, qui doivent leurs existences et leurs pouvoirs à la Constitution, puissent exercer une autorité légitime au delà de cette constitution ou en la violant. Nous affirmons qu'aucune nation ne peut endurer longtemps un système demi-républicain et demi-impérialiste, et nous attirons l'attention du peuple américain sur le fait que l'impérialisme au dehors aura pour résultat immédiat et inévitable le despotisme au dedans.

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Nous demandons l'exécution prompte et honnête des promesses que nous avons faites au peuple cubain et au monde entier, que les Etats-Unis n'ont pas l'intention d'exercer une souveraineté, jurisdiction ou contrôle sur l'Ile de Cuba, si ce n'est que pour y rétablir la paix. Il y a près de deux ans que la guerre est terminée, qu'une paix profonde règne dans l'île entière et cependant l'administration empêche ce peuple de se gouverner lui-même pendant que les fonctionnaires du Parti Républicain gaspillent les deniers publics, et exploitent le système colonial au déshonneur du peuple Américain.

Le mercantilisme vorace qui a dicté la politique de l'administration républicaine aux Philippines s'efforce de la justifier sous le prétexte qu'elle donnera, à la fin, des résultats satisfaisants; mais ce prétexte honteux et indigne s'écroule quand il est soumis à l'épreuve. Cette guerre criminelle contre les Philippinos, pour laquelle on a dépensé annuellement plusieurs millions, a déja coûté plus que tous les profits possibles que l'on pourra tirer du commerce entier des Philippines pendant plusieurs années. En outre, quand le trafic s'étend au détriment de la liberté, il est toujours payé trop cher.

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Le Parti Démocratique s'engage à faire une guerre à outrance partout, dans la nation, dans les Etats et les villes, à n'importe quel monopole privé. Toutes les lois qui existent contre les monopoles doivent être mises en vigueur, d'autres plus strictes doivent être passées, obligeant la publicité des affaires des corporations engagées dans le trafic entre les Etats et requérant toutes les corporations de montrer, avant de faire des affaires en dehors de leur Etat, que leur capital social est légitime et qu'elles n'ont pas tenté et ne tentent pas de monopoliser aucun commerce ou la production d'aucun article.

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Nous condamnons le tarif Dingley comme producteur de combinaisons illégales et comme habilement calculé pour favoriser ceux qui ne le méritent pas, et nous favorisons les lois relatives au commerce entre les Etats afin de permettre à la Commission de protéger les individus et les communautés contre les injustices, et le public contre des droits de transport injustes et déloyaux.

Nous réaffirmons et donnons notre sanction aux principes du programme national démocratique adopté à Chicago en 1896 et réitérons

la demande faite dans le dit programme, d'un système économique américain institué par le peuple américain pour lui-même, lequel rétablira et maintiendra la parité du bimétallisme et, comme partie de ce système, le rétablissement immédiat de la frappe libre et illimitée de l'argent et de l'or dans la proportion légale de 16 à 1, sans attendre pour cela l'aide ou le consentement d'une autre nation.

Nous dénonçons la loi monétaire passée pendant les dernières sessions du Congrès comme étant un pas hardi de la politique républicaine dans le but de discréditer les droits souverains du Gouvernement National, d'émettre toutes sortes de monnaie, papier ou numéraire, et de donner aux banques nationales la faculté d'émettre et de contrôler la quantité de papier-monnaie pour leur propre bénéfice.

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Nous sommes en faveur de la construction immédiate du Canal de Nicaragua par les Etats-Unis, lequel deviendra la propriété de ces derniers qui en auront le contrôle, et nous dénonçons le manque de sincérité de cette partie du programme républicain au sujet d'un "canal isthmien," la majorité républicaine ayant manqué d'approuver la loi quand elle était discutée au Congrès. Nous condamnons le traité Hay-Pauncefote comme un renoncement aux droits et aux intérêts américains que le peuple des Etats-Unis ne doit pas tolérer.

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Croyant que nos institutions les plus chères sont en grand péril, que l'existence de notre République constitutionnelle est compromise et que la décision que l'on prendra maintenant servira à déterminer si oui ou non nos enfants jouiront des privilèges sacrés d'un gouvernement libre qui a fait des Etats-Unis une nation grande, prospère et honorée, nous demandons instamment le support cordial du peuple américain, amoureux de la liberté, pour les déclarations que nous venons de faire.

EXPORTATIONS PHÉNOMÉNALES.

Le journal "Scientific American" dit que pendant le mois d'avril 1900 les Etats-Unis ont exporté pour $40,000,000 d'articles manufacturés et que si, comme on le suppose, cette proportion continue, l'exportation des articles manufacturés de ce pays dépasseront, à la fin de la présente année fiscale $400,000,000, somme presque trois fois plus grande que celle atteinte il y a une décade. Cette augmentation phénoménale dans l'exportation des manufactures est particulièrement remarquable, si on la compare avec les progrès faits par les autres nations européennes. La Grande-Bretagne, par exemple, exportait il y a dix ans presque la même quantité qu'aujourd'hui, et les exportations des produits manufacturés des autres pays européens n'ont pas augmenté pendant la période mentionnée de 25 pour cent, tandis qu'aux Etats-Unis l'augmentation a été de plus de 150 pour cent.

La publication mentionnée ci-dessus dit que c'est dans l'exportation des métaux que les Etats-Unis semblent surpasser toutes les autres nations. En 1889 les manufactures de métaux ont fourni moins de 20 pour cent de notre total des exportations de manufactures, et en 1900 les exportations de ces manufactures seront 45 pour cent.

Ce qui prouve que l'exportation des métaux et de leurs produits a augmenté rapidement pendant l'année 1899 c'est le fait que les exportations de cuivre jaune et les produits manufacturés avec ce métal ne se montaient qu'à $321,137, tandis qu'en 1900 elles ont atteint le chiffre de $1,700,000. Les exportation du cuivre et de ses produits qui, en 1889, se montaient à $2,348,954 atteindront en 1900 plus de $50,000,000. Les exportations du fer et de l'acier ont augmenté de $21,156,077 en 1889 à $70,406,885 en 1898, tandis que pendant l'année fiscale 1900 elles dépasseront $100,000,000.

Il est nécessaire de remarquer que les produits des Etats-Unis s'écoulent facilement sur les marchés des pays européens sans excepter ceux dont l'industrie est arrivée au plus haut degré de progrès, mais si l'exportation des articles manufacturés a pris une tournure extraordinaire aux Etats-Unis, dans aucun article l'augmentation ne s'est fait autant remarquer que dans les rails pour les chemins de fer, particulièrement les rails d'acier. En 1889 le total des exportations des rails d'acier se montait, d'après le "Scientific American," à 7,388 tonnes; en 1898 il s'élevait à 229,782 tonnes, pendant que la valeur augmentait de $235,387 en 1889, à $4,613,376 en 1898, et pendant l'année fiscale 1900 elle atteindra probablement $8,000,000. Les pays qui consomment la plus grande quantité de ces produits manufacturés aux Etats-Unis sont la Russie, le Canada et le Japon.

L'AIRE DES CHAMPS DE COTON DE 1900.

Le statisticien du Ministère de l'Agriculture à Washington estime l'aire totale plantée de coton aux Etats-Unis à 125,558,000 acres, soit une augmentation de 2,036,000 acres ou 8.7 pour cent sur l'aire productive de 1899. L'augmentation, pour les Etats produisant cette marchandise principale, est estimée respectivement comme suit: L'Alabama et la Caroline du Sud, 7 pour cent; la Géorgie et le Texas, 8; la Louisiane et le Tennessee, 9; l'Arkansas, le Mississippi et la Caroline du Nord, 10; le Territoire Indien, 15; l'Oklahoma, 18; la Virginie, 25; et le Missouri, 27. Dans tous ces Etats et Territoires l'augmentation était plus ou moins localisée, étant plus petite là où la production était plus dense et plus grande dans les régions où le coton n'a pas été, jusqu'ici, cultivé sur une aussi grande échelle et où les conditions physiques n'étaient pas, sous tous les rapports, les plus favorables pour sa production. En général l'augmentation a été restreinte à cause du manque de la main d'œuvre, du prix élevé de la graine, de l'aire plus

grande des autres récoltes et dans certaines sections, à cause des conditions défavorables du temps. Le long des limites boréales de la section où le coton est cultivé, une terre, de laquelle on a récolté du blé, a été ensemencé, à la hâte, de coton, pendant la dernière partie de juin et la quantité produite dans cette plantation a été donnée dans l'estimation générale.

La condition moyenne du coton en culture était, le 1er juin, 82.5 pour cent, contre 35.7 pour cent le 1er juin 1899, et 87.1 la moyenne des moyennes du mois de juin pendant les dix dernières années. A part une exception, la condition de 82.5 pour cent est la moins favorable de juin en vingt ans.

Pendant la première partie du mois de juin, des agents spéciaux du Ministère de l'Agriculture visitèrent chaque section importante des neuf principaux Etats producteurs de coton, y compris Oklahoma et le Territoire Indien, et les résultats de leurs investigations furent incorporés dans le dernier rapport publié par le Ministère. Ce travail spécial continuera pendant la saison entière du coton, et dans le cas où il serait nécessaire de modifier les chiffres de l'arpentage, les adjustements nécessaires seront faits par le statisticien du Ministère qui s'empressera de les faire connaître au public.

RÉCIPROCITÉ COMMERCIALE AVEC LE PORTUGAL.

Conformément aux termes de la section 3 du tarif du 24 juillet 1897, on a signé, le 12 juin 1900, au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères à Washington, un traité de réciprocité commerciale entre les Etats-Unis et le Royaume de Portugal. D'après ce traité, les droits applicables aux articles produits dans le Portugal, les Iles Açores et l'Ile Madère et importés aux Etats-Unis, ont été réduits comme suit:

"Argol ou tartre brut, lie de vin, 5 pour cent ad valorem.

"Vins distillés en tonneaux, 35 cents le gallon; en bouteilles, par caisse de 12 bouteilles, ne contenant pas plus d'une quarte et plus d'une pinte chacune, ou 24 bouteilles, ne contenant pas plus d'une pinte chacune, $1.25 par caisse; et sur l'excédent trouvé au-dessus de ces quantités dans les dites bouteilles, il sera perçu un droit de 4 cents par pinte ou par fractions de pinte, mais il ne sera perçu aucun droit séparé ou additionnel sur les bouteilles.

"Vins mousseux, en bouteilles ne contenant pas plus d'une pinte, $6 la douzaine; en bouteilles ne contenant pas plus d'une pinte chacune et plus d'une demi pinte chacune ou moins, $1.50 par douzaine; en bouteilles ou tous autres récipients contenant plus d'une quarte chacune, en plus des $6 par douzaine de bouteilles, sur l'excédent d'une quarte, $1.90 par gallon.

"Eaux-de-vie ou tous autres spiritueux fabriqués ou distillés de grains ou autres substances, provenant du Portugal ou de ses colonies, $1.75 par gallon de preuve.

"Peintures à l'huile, aquarelles, pastels, dessins à la plume et statues, 15 pour cent ad valorem. En considération de ces concessions, les articles suivants étant les produits du sol ou de l'industrie des Etats-Unis, importés dans le Royaume du Portugal, les Iles Açores et l'Ile Madère, les droits à lever qui leur seront applicables subiront la réduction de ceux accordés à n'importe quel autre pays (l'Espagne et le Brézil n'étant pas compris dans la stipulation), à savoir:

"Tarif No. 325, farine des céréales, excepté le blé.

"Tarif No. 326, gruaux de maïs.

"Tarif No. 327, gruaux de blé.

"Tarif No. 354, saindoux et graisse.

"Tarif Nos. 97, 98, et 99, huiles minérales et leurs produits, non autrement dénommés dans le tarif.

"Tarif No. 373, moissonneuses, faucheuses, batteuses mécaniques, machines pour comprimer le foin et la paille, charrues à vapeur, parties séparées de ces machines et socs des charrues.

"Tarif No. 386, instruments, instruments aratoires, outils de jardinage, outils pour les arts et les manufactures et sur les articles suivants ne devra pas excéder les droits suivants, à savoir: sur les machines précédentes et articles stipulés dans le No. 373, 5 reis par kilogramme.

"Sur les instruments et outils décrits ci-dessus dans le No. 386, employés dans l'agriculture et le jardinage, 60 reis par kilogramme.

"Sur les huiles minérales destinées à l'éclairage (densité de 0.780 à 0.820, point d'ignition de 0.437 degrés á 49 degrés), 46 reis par litre.

"Sur les huiles minérales (densité au dessus de 0.820 et jusqu'à 0.860, point d'ignition de 50 à 150 degrés), 52 reis le kilogramme.

"Sur le goudron et le bitume, 10 reis par tonne."

D'après les clauses de ce traité, le Roi de Portugal se réserve le droit, après toutefois avoir notifié le Gouvernement des Etats-Unis trois mois à l'avance, de suspendre l'exécution de ce traité dans le cas où les Etats-Unis imposeraient un droit sur le liège brut ou le café du Portugal ou des colonies portugaises autre que celui accordé aux mêmes articles de tout autre pays qui n'est pas sous le contrôle des Etats-Unis, à savoir: Argol ou tartre brut, lie de vin, café, cacao, vins, eaux-de-vie, liège brut ou manufacturé, sardines et anchois conservés, fruits verts; mais, en ce qui concerne les fruits, les Etats-Unis se réservent le droit de faire des arrangements spéciaux applicables à n'importe quelles îles des Antilles.

Ce traité continuera à être en vigueur pendant cinq années à partir du 12 juin 1900 et, si à l'expiration de cette période, il n'a pas été dénoncé par l'une ou l'autre des deux parties, il continuera à avoir son effet pendant une année à partir du jour où l'une des parties contractantes aura informé l'autre d'en suspendre l'exécution.

LES FORÊTS DE SEQUOIA DE LA CALIFORNIE.

Le *Sequoia sempervirens*, "redwood," se trouve seulement dans une zone étroite du territoire des Etats-Unis qui s'étend sur les bords du Pacifique, depuis la frontière méridionale de l'Etat de l'Orégon, où se trouvent peut-être un millier d'acres de sequoia, jusque dans l'Etat de Californie, près de la baie de San-Francisco.

C'est dans le comté de Humboldt, près de la frontière de l'Orégon, où l'on trouve ce bois en plus grande quantité.

Le sequoia ne pousse pas autant dans la portion du territoire sitúe dans les comtés de Mendocino et de Sonoma, les arbres sont moins gros et n'ont pas une aussi grande valeur comme bois de construction. Il pousse cependant plus longtemps dans ces territoires; le bois en est plus dur, plus épais et dure peut-être davantage. Le meilleur arbre et celui qui pousse plus gros se voit partout dans les vallons et sur les plateaux. On ne trouve nulle part de jeunes arbres, les moins vieux au nord de cette zone, ont déjà quelques centaines d'années d'existence. Le Congrès des Etats-Unis a passé dernièrement une loi pour la protection perpétuelle des meilleures forêts de sequoia. Celle qui se trouve en Californie est peut-être la plus épaisse du monde, si on la mesure par la quantité d'arbres que chaque acre contient, lesquels peuvent être convertis en bois de construction. M. Henry Gannet, du Service Géologique des Etats-Unis, dit que ce n'est pas seulement la dimension des arbres qui prouve l'exactitude de ce rapport, quoiqu'ils soient exceptionnellement grand, même dans cet Etat où tout est immense, mais c'est la grande quantité et la compacité des arbres. Le soleil ne luit jamais dans une forêt de sequoia; le crépuscule existe du matin au soir; on dirait que l'on se trouve dans un temple immense couvert d'une toiture de feuillage supportée par de hautes colonnes d'arbres.

L'étendue de la zone de sequoia a été soigneusement tracée par le Service Géologique et a été calculée aussi exactement que possible à 2,000 milles carrés ou 1,280,000 acres. La quantité d'arbres dans cette portion de territoire n'est pas très facile à calculer d'une façon certaine, mais les inspecteurs l'ont estimée comme suit: comté de Del Norte, 4,000,000,000 pieds; comté de Humboldt, 42,000,000,000 pieds; comté de Mendocino, 28,160,000,000 pieds; comté de Sonoma, 1,000,000,000 pieds. La quantité coupée par les scieries se monte annuellement à 250,000,000 pieds au minimum. Le sequoia est complètement à l'épreuve du feu, son bois ne contenant aucune moelle, mais au contraire une grande quantité d'eau; il ne brûle pas quand il est vert, de sorte que le feu ne peut pas prendre dans une forêt de sequoia, qui est le seul arbre des quatre espèces conifères particulières aux Etats-Unis qui ne craigne pas les ravages de cet élément.

Le sequoia est très connu sur la côte de la Californie. Dans la con-

struction des maisons on n'emploie presque jamais d'autre bois, même aussi loin au sud que Los Angeles et San Diego. Il est exporté le long de la côte du Pacifique aussi loin au sud que Valparaiso, Chili, et aussi loin au nord que Alaska, et se vend aussi sur les marchés du Japon et en Australie.

IMPORTANCE CROISSANTE DU PORT DE GALVESTON.

Depuis l'année 1895, le développement du port de Galveston, Texas, comme port d'embarquement, a été des plus remarquables. Ce fait est d'une importance spéciale pour le commerce des Etats-Unis avec les ports du Golfe du Mexique, de l'Amérique Centrale et du nord de l'Amérique du Sud. En 1895, les importations étaient évaluées à $387,347, et les exportations à $36,182,388, tandis qu'en 1889 les importations et les exportations atteignaient respectivement une valeur de $2,243,400 et $76,143,069.

Le système de jetée construite par le Gouvernement des Etats-Unis dans le Golfe de Galveston a tellement curé l'entrée de cette masse d'eau, que cette baie est devenue un port sûr et désirable où les vaisseaux, qui ont des dimensions considérables, peuvent relâcher. Une grande partie du coton produit à l'ouest du fleuve Mississippi pour l'exportation, passe par Galveston, et le blé et le maïs y sont aussi exportés en très grande quantité, le total des grains expédiés à ce point étant estimé, pour la présente année fiscale, entre 15,000,00 et 20,000,000 boisseaux. Pendant la saison des affaires, on emploie près de 4,000 hommes dans les docks de ce port et on dit que le commerce qui se fait à Galveston est beauoup plus important que celui de n'importe quelle autre ville de même grandeur.

SAUMON MIS EN BOÎTES À ALASKA.

Pendant les vingt dernières années, près de 700,000,000 livres de saumon frais ont été pêchés à Alaska et la valeur du produit salé, mis en boîte, s'est montée à $33,000,000 environ. L'industrie du saumon est très répandue tout le long de la côte depuis le voisinage de Sitka jusqu'à l'île Kadiak près de la presqu'île Alaska et au-delà, au nord, dans les eaux de la mer de Behring qui fournit maintenant un cinquième de la pêche. Kadiak et Chigmik fournissent environ trois septièmes de la production entière; le sud d'Alaska, un quart; l'anse Cook, le détroit Prince William et la rivière Copper complétant le reste.

RAPPORT SUR LA RÉCOLTE DU MOIS DE JUIN 1900.

Les rapports préliminaires du statisticien du Ministère de l'Agriculture sur l'aire ensemencée de maïs indiquent une augmentation de 1,200,000 acres environ, ou 1.5 pour cent de plus que l'aire moissonnée l'année dernière. L'augmentation de la contenance est, en général,

bien répartie, dix Etats et Territoires, en dehors de quarante-cinq, étant seulement rapportés n'avoir pas une aire ensemencée plus grande que celle moissonnée l'année dernière. La condition moyenne du maïs en culture est 89.5, contre 86.5 le 1er juillet 1889, avec une moyenne de 10 années de 90.7.

La condition du blé d'hiver indique encore une diminution pendant le mois de juin, étant 80.8 le 1er juillet 1900, contre 82.7 le 1er juin 1900, 65.6 le 1er julliet 1899 et une moyenne de 10 années de 79.8. À l'exception de trois, la condition de tous les Etats importants produisant le blé d'hiver a diminué.

La condition moyenne du blé de printemps est 55.2, comparée avec celle, 87.3, il y a un mois, 91.7 le 1er juillet 1899, avec une moyenne de 10 années de 89.5. La condition dans l'Etat de Minnesota est tombée à 48, dans le Sud-Dakota à 44, et dans le Nord-Dakota à 30, ces chiffres étant respectivement 44.45 et 60 points au-dessous des moyennes de 10 années pour les Etats mentionnés.

Dans l'Etat de Minnesota et dans le Nord-Dakota la condition de l'avoine, de l'orge, du seigle, des pâturages et des prairies est, comme celle du blé du printemps, la plus basse qui ait été constatée.

La condition du blé du printemps et d'hiver combinée le 1er juillet était 69.8, contre 76.2 le 1er juillet 1899.

La quantité de blé restant entre les mains des cultivateurs le 1er juillet est estimée à 51,000,000 boisseaux environ, ou l'équivalent de 9.3 pour cent de la récolte de 1899.

La condition moyenne de la récolte de l'avoine est 85.5, comparée avec 91.7 il y a un mois, 90 le 1er juillet 1899 et une moyenne de 10 années de 87.3.

La condition moyenne de l'orge est 76.3, contre 86.2, il y a un mois, 92 le 1er juillet 1899 et une moyenne de 10 années de 83.3.

La condition moyenne du seigle d'hiver est 89.6, contre 83.3 le 1er juillet 1899, avec une moyenne de 10 années de 89.5.

On constate une augmentation de 30,000 acres, ou de 1.2 pour cent, dans la contenance des pommes de terre, avec une condition, le 1er juillet, de 91.3, contre une moyenne de 10 années de 93.2. Les rapports concernant les patates sont des plus favorables.

La condition du tabac est presque identique à la moyenne des 10 années passées.

Les rapports sur la récolte du foin sont généralement défavorables, et il y a peu d'Etats importants, possédant des pâturages, dans lesquels la condition des pâturages ne soit pas considérablement au-dessous de la moyenne de 10 années.

Tandis que l'on constate une diminution générale dans la condition des pommes, presque chaque Etat important qui produit ce fruit s'attend à une récolte plus abondante qu'une récolte moyenne. Ceci est vrai aussi en ce qui concerne les pêches et les raisins.

Le rapport concernant la laine, indique un poids moyen, par toison, de 6.17 livres, contre 5.95 en 1899.

La condition moyenne du coton était, le 1er juillet, de 75.8, contre 82.5 le mois dernier, 87.8 le 1er juillet 1899, avec une moyenne de 10 années de 87.79.

D'après les chiffres du statisticien du New York Produce Exchange, le rapport du Gouvernement indique une récolte totale de blé d'hiver de 333,769,000 boisseaux, contre 341,240,000 boisseaux le mois dernier et 296,677,586 boisseaux la dernière saison. Pour le blé du printemps le rapport indique une moisson de 176,589,000 boisseaux, contre 278,536,000 boisseaux le mois dernier, et 250,624,200 boisseaux, la récolte de l'année dernière. Si on combine ces différents groupes de chiffres, la récolte totale du blé est indiquée comme étant de 510,356,000 boisseaux, contre 619,779,000 boisseaux le mois dernier, et 547,303,846 boisseaux, la récolte de l'année dernière.

Il semble probable maintenant que la récolte du maïs cette année ne sera pas aussi abondante que celle de 1896, qui a été la plus grande qui ait jamais été enregistrée.

D'après le rapport du Gouvernement, la moisson du maïs est indiquée comme étant de 2,240,770,000 boisseaux, contre 2,078,143,933 boisseaux, quantité récoltée l'année dernière.

HAÏTI.

LOI DE LIQUIDATION GÉNÉRALE DES FINANCES HAÏTIENNES.

Usant de l'initiative que lui accorde l'article 69 de la Constitution;

Considérant qu'il importe de régulariser la situation des porteurs de titres et effets publics vérifiés et acceptés par la commission instituée le 12 août 1897 et les commissions de 1889, 1890 et 1895, de déterminer le montant de ceux qui n'ont pas été présentés à l'examen de la commission de 1897, et de soumettre à une nouvelle vérification les titres et effets rejetés par cette dernière commission et ceux sur lesquels les commissions de 1889, 1890 et 1895 n'ont pu se prononcer, faute d'éléments de vérification;

Considérant qu'il importe également de prendre les mesures nécessaires pour assurer d'une manière définitive la régularité du service des intérêts et de l'amortissement de la dette intérieure par le produit des 50 centimes affecté à la liquidation de cette dette, eu égard aux nouvelles obligations qui devront être émises en échange des titres et effets précités;

Vu la loi du 10 décembre 1897, et également celles des 15 et 29 septembre 1899;

Sur le rapport du Secrétaire d'Etat, des Finances et du Commerce,

Et de l'avis du Conseil des Secrétaires d'Etat,

A proposé, et le Corps Législatif a rendu, la loi suivante:

ART. 1. Sont consolidés et portés au compte de la dette intérieure les titres et effets publics vérifiés et acceptées par la commission instituée le 12 août 1897 formant la somme de $146,288.11 (or américain) et celle de $1,534,330.85 (monnaie nationale), défalcation faite des effets s'élevant à $377,384.37 (or américain) et $932.65 (monnaie nationale), effets dressés pour subvention des services téléphoniques et d'éclairage et travaux exécutés suivant contrats votés par le Corps Législatif et dont le règlement s'effectue en conformité de la convention du 26 janvier 1900.

ART. 2. Des obligations de la caisse d'amortissement seront émises en échange des dits titres et effets vérifiés et acceptés montant à $146,288.11 (or américain) et $1,534,330.85 (monnaie nationale). Ceux en monnaie nationale seront convertis en or américan au taux de 140 pour cent. Ainsi il sera délivré contre chaque somme de $240 en titres et en effets acceptés une obligation de $100 (or américain.)

ART. 3. La même conversion au taux susmentionné sera opérée à l'égard des pièces données en monnaie nationale vérifiées et acceptées par les commissions de 1889, 1890 et 1895 au moment de les échanger contre des titres de la caisse d'amortissement, lesquelles pièces s'élèvent à $353,446.60.

ART. 4. Contre chaque somme de $166.66⅔ en obligations actuelles de la dette intérieure ou en bons fractionnaires encore en circulation, il sera délivré un titre de $100 (or américain).

ART. 5. A partir du 1er janvier 1901, il sera servi sur les titres en or américain un intérêt annuel de 5 pour cent. L'amortissement de ceux émis en échange des obligations de $100 et de $80 continuera à s'effectuer conformément aux prescriptions de la loi du 7 novembre 1887, et il sera pratiqué chaque année, sur le capital des autres titres, un amortissement qui ne dépassera pas 1 pour cent.

ART. 6. Est autorisée la vérification des titres et effets publics qui n'ont pas été présentés à l'examen de la commission de 1897, effets dressés du 1er octobre 1890 au 30 septembre 1897.

Seront soumis à une nouvelle vérification les titres et effets publics rejectés par la dite commission de 1897, et ceux renvoyés à l'appréciation de qui de droit par les commissions de 1889, 1890 et 1895.

Des titres provisoires seront délivrés par les soins de la Banque Nationale aux porteurs des dits titres et effets reconnus valables et de ceux appartenant aux exercices budgétaires 1897–1897 et 1898–1899 vérifiés et acceptés, en adoptant à l'égard des pièces dressées en monnaie nationale le taux de conversion de 140 pour cent indiqué en l'article 2; ils ne pourraient être échangés contre des obligations définitives rapportant un intérêt annuel de 5 pour cent qu'après le vote de la loi approuvant le résultat de ces vérifications.

ART. 7. Il est laissé la faculté aux porteurs de feuilles des mois

d'août 1896, juillet et août 1898 et de celles encore dues pour frais de table, du 1er octobre 1897 au 30 septembre 1899 dont le paiement doit être effectué au moyen des disponibilités du Trésor, d'en demander la consolidation au Département des Finances. Dans ce cas, des titres de la caisse d'amortissement remboursables en or américain seront délivrés jusqu'à concurrence du montant des dites feuilles converties au taux de 140 pour cent.

ART. 8. La présente loi abroge toutes les lois et dispositions de loi qui lui sont contraires. Elle sera exécutée à la diligence du Secrétaire d'Etat des Finances et du Commerce.

Donné au Palais National, à Port-au-Prince, le . . . juin 1900, an 97e de l'Indépendance.

HONDURAS.

BUDGET POUR L'EXERCICE 1900-1901.

"La Gaceta" du 13 mai a publié le nouveau tarif des douanes qui entrera en vigueur le 1er août prochain.

Le Congrès a fixé á 2,423,000 piastres le budget de l'exercice 1900–1901; en voici pour les recettes, les principaux postes:

Douanes	$970,000
Droits sur l'alcool	800,000
Loterie et droits de port	125,000
Timbre	75,000
Droits sur les liqueurs	60,000

Le Congrès a été convoqué, le 19 mai dernier, en session extraordinaire, pour délibérer sur une nouvelle convention conclue le 5 mai dernier, entre le Gouvernement et le Honduras Syndicate. On sait qu'en 1887 un contrat avait été conclu avec ce syndicat pour la construction du chemin de fer interocéanique; les travaux furent arrêtés en 1898, et en 1899, le syndicat proposa d'annuler le contrat, qu'il jugeait inexécutable et de le remplacer par un autre. Les pourparlers viennent enfin d'aboutir, et le Congrès aura à discuter la nouvelle convention, qui a pour objet la location de la première section du chemin de fer de Puerto-Cortès à la Pimienta et la construction de la nouvelle ligne partant du fleuve Ulua et se terminant à la baie de Fonseca.

Les temps ne semblent pas éloignés où le Honduras, qui est l'Etat de l'Amérique centrale où ont été posés les premiers rails, verra son territoire couvert d'un réseau respectable de voies ferrées et ses fleuves parcourus par de nombreux vapeurs. Dans ces derniers temps, le Gouvernement a accordé des concessions pour la navigation à la vapeur, ou toute autre force motrice, des fleuves Patuca, Ulua, Humaya, Chamelicon, Salaco et Agua, de même que pour la construction d'un chemin de fer de l'Ulua au Guayape, dans le riche

département de Yoro, et d'un autre entre le port de Trujillo et Olanchito, dans le département de Colon. Enfin, il y a un mois, des contrats provisoires ont été conclus pour l'établissement de lignes entre les ports d'Omoa et de Trujillo et d'Omoa au rio Motagua à la frontière de Guatémala. Tous ces chemins de fer desserviront des intérêts très importants et celui de Trujillo à Omoa, s'étendant sur près des deux tiers du littoral de la mer des Antilles, donnera un plus grand essor encore à l'industrie bananière, déjà florissante dans le nord du Honduras.

L'ouverture de ces différentes voies de communications, conjointement avec la paix, qui semble s'être fixée à demeure au Hônduras, aideront puissamment au développement des industries agricoles et minières, favoriseront l'immigration des colons et des capitaux étrangers et changeront complètement la face du pays pour en faire un des Etats les plus prospères de l'Amérique Centrale.

MEXIQUE.

LE COMMERCE EXTÉRIEUR PENDANT LE 2e SEMESTRE 1899.

M. Charles Stephan, titulaire d'une Bourse commerciale de séjour à l'étranger, dit, dans un rapport sur le commerce extérieur du Mexique pendant le 2e semestre 1899, que la crainte d'une crise commerciale se dissipe de plus en plus puisque l'équilibre entre les importations et les exportations se rétablit peu á peu.

On remarque que la plus grande augmentation correspond pour l'importation, aux matières minérales, et immédiatement après aux machines et appareils.

L'importation des matières minérales comprend par ordre d'importance: le fer et l'acier, les chaux et ciments de Portland, le talc, les couleurs, l'or, le platine, le cuivre, l'étain, les grilles forgées en fer, dont il se fait une grande consommation à cause du peu d'élévation des habitations qui oblige à poser des grilles devant les fenêtres.

Les machines et appareils importés dénotent naturellement un progrès de l'industrie locale qui emploie ces machines, mais il ne faudrait pas s'y méprende. La plupart des machines et appareils importés sont destinés aux nombreuses voies ferrées qui se construisent dans toute l'étendue du Mexique, ainsi qu'aux installations électriques, soit lumière, soit tramways, qui augmentent de jour en jour. Sur ce point, le Mexique est très avancé. Ce sont des compagnies américaines de Chicago et de Philadelphie qui sont concessionnaires de l'éclairage et de la traction. Il est vrai que le manque de houille dans le pays a naturellement contribué à ce développement.

Viennent ensuite par ordre d'importance: les lampes à arc et à incandescence, les batteries électriques, les instruments scientifiques et les machines agricoles.

Les fabricants américains possèdent, pour ainsi dire, le monopole de ce commerce. Ils y ont créé des dépôts où l'on peut voir leurs machines; il font même des démonstrations pratiques à qui le désire, ils font de la réclame, ils envoient des voyageurs, et distribuent des prospectus en langue espagnole.

Le Mexique est, avant tout, un pays agricole et dont l'avenir appartiendra aux grandes compagnies qui en entreprendront l'exploitation. Il s'est fondé déjà plusieurs grands syndicats d'exploitation allemands, qui envoient sur place des ingénieurs et des hommes capables d'apprécier la valeur et la richesse du terrain et qui achètent les terres pour le compte du syndicat; puis une fois les terres achetées, des colons allemands y sont envoyés et l'exploitation commence.

A première vue il semble étonnant de voir que dans un pays où l'industrie textile est aussi avancée et prospère qu'au Mexique les importations de tissus et de leurs dérivés continuent à augmenter. C'est tout simplement la conséquence de l'augmentation du bien-être et par conséquent de l'augmentation des besoins. Aujourd'hui la classe moyenne mexicaine ne se contente plus de vêtements de cotonnade et de percale qu'elle laisse aux Indiens, et c'est ce qui explique l'importance des commandes d'effets de bonne qualité qui sont faites à l'Europe. Néanmoins l'industrie locale augmente petit à petit le nombre des produits fabriqués, et le temps n'est pas loin où les soieries seront fabriquées au Mexique et où la France perdra un des débouchés qu'elle a su mettre à profit.

De plus le Gouvernement mexicain encourage grandement la culture du ver à soie, qui a parfaitement réussi dans plusieurs provinces, notamment dans le Michoacan; c'est un Français qui en a été le promoteur, mais selon toutes les indications il paraît que les Américains profiteront des bénéfices.

Cette grande importation, l'accroissement par cela même de la concurrence, les progrès de l'industrie locale, conduit naturellement à une baisse de prix et par suite à une augmentation de la consommation.

C'est ce qui éloigne les craintes d'une crise commerciale, craintes inspirées à tort par la production locale qu'au début on avait jugée supérieure à la consommation.

A l'exportation, on remarque que la diminution se fait sentir sur les produits minéraux. Il ne faut pas croire pour cela que les richesses minières du Mexique sont épuisées; loin de là, cet arrêt momentané dans l'exportation de ces produits est due à la constitution de nombreuses compagnies étrangères qui ont acheté des propriétés aurifères, lesquelles se trouvent dans la période d'inauguration des travaux.

L'exportation du cuivre a augmenté énormément, contrebalançant l'exportation de l'argent sur laquelle repose presque toute la diminution de l'exportation minière.

LISTES DES FILATURES DE COTON DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE.

Le "Diario Oficial," de la ville de Mexico, publie, dans son No. 41 du 16 juin 1900, une liste complète des filatures de coton en opération dans la République, ainsi que les noms et adresses des propriétaires. Les droits de timbre que ces fabriques payent tous les six mois au Trésor Public se montent à $935,249.75 en monnaie mexicaine.

L'INDUSTRIE DE LA FABRICATION DES COTONNADES.

Le Journal "El Correo de Sonora," de Guaymas, Etat de Sonora, contient, dans son numéro du 20 juin 1900, un article intéressant sur l'industrie cotonnière de Mexico, dont voici un extrait.

L'Etat de Vera-Cruz doit aux manufactures d'Orizaba la première place qu'il occupe en ce moment dans cette industrie importante. La consommation annuelle de coton brut dans cet Etat est de 10,743,482 livres et les ventes annuelles de l'article manufacturé, comme elles ont été rapportées au Ministère des Finances, comme base de taxation, se montent à $6,664,983.

L'Etat de Puebla tient actuellement la deuxième place dans l'industrie textile, mais, étant donnés l'activité prodigieuse qui règne à Atlixco et les grands progrès qui s'y font, il surpassera probablement Vera-Cruz dans peu d'années et occupera la première place parmi les Etats de la République, manufacturiers de coton. Dans cet Etat seulement, la consommation du coton brut se monte annuellement à 7,994,225 livres et les ventes annuelles à $3,931,734. Ces chiffres montrent que les cotonnades de cet Etat n'ont pas une aussi grande valeur que celles de l'Etat de Vera-Cruz.

La troisième place appartient au District Fédéral, où la consommation du coton brut se monte à 4,862,756 livres et les ventes annuelles à $2,812,511. Il est douteux cependant que le District Fédéral puisse maintenir, en importance, la troisième place dans cette industrie, qui se développe rapidement, n'ayant pas les nombreuses chutes d'eau qui se trouvent dans les environs de Mexico et qui permettent à cet Etat de développer ce genre d'industrie. Ces chutes sont capables de produire une grande quantité de force électrique au prix le plus bas possible, attirant ainsi les capitaux et rendant cette industrie cotonnière aussi profitable que peu coûteuse comparée avec celles des places moins favorisées.

Pendant de nombreuses années, on a discuté les moyens d'utiliser les chutes de Tenancingo comme puissance productrice de la force électrique et de conduire cette force à la ville de Mexico, ce grand centre manufacturier; mais, jusqu'ici, on n'est arrivé à aucun résultat définitif satisfaisant. On pourrait établir facilement une fabrique près des chutes de Tenango, qu'un chemin de fer relie avec Toluca, la

belle capitale de l'Etat de Mexico, et ce projet s'accomplira certainement dans un avenir peu éloigné.

Voici quels sont, dans l'ordre de leur importance, les principaux Etats manufacturiers de coton: Guanajuato; consommation annuelle, 3,732,416 livres; ventes annuelles, $1,381,364. Coahuila; consommation annuelle, 3,520,024 livres; ventes annuelles, $1,692,435. Jalisco; consommation annuelle, 2,520,843 livres; ventes annuelles, $1,119,089.

PATENTE POUR UNE MACHINE À RELIER LES LIVRES.

Une patente a été délivrée à M. WILLIAM P. HEALY pour une machine à relier les livres. L'inventeur de cette machine est M. FREDERICK P. ROSBACK, qui a cédé ses droits à M. HEALY.

EXPORTATIONS DE HENNEQUEN DE PROGRESO.

Pendant le mois d'avril dernier, on a expédié du port de Progreso, Etat de Yucatan, 38,998 balles de hennequen pesant 6,284,740 kilogrammes, et le prix obtenu était 34 cents mexicains par kilogramme, représentant, en argent mexicain, une valeur totale de $2,136,811.60. Les chiffres suivants montrent les exportations du Mexique pendant le mois d'avril depuis 1896, inclus:

Années.	Nombre de balles.	Poids en kilogrammes.
1896	30,479	5,048,165
1897	26,829	4,461,250
1898	38,415	6,338,453
1899	43,530	7,075,447

ACQUISITION DE BATEAUX À VAPEUR DESTINÉS À NAVIGUER SUR LES FLEUVES.

On vient de commander à Chicago, trois bateaux à vapeur destinés à naviguer sur quelques-uns des plus grands fleuves de l'Etat de Vera-Cruz et améliorer ainsi le service sur le fleuve Coatzacoalcos et autres fleuves. Les plans ainsi que tout le matériel en bois et en fer qui doivent servir à la construction de cinq petits bateaux à vapeur dans l'Etat de Vera-Cruz, seront envoyés à Chicago. On annonce aussi que l'Etat de Tabasco achètera aux Etats-Unis un nombre de petits bateaux à vapeur qui seront employés à faire le service sur le fleuve Usumasinta.

INDUSTRIES MINIÈRES.

Les diverses variétés de houille ou charbon de terre, disséminées sur toute l'extension du territoire, forment une réserve inappréciable de richesses et de revenus pour l'avenir du Pérou.

C'est au nord du Pérou, dans les département de Cajamarca et de

Libertad, que sont situés les deux gisements les plus importants qui soient connus jusqu'à ce jour. Le premier qui se trouve dans les environs de Cajamarca, comprend deux couches carbonifères de 30 à 40 kilomètres d'étendue, l'une entre Hualgayoc et Chota, l'autre dans le voisinage du fleuve Maranon (Amazone). Ces mines sont à 500 kilomètres de distance de l'Amazone et à 250 kilomètres du Pacifique.

Le second de ces gisements se trouve dans le département de Libertad, à 50 kilomètres au sud de Huamachuco. Quelques-unes de ces couches dont les affleurements peuvent se voir sur une extension de 30 à 40 kilomètres, ont jusqu'à 6 et 10 mètres d'épaisseur. Suivant les rapports d'ingénieurs américains, le charbon serait presque totalement exempt d'impuretés et de qualité supérieure à celui des houillères de Pensylvanie.

D'importants gisements de ce combustible existent également dans le département de Junin (Cerro de Pasco, Yauli, Huancayo); dans certaines localités on le convertit en coke, sans songer à tirer parti du gaz qu'il renferme.

Il existe dans ce pays un grand nombre de filons cuivreux dont l'exploitation a dû être suspendue par suite de la baisse du cuivre et de l'augmentation du prix de la main-d'œuvre; les nouvelles applications du cuivre dans l'industrie, particulièrement dans la fabrication des fils télégraphiques, et la hausse de ce métal qu'elles ont déterminée sur les marchés anglais et américain, ont eu leur contrecoup au Pèrou, et l'exploitation des gisements de cuivre dans cette République devient chaque jour plus importante. En effet, l'augmentation des demandes a engagé beaucoup de capitalistes à reprendre l'exploitation de mines depuis longtemps abandonnées et à former de nouvelles sociétés pour se livrer au traitement et à l'exportation de ce métal sur une échelle inconnue jusqu'à ce jour: par ailleurs, la plupart des minerais argentifères contiennent une certaine proportion de ce métal.

Pour l'année qui vient de s'écouler, les envois faits à l'étranger comprennent 1,421,119 kilogrammes, ainsi répartis: Angleterre, 1,374,959 kilogrammes; Chili, 19,246; Allemagne, 15,273; France, 11,641.

On peut réunir en trois groupes les mines de cuivre ayant fait ou faisant l'objet d'une exploitation sérieuse; ce sont:

(1) Les mines des environs d'Ica, dont les travaux ont été suspendus en 1892, renferment des espèces minérales très variées. Durant de longues années, elles ont donné des minerais d'une teneur moyenne de 30 pour cent et pourraient offrir aujourd'hui une belle perspective aux capitaux étrangers, si le défaut d'eau et de combustible n'était pas deux obstacles qu'il serait cependant possible de vaincre.

(2) La région du Cerro de Pasco, déjà célèbre pour ses mines d'argent, de plomb et de charbon, possède les minerais les plus riches du pays. Ils atteignent quelquefois une teneur de 60 pour cent qui peut être

ramenée à la moyenne assez respectable de 40 pour cent. Il est hors de doute que dans un avenir prochain des affaires de premier ordre vont se monter dans cette partie du Pérou. Les conditions d'exploitation y sont tout autres que dans le bassin d'Ica; en effet le combustible, la force motrice et la main-d'œuvre ne font point défaut, et avec le prolongement du chemin de fer de Cerro de Pasco on évitera les difficultés de transport.

(3) Les gisements, de Yauli et Morococha (4,000 mètres d'altitude) viennent au second rang comme importance productive. De même que ceux d'Ica, on les avait abandonnés pour s'occuper de minerais d'argent; aujourd'hui avec la hausse des cuivres, l'exploitation est redevenue fructeuse. La teneur des minerais pauvres est de 10 à 15 pour cent.

On pourrait ajouter à ces mines les gisements d'Acari, dans la province de Camana. Les tentatives d'exploitation faites par la Acari Copper Mining Syndicate, Limited, n'ont pas donné de résultats satisfaisants. Quoi qu'il en soit, un certain nombre d'ingénieurs péruviens étudient actuellement sur le terrain les gisements cuprifères des régions indiquées plus haut.

Les phosphates, adjourd'hui si recherchés par les agriculteurs, ont été découverts et étudiés depuis environ un an par les soins du Gouvernement péruvien. Ces dépôts de phosphate se trouvent aux environs d'Ica, dans les pampas d'Ocujaje.

La plomb, qui est le plus souvent associé à de l'argent et à de l'antimoine est le plus abondant des minerais qui se trouvent au Pérou. Le sulfure de plomb "galène" s'y rencontre dans tous les terrains miniers et sous toutes les formes. En 1898, on a exporté plus de 8,000 kilogrammes de plomb vers l'équateur, et une quantité de 837,000 kilogrammes de plomb argentifère sur les marchés d'Europe et des Etats-Unis. L'exploitation des mines de sel et des salines se fait depuis trois ans sous le contrôle de l'Etat. Les mines de sel gemme se trouvent dans quelques départements du nord et du sud, ainsi que dans ceux du centre. Le Cerro de la Sal dans le département de Junin, a longtemps été exploité par les tribus sauvages.

Le nickel se trouve dans la province de La Mar, en quantité suffisante pour pouvoir être exploité le jour où les communications entre cette province et la côte seront plus faciles.

DÉCOUVERTE DE GISEMENTS DE CUIVRE.

On mande de Casas Grandes, Chihuahua, qu'un commerçant, M. Carlos J. Gonzales, a découvert à Ascension des gisements de cuivre titrant de 15 à 40 pour cent de métal. Il a dénoncé immédiatement un millier de *pertenencias* autour de l'endroit où il a fait cette découverte, qui a provoqué une certaine émotion dans la région.

PROLONGEMENT D'UN CHEMIN DE FER.

Les travaux de prolongement de la ligne du chemin de fer de Puebla à Tlacualpican jusqu'à Tiapa, en passant par Chiautla, et autres points importants de l'Etat de Guerrero, vont commencer incessament.

Depuis longtemps le prolongement de cette ligne devenait nécessaire par suite du développement croissant qui s'est produit dans l'exploitation des mines au sud de Puebla et dans l'Etat de Guerrero.

DÉCOUVERTE D'UNE MINE D'OR.

On annonce la découverte d'une mine d'or et d'argent dans la chaine de montagnes qui forment la Sierra del Sauce dans l'Etat de Durango. La superficie de cette mine est, dit-on, de plus de mille mètres carrés.

NOUVEAUX PUITS DE PÉTROLE.

Plusieurs capitalistes de l'Etat de Tabasco avaient eu l'intention, il y a quelques années, d'entreprendre l'exploitation du pétrole dans la région de Macuspana. Une société de capitalistes mexicains avait été formée dans ce but, mais pour des raisons diverses l'exploitation ne put avoir lieu.

Cette idée a été reprise dans ces derniers temps par un groupe d'industriels européens, qui l'ont mise en pratique. Des milliers d'estagnons vides sont déjà arrivés à San Juan Bautista, capitale de l'Etat de Tabasco, et seront utilisés pour cette exploitation dont les travaux commenceront immédiatement.

CONGRÈS SCIENTIFIQUE À MEXICO.

Un comité vient de se former pour organiser un grand congrès scientifique mexicain. Ce comité est présidé par M. le docteur LICÉAGA; son secrétaire est M. le Lic. FRANCISCO DE LA BARRA. Toutes les sociétés, tous les corps scientifiques et littéraires constitués existant au Mexique seront invités à y prendre part et à nommer leurs délégués.

Ce congrès aura pour objet principal de rechercher les progrès acquis dans les arts, les sciences et les lettres durant le XIX^{e} siècle et d'imprimer une nouvelle force d'implusion à la continuation de ces travaux.

CONCESSION POUR UN TRAMWAY À GUADALAJARA.

Le Gouverneur de Jalisco a accordé une concession à M. FRANCISCO MARTINEZ NEGRETE pour la construction, dans la ville de Guadalajara, de trois nouveaux tramways électriques qui relieront les trois points principaux, Analco, Capilla et Jesus et Agua Azul. M. NEGRETE est un des plus grands propriétaires fonciers de l'Etat de Jalisco et un des plus riches capitalistes de Guadalajara. Il possède une *hacienda* immense, "La Barca," sur laquelle le tramway central mexicain a deux stations, Negrete et La Barca.

NOTES RELATIVES AUX MINES.

Le journal "Chihuahua Enterprise" rapporte qu'une grande activité règne dans les mines circonvoisines de Zacatecas. En dehors des travaux considérables qui ont été entrepris dans de nouvelles sections, les vieilles mines montrent une vie nouvelle. Zacatecas attire en ce moment une attention considérable, et une grande quantité de nouvelles machines minières sont expédiées dans le district.

D'après un organe officiel du gouvernement d'Oaxaca, pas moins de dix citoyens des Etats-Unis auraient découvert, pendant le mois de janvier 1900, dans les limites de cet Etat, des mines couvrant 61 *pertenencias*, ou 510,000 mètres carrés. Quelques-unes sont des mines d'or, quelques autres, des mines d'argent et quelques-unes contiennent de l'or et de l'argent.

Señor Luis Vasquez, propriétaire à Durango de la mine Pueblo Nuevo, située près de la ville qui porte ce nom, à 40 milles environ du sud-est de la ville de Durango, a apporté récemment à la ville plusieurs tonnes de minerai extrait de sa mine, qui, après avoir été soumis à l'essai, ont donné au minimum $500 par tonne et au maximum $800 par tonne. La moitié environ de cette valeur était en or. Cette mine se trouve dans le district Mesquital qui, d'après les écrits d'un vieux prêtre jésuite, a une réputation locale. "Quand les mines du district Mesquital seront connues," dit ce jésuite, "le monde sera étonné de la quantité d'or qu'elles contiennent." On a jamais vérifié si les prédictions du vieux prêtre s'étaient réalisées ou non.

Une compagnie des Etats-Unis, organisée récemment à Iowa, est en train de faire des préparations pour l'exploitation de dépôts immenses de cuivre situés entre le district minier La Victoria et la rivière Yaqui dans l'Etat de Sonora. Une tonne d'échantillons de ce minerai envoyés à El Paso pour être essayés, contient 40 pour cent de cuivre pur.

Les essais faits sur le cuivre extrait des mines qui se trouvent dans le district de Moctezuma, Etat de Sonora, montrent 40 pour cent de minerai pur et donne des traces d'or.

Pendant le premier trimestre 1900, on a exporté, à Liverpool et dans le sud du Pays de Galles, 2,814 tonnes de cuivre, contre 2,123 tonnes pendant la même période de l'année 1899.

L'exploitation de la mine d'argent la "Candelaria" à San Pedro, Chihuahua, marche très bien en ce moment, une tonne de quelques-uns de ces minerais contenant 3,000 onces, mais généralement ne contenant, en moyenne, que 145 onces.

CONTRAT AVEC LA LIGNE DE BATEAUX À VAPEUR "PRINCE."

Le journal "El Diario Oficial," du 8 mai 1900, a publié un contrat passé entre le Gouvernement mexicain et la ligne de bateaux à vapeur "Prince," dont l'agence principale est à Newcastle-on-Tyne, Angleterre.

D'après les clauses de ce contrat, deux voyages auront lieu mensuellement, l'itinéraire de l'un d'eux comprenant à l'aller Glasgow, Anvers, Progreso et Vera-Cruz, et au retour Tampico, la Nouvelle-Orléans, Barcelone et Genève; l'itinéraire des autres voyages étant Livourne, Gênes, Marseille, Progreso, Campêche et Vera-Cruz à l'aller et touchant au retour à Tampico, la Nouvelle-Orléans, Malaga, Barcelone et Gênes. Il est bien entendu aussi que des arrangements seront faits ultérieurement pour comprendre dans les routes ci-dessus les ports de Tuxpam, Coatzacolcos et Laguna. Cet arrangement suppléra à un grand besoin, car le service postal des ports mexicains où ces bateaux à vapeur toucheront n'a pas marché, depuis quelques temps, à l'entière satisfaction du Gouvernement mexicain.

PÉROU.

GRANDE ROUTE DE CUZCO À RIO INAMBARI.

Le Gouvernement du Pérou vient de passer un contrat avec la Socíeté Anonyme Industrielle et Financière de l'Amérique du Sud pour la construction d'une grande route (chemin réservé aux cavaliers) depuis le district de Cuzco jusqu'aux bords de la rivière Inambari. Ce chemin aura environ 250 kilomètres de long; sera pourvu de ponts en bois et tels autres perfectionnements qui peuvent être nécessaires, comme, par exemple, des stations et des entrepôts pour la commodité des passagers et la réception des marchandises. La compagnie s'engage à achever le chemin dans une période de trois années à partir de la date de la concession et doit commencer les travaux de construction pendant la première année, conformément aux clauses du contrat. Le chemin devra avoir deux mètres de largeur.

Le Gouvernement concède à la compagnie 50,000 hectares de terres montagneuses, lui garantissant en outre le droit exclusif de transporter le fret sur le dit chemin et lui permettant d'employer pour cela, des mulets, des bourriquets ou des tombereaux. La compagnie consent à transporter, gratis, le courrier, pendant la durée de la concession et d'accorder un passage gratuit aux militaires, juges, et en général à tous les fonctionnaires publics voyageant pour le service de la République, aussi bien qu'aux missionnaires.

Les terres qui peuvent être nécessaires pour la construction de cette route, aussi bien que celles dont on a besoin pour ses stations et autres accessoires, sont accordées gratuitement à la compagnie, et cette dernière a aussi le droit de faire usage des eaux, des matériaux de construction, du combustible végétal qui peuvent lui être utiles et qui se trouvent sur les terres appartenant à l'Etat.

La compagnie exploitera le chemin pendant une période de trente ans, après quoi il deviendra la propriété de la République.

Le Gouvernement concède à la compagnie, pendant cinq années, le droit exclusif de construire et d'exploiter une ligne télégraphique qui suivra la direction de la grande route. Après l'exploitation de la dite ligne pendant une période de trente ans elle deviendra aussi la propriété de la Nation.

Tous les matériaux nécessaires pour la construction, l'équipement et l'exploitation des travaux mentionnés, devront être importés dans la République conformément aux franchises accordées par les lois de la Nation.

La compagnie peut transférer cette concession avec tous ses droits et obligations à toute autre compagnie du pays ou étrangère mais, avant de le faire, elle devra d'abord obtenir l'approbation du Gouvernement sans quoi le transfert sera invalidé et le contrat annulé.

SALVADOR.

PROJETS DE LOI.

Le Ministre des Finances de la République a présenté á l'Assemblée Nationale du Salvador deux projets de loi très importants. Le premier autorise le pouvoir exécutif á introduire, dans les conditions les plus favorables, une quantité de monnaies divisionnaires n'excédant pas la somme de 5 millions de pesos. Le second autorise le Gouvernement à accorder, sans recourir á la ratification législative, une concession pour l'établissement d'une banque de crédit hypothécaire jouissant de toutes les facilités, privilèges et garanties nécessaires à sa création et à son fonctionnement. Le capital de cette banque ne pourra être inférieur à 500,000 livres sterling et sur lesquelles 200,000 devront être souscrites et versées. Quoique le siège social de cette banque puisse être établi à l'étranger, elle devra posséder au Salvador un représentant responsable. L'émission des obligations ou cédules que fera la banque ne pourra excéder la valeur totale des hypothèques constituées en sa faveur. L'intérêt des cédules hypothécaires émises par la banque sera de 10% par an, et ce taux ne pourra être dépassé. Le Gouvernement aura un droit d'inspection sur les opérations de cet établissement. Toute difficulté ou litige survenant entre le Gouvernement et la banque sera tranché par un tribunal arbitral conformément aux lois salvadoriennes.

URUGUAY.

LE COMMERCE DES PRODUITS CHIMIQUES.

Les resignements ci-après ont été extraits d'un rapport consulaire anglais.

Les savonneries de l'Uruguay prefèrent la soude caustique au carbonate de soude.

Les importations ont été comme suit, de 1895 à 1897 (tonnes de 1,000 kilogrammes):

	1895.	1896.	1897.
Carbonate de soude	460	493	328
Soude caustique	824	437	487

Les chiffres pour le carbonate de soude sont indiqués dans les statistiques sous la rubrique "soudes ordinaires" et se rapportent également aux cristaux de soude. Les importations de soudes ordinaires se chiffraient comme suit en 1896 et 1897:

	1896.	1897.
	Kilog.	*Kilog.*
De France	.....	32,660
D'Allemagne	150	5,195
D'Italie	9,920	16,300

La soude caustique est presque entièrement fournie par la Grande-Bretagne. La République Argentine seule en fournit une petite quantité; encore est-il plus que probable que celle-ci est de provenance anglaise.

Les cristaux de soude viennent d'Angleterre. Ils servent au lavage des vêtements. Un importateur considérable, qui en a reçu environ 64 tonnes, estime que l'importation totale de cet article est de près de 256 tonnes. Il s'ensuivrait que l'importation du carbonate de soude se réduirait, en 1897, à 72 tonnes. Des doutes sont donc permis, du moins en ce qui concerne l'année 1897, sur l'exactitude des chiffres susmentionnés.

Le sulfate de cuivre a donné lieu, quant aux importations, au mouvement commercial suivant (tonnes de 1,000 kilogrammes):

Origine.	1895.	1896.	1897.
France	.....	8	.....
Angleterre	115	91	55
Allemagne	13	40	15
Etat s-Unis	10	33	23
Italie	1	3	13
Total, y compris les autres pays	139	175	106

Le bisulfate de soude, de provenance anglaise et aussi quelque peu allemande, n'est importé qu'en petites quantités et ne forme pas une rubrique spéciale dans le tableau de commerce général.

De même, le chlorure de chaux ne donne lieu qu'à un commerce insignifiant. Ainsi, en 1897, l'importation a été de 1,740 kilogrammes, dont 1,080 de la Grande-Bretagne et 660 de France. On l'emploie ordinairement dans la fabrication du papier.

Les acides proviennent en Grande partie du continent européen. Il est à supposer que le fret de ces marchandises y est moins élevé qu'en Angleterre. Voici les importations en 1895, 1896, 1897 (tonnes de 1,000 kilogrammes):

Origine.	1895.	1896.	1897.
France	6.2	31.9	17.5
Allemagne	89.7	100.3	44.6
Angleterre	13.3	9.2	15.7
Belgique	7.6	9.7	3.0
République Argentine	7.6	5.1	0.3
Total, y compris les autres pays	124.4	156.9	81.2

L'acide sulfurique entre dans les chiffres pour la proportion la plus élevée. D'autre part, les importations d'acide nitrique, d'acide chlorhydrique ont augmenté. Cela provient de l'emploi qu'on a pris l'habitude d'en faire, après addition de quatre parties d'eau, pour le badigeonnage des murs extérieurs des maisons, afin de donner au crépi plus de résistance contre les changements de température et de rendre une couche de peinture superflue.

La gélatine, qui est employée pour la conservation de la gelée dans les boîtes de conserves de langue de bœuf, est en majeure partie de fabrication allemande. Les industriels allemands l'offrent, conformément à la demande qui leur en est faite, en tablettes d'une demi once. Une de ces tablettes représente précisément la quantité nécessaire pour une boîte de conserve. Les fabricants anglais refusent d'adopter ces tablettes et de fournir les qualités à bon marché qu'on leur demande.

RECETTES DOUANIÈRES EN AVRIL 1900.

Les recettes douanières de l'Uruguay ont donné, pour le mois d'avril 1900, les résultats ci-après:

Importation	$826,944.98
Exportation	83,813.92
Départements, estimation	100,000.00
Total	1,010,758.90

Les recettes de la douane pour le même mois pendant l'année 1899 se montaient à $1,078,362, et pour le mois d'avril 1898 à $1,018,950.

RICHESSES MINÉRALES DES ETATS-UNIS.

On vient de publier un nouveau volume d'un ouvrage intitulé "L'Industrie minérale," dont l'autorité fait foi dans les sujets qui traitent des produits minéraux et dont les statistiques sont citées aussi souvent que celles que le Service Géodésique fournit au Governement. Ce volume, le huitième de la série, contient des statistiques complètes, faciles à comprendre et qui montrent les quantités et les valeurs des minéraux et métaux produits aux Etats-Unis pendant l'année 1899. Pendant l'année citée la valeur totale nette de ces produits, comme elle a été estimée dans les places de production, atteignait la somme de $1,118,780,830, chiffre sans exemple dans les annales des Etats-Unis ou de n'importe quel autre pays. Ce total, comparé à celui de 1898, estimé par les mêmes autorités à $799,518,033, montre, pour une seule année, une augmentation de $319,262,797, ou 39.9 pour cent. Cette augmentation énorme en valeur est due en partie à la plus grande quantité des articles produits et au prix plus élevé du fer, de l'acier, du charbon et d'autres substances métalliques et minérales.

Pendant l'année 1899 les Etats-Unis ont produit la plus grande quantité de charbon, de sel, de fer, de cuivre, d'argent et de plomb du monde et se trouvaient à la tête pour la production de beaucoup de métaux moins importants actuellement. La valeur de leurs productions minérales excède de beaucoup celles des autres pays, l'article le plus important étant le charbon, qui forme 25.4 pour cent du total. Le fer occupe la seconde place avec 20.9, le cuivre venant après avec une proportion de 8.3 pour cent; l'argile produit 6.1 pour cent du total et occupe le quatrième rang; l'or est le cinquième dans l'ordre, avec 5.8 pour cent; le pétrole, le sixième, avec 5.3 pour cent; la pierre, septième, avec 3.5 pour cent; l'argent, huitième, avec 2.8 pour cent. Les autres produits étaient: le plomb, avec 1.6 pour cent du total; le ciment, 1.03 pour cent; le zinc, 1.02 pour cent et le gaz naturel, 1 pour cent.

CONGRÈS INTERNATIONAL DE LA RAMIE.

Un journal français donne les renseignements suivants au sujet du Congrès International de la Ramie:

"Le Congrès International de la Ramie, qui aura lieu à Paris pendant l'Exposition, tiendra deux sessions: la première, les 28, 29 et 30 juin; la seconde, au mois d'octobre, immédiatement après un concours d'appareils et procédés de préparation de la ramie, dont la date sera fixée ultérieurement.

"La valeur de la ramie, comme matière première est aujourd'hui

universellement connue; néanmoins les difficultés que présentent l'extraction et la préparation de sa fibre en ont jusqu'à ce jour limité l'emploi industriel.

"Le Congrès aura pour but de mettre en lumière les études et les inventions qui depuis dix ans notamment ont poursuivi et fait avancer ce problème.

"La commission d'organisation fait appel à tous ceux que sa solution intéresse:

"Les planteurs et agriculteurs qui pourront trouver dans la culture de la ramie une source nouvelle et rémunératrice de production;

"Les inventeurs d'appareils et de procédés de décortication et préparation de la ramie, dont les recherches et les expériences ont, dans ces derniers temps, fait progresser et semblent à la veille d'avoir résolu la question de la production économique de cette fibre;

"Les filateurs, tisseurs, etc., qui seront appelés à l'utiliser, et qui trouveraient en elle une matière première se prêtant à des emplois si divers.

"Le montant de la cotisation est fixée a 20 francs. On est prié d'adresser les adhésions, cotisations et communications aux secrétaires de la commission."

NOUVELLE CARTE DU MEXIQUE.

Le Bureau des Républiques Américaines publiera prochainement une carte des Etats-Unis du Mexique qui est la compilation de données officielles et autres et dont les renseignements qu'elle contient ont été trouvés dispersés dans un nombre de cartes spéciales inaccessibles au public. Cette carte, qui est sur une échelle de 50,000 au pouce, indique, en dehors de la géographie physique et politique du Mexique, tous les districts miniers avec la nature des mines en exploitation, les routes, les voies ferrées, les principales aires de culture et d'autres renseignements d'intérêt général.

Voici les principales cartes qui ont servi à la compilation de cette carte.

(1) Carte hydrographique de la Marine des Etats-Unis.

(2) Carte officielle de l'Etat de Sonora, par C. E. Herbert, 1885.

(3) Carte générale de la République Mexicaine, dressée par le Ministère de Fomento, 1890.

(4) Carte minière de la République Mexicaine, dressée par ordre du Ministre de Fomento, 1893.

(5) Carte générale des Etats de San Luis Potosi, 1894.

(6) Carte des communications des Etats-Unis du Mexique, 1895, 1896, et 1899.

(7) Carte de Géographie générale de la République du Mexique.

BIBLIOGRAPHIE.

Les livres et les brochures qui seront envoyés au Bureau des Républiques Américaines, et qui contiendront des sujets ou matières traitant des pays de l'Union internationale des Républiques Américaines, seront mentionnés dans le Bulletin Mensuel sous le titre "Bibliographie."

Mr. William L. Scruggs, qui fut Ministre Plénipotentiaire des Etats-Unis en Colombie de 1873 à 1875 et de 1884 à 1885 et au Vénézuéla de 1889 à 1893, vient de publier un ouvrage intéressant intitulé: "Républiques de la Colombie et de Vénézuéla" avec Notes sur les autres parties de l'Amérique du Sud et de l'Amérique Centrale" (Little, Brown & Cie., Boston). Ce livre précieux est une addition sérieuse à la collection insuffisante des ouvrages qui traitent de cette partie de l'Amérique du Sud. L'auteur base ses remarques sur ses expériences personelles dans ces pays où il a vécu plus de 28 années et pendant lesquelles ses relations officielles avec les gouvernements de Colombie et de Vénézuéla lui ont donné les occasions exceptionnellement favorables d'observation. Quoique ses notes sur la Colombie ne s'étendent pas plus loin que Carthagène et Bogotá, elles n'en ont pas moins une valeur considérable. Son chapitre sur les mœurs et coutumes des Colombiens est écrit avec un esprit évident d'impartialité et la description que l'auteur fait de la ville de Bogotá et de la vie de son peuple est pittoresque et pleine d'intérêt. Un chapitre trop court est celui qui traite des ressources naturelles et du commerce du pays et l'auteur, comme tous les autres écrivains, attribue la lenteur du développement de son commerce extérieur, au manque complet de moyens intérieurs de transportation.

Après un chapitre intéressant consacré à l'Ile de Curaçao, Mr. Scruggs passe au Vénézuéla, en décrit les rivages, les ports, la capitale, Caracas, faisant remarquer leurs progrès pendant le dernier quart d'un siècle. La partie historique de cette œuvre est probablement la plus intéressante parcequ'elle traite de questions aussi variées que: le problème des races, la démocratie, les révolutions dans l'Amérique du Sud, les droits des étrangers, la doctrine Monroe, le différend anglo-vénézuélien au sujet de la délimitation des frontières de ces pays et les principes d'une arbitration internationale. Cet ouvrage renferme trois cartes geógraphiques; celle de la Guyane Anglaise et de la Guyane Vénézolane (vis à vis la page 324) étant aussi parfaitement claire que moderne.

"A través del Amazonas. (A travers les Amazones) par Ballesteros. Imprimerie Nationale de la Paz, 1899." Tel est le titre d'une

brochure qui est un rapport que l'auteur fait à la Société Argentine de Géographie au sujet du voyage qu'il a entrepris en 1896, de la Paz à Para, en longeant les rivières Beni et Madeira. Ce pamphlet contient une description géographique et historique de la découverte des pays qui se trouvent à l'est des Cordillères. On peut se rendre compte de l'importance que ce territoire a prise pendant les années récentes par l'augmentation du chiffre de sa population, qui a atteint 10,000 habitants, et de ses recettes douanières qui s'élèvent à 120,000 livres sterling. Quand les travaux du chemin de fer qu'une maison française est en train de construire entre Acre et Madre de Dios seront terminés, on s'attend à une augmention considérable dans la production du caoutchouc, qui se monte actuellement à 2,000 tonnes environ, et qui, on espère, atteindra annuellement 20,000 tonnes. La partie la plus intéressante du rapport est la description détaillée de la route que l'auteur a parcourue en cinq jours, de la Paz à Sorata, 150 kilomètres, et de ce point à Mapiri, 200 kilomètres. La rivière Mapiri qui est navigable depuis Rurenabaque, est, à partir de ce point, impraticable pendant une certaine distance, mais, huit lieues plus loin, à Reyes et Porto Salinas, la rivière Beni ne présente aucune difficulté et il est possible d'atteindre Riberalta, une distance de 799 kilomètres, en seize ou vingt jours. Le chemin direct à ce point, passe à travers de nombreux marais et il est impossible, pendant la saison pluvieuse, d'y transporter des animaux. Il faut quartre jours pour faire le voyage.

Riberalta, qui se trouve à l'embouchure de Madre de Dios, fut fondée en 1894 est a déjà une population de 2,000 habitants.

On vient de publier à Berlin une publication aussi intéressante qú importante connue sous le nom de: "Pan-American Atlas." Cet atlas semble avoir pour but principal de convaincre le peuple allemand de sa grande importance et de l'étendue que la race occupe sur la terre. Le dernier numéro de cette publication montre quelles sont les parties du monde habitées par des allemands et leur nombre. En 1895, la population de l'Allemagne se montait à 49,000,000 d'habitants et à cette époque, il y avait 39,475,000 allemands qui vivaient en dehors de l'empire avec leurs descendants. De ce nombre, 10,000,000 habitaient aux Etats-Unis; 400,000 au Canada; 493,000 dans l'Amérique du Sud, l'Amérique Centrale et les Indes Occidentales; 106000 en Australie et la Nouvelle-Zélande et près de 300,000 dans le sud de l'Afrique. D'après le statisticien qui a compilé ceschiffres, il y a actuellement aux Etats-Unis, 2,993,000 allemands nés en allemagne. L'Etat de New York, ou habitent 553,000 allemands, est à la tête de la liste, mais proportionnellement, Wisconsin avec 283,000, a le plus grande nombre. Après New York, l'Etat d'Illinois a la plus grande population allemande (336,000). Dans quelques-unes des principales villes des Etats-Unis,

il est intéressant de remarquer le percentage de citoyens natifs d'allemagne. Voici comment est donné le percentage dans 11 villes: Milwaukee, 66; Hoboken, 57; Detroit, 43; Cincinnati et Buffalo, 41 chacune; Jersey City et Cleveland, 40 chacune; New York, 38; Newark et Chicago, 37, et Boston, 3.

Le "Diario Official" du Brésil, publié le 15 mai, 1900, contient un nouveau projet de code civil préparé par le Docteur CLOVIS BEVILACQUI qui sera soumis au Congrès pour être adopté. Le code remplit 102 pages du "Diario Official."

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ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

COMMERCE WITH GREAT BRITAIN.

The accounts of trade and navigation of Great Britain gives the following statistics with reference to the commerce of the United Kingdom with the Argentine Republic for the first six months of 1900 in comparison with such statistics for a like period in 1899, showing a great increase in imports, especially wheat and maize:

IMPORTS FROM THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Articles.	1900.	1899.
Cattle	£667,500	£1,005,044
Sheep and lambs	289,000	436,666
Wheat	3,476,408	1,862,200
Maize	2,746,200	930,350
Mutton	814,142	738,504
Tallow and stearine	157,604	72,654
Linseed	654,509	425,135
Wet hides	13,414	35,097
Total	8,818,777	5,505,650

EXPORTS TO THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Cotton piece goods	£685,064	£558,941
Jute piece goods	114,963	213,766
Linen piece goods	17,449	21,445
Woolen tissues	88,179	59,071
Worsted tissues	169,376	137,014
Carpets	34,706	46,321
Hardware and cutlery	26,607	23,438
Iron of all kinds	571,860	375,766
Tin plates	42,204	16,259
Cement	17,551	15,471
Earthen and china ware	26,056	16,118
Total	1,794,015	1,483,610

The quantity of wheat received from the Argentine Republic by Great Britain during the first six months of 1900 was 189,850,000 pounds, or 3,164,167 bushels of 60 pounds each. For the same period in 1899 the receipts were 172,970,000 pounds, or 2,882,833 bushels.

In the first half of 1900, Great Britain received 45,140,000 pounds of Indian corn from the Argentine Republic against 29,740,000 pounds during the same time in 1899. Taking 56 pounds as the weight of a bushel, the number of bushels received during the first six months of 1900 was 806,071 against 531,071 during the same months in 1899.

CHILEAN REVIEW OF ARGENTINE COMMERCE.

The "Boletin de la Sociedad de Fomento Fabril" (Bulletin of the Manufacturers' Association), of Santiago, Chile, in its June number contains an interesting article upon the foreign trade of the Argentine Republic, and especially as concerns its commerce with Chile. The international commerce of the Argentine Republic for the last three years is given in Argentine gold dollars of a value of 48d., and is as follows:

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
1897	$98,288,048	$101,169,299
1898	107,428,900	133,829,458
1899	116,850,671	184,917,531

Going further into detail it will be seen that the importations for the years 1898 and 1899 were from the following countries named in the order of their importance:

	1898.	1899.		1898.	1899.
Great Britain	$39,012,600	$43,671,421	Paraguay	$1,757,439	$1,371,649
United States	11,129,065	15,466,846	Uruguay	470,901	506,967
Italy	13,695,241	13,780,072	Holland	109,881	143,058
Germany	12,571,116	12,979,937	Chile	82,772	142,309
France	10,596,725	10,979,690	Other countries	230,594	394,245
Belgium	9,444,981	9,410,479			
Brazil	5,012,115	4,806,116	Total	107,428,900	116,850,671
Spain	3,315,470	3,197,882			

These figures demonstrate that the United States, which occupied the fourth place in 1898, passed to the second place in 1899, leaving Italy and Germany far behind in the total amount of importations. It will also be noted that Belgium, Brazil, Spain, and Paraguay decreased the amount of their importations during 1899, while the exports of Chile to the Argentine Republic in the same year increased by about 60 per cent. The principal imports of the Argentine Republic during the year 1899 were as follows:

Textiles, $39,545,651; iron and iron manufactures, $18,077,451; stone, earths, glassware, and crockery, $10,480,150; liquors, $7,116,540;

lumber, $7,466,818; fixed, mineral, and volatile oils, $3,873,376; metals and their manufactures, $3,453,576; chemicals, $3,343,159; paper, $3,046,257; leather and its manufactures, $1,129,807; colors and paints, $806,891, and sundry articles, $3,577,209.

Among other things which the United States send to the Argentine Republic are lubricating oils, turpentine, wire, plows, staves, bottles, tools, iron, twine for binders, headers, ropes, canvas, rail and tramway materials, pitch, pine, reapers and binders, cotton goods, bicycles, machinery, etc. The principal articles exported to the United States are bristles, goatskins, hides, bones, and wool.

TRADE WITH BRAZIL.

The "Paiz," of Buenos Ayres, publishes an interesting article on the trade relations of the Argentine Republic with Brazil. According to this article, the imports from Brazil in 1870 amounted to $3,365,000 Argentine currency and the exports to that country to $490,000. In 1880 the exports to Brazil had increased to $3,300,000 and imports from that country had decreased to $2,224,000. In 1896 the exports of live animals to Brazil amounted to $1,697,000, while at the present time the exports in this line do not amount to $350,000. In 1896 the Argentine Republic exported to Brazil 32,273 tons of *xarque*, while in 1899 the exports of this article are not over 12,000 or 14,000 tons.

It is interesting to note the changes that have taken place in the trade between the two countries. In 1870 the imports from Brazil and exports to that country were as follows:

IMPORTS.

Coffee	$187,702	Boots and shoes	$3,636
Maté	992,013	Wheat flour	7,626
Sugar	1,407,362	Tobacco	314,875
Brandy and alcoholic beverages	159,252	Miscellaneous	261,737
		Total	3,334,298

EXPORTS.

Xarque	$450,059	Tallow	$12,455
Wheat	2,281	Miscellaneous	1,402
Horsehides	2,661		
Cowhides	21,856	Total	490,711

From 1876 to 1879 the imports and exports were as follows:

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
1876	$2,142,482	$1,195,441
1877	2,466,804	1,822,826
1878	2,103,684	1,777,045
1879	2,224,264	3,299,736

The present condition of trade between the two countries may be seen from the following table, which gives the Argentine valuations of the imports and exports during the six years ending with 1898:

IMPORTS FROM BRAZIL.

Articles.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
Raw cotton					$2,700	$5,105
Coffee	$587,520	$651,723	$1,051,805	$1,295,504	1,077,365	1,419,442
Tobacco	70,143	79,244	421,352	450,314	480,278	410,230
Cigarettes	649			35,238	3,169	10,850
Flour	29,881	7,234	83,687	70,860	167,165	109,539
Maté	1,284,136	1,111,455	2,436,089	3,142,835	2,892,862	2,948,518
Cacáo	6,263	11,094	23,986	37,082	42,224	38,809
Sugar	4,000	11,370				
Other products	135,059	108,348	78,746	120,788	95,663	69,622
Total	2,117,651	1,980,468	4,095,665	5,152,621	4,761,426	5,012,115

EXPORTS TO BRAZIL.

Live stock	$1,517,944	$1,029,243	$1,503,725	$1,696,514	$603,918	$1,376,412
Xarque	1,915,252	2,387,983	2,426,488	2,284,047	1,705,989	1,355,482
Rye		6,668		743	188	
Flax	394,198	277,007	661	1,063	1,085	6,207
Corn	854,013	632,298	679,379	1,200,502	1,289,765	206,244
Potatoes	50,235	8,525	5,430	51,103	29,248	1,583
Bran	393,875	365,771	176,929	368,550	311,518	304,813
Beans	1,842	12,334	29,104	56,160	6,968	3,402
Wheat	5,414,435	7,992,093	1,151,841	1,907,717	1,950,069	2,224,330
Flour	913,076	815,116	1,163,145	1,851,549	2,336,397	1,524,004
Other products	582,090	342,362	959,403	504,512	448,982	553,824
Total	12,036,960	13,869,400	8,096,105	9,922,460	8,684,127	7,556,301

In 1899 the Argentine Republic and Uruguay together exported to Brazil 156,300 barrels of flour.

EXPORTS OF WHEAT.

"Handel's Museum," of Berlin, prints the following from its correspondent in Buenos Ayres:

"Never before has the export of wheat from the Argentine Republic reached such proportions as at present. During six successive days of one week 4,296,000 bushels, or 716,000 bushels per day, were exported. This enormous export of wheat is attracting the attention of the entire world. In 1892 the Argentine Republic exported 23,000,000 bushels; in 1899 the amount had increased to 62,000,000 bushels.

"With coming years the exports of wheat from the Argentine Republic will continue to increase. The harvest this year promises to be greater still, as the weather thus far has been favorable. In all probability there will be 75,000,000 bushels exported. The area of wheat culture is being increased every year, and so productive is the soil that the average yield is from 11 to 13 bushels per acre.

"The wheat region of the Argentine Republic is favored in that the seacoast is not far distant. In this respect it has an advantage over the wheat sections of the United States. But the freight from Buenos

Ayres to Europe is much greater than from any port in the United States, so that it costs three times as much to send a cargo of wheat from the Argentine Republic as from the United States. The wage rate in the Argentine Republic is cheap. The farm laborers are, for the most part, Italians. They receive from 50 cents to $1.50 per day. Owing to the mildness of the climate and the cheapness of the food the farm laborer in the Argentine Republic has fewer expenses than the laborer in any other country."

CULTIVATION OF RICE IN TUCUMÁN.

It is calculated that in the Province of Tucumán there are from 1,500 to 2,000 hectares of land under rice cultivation. This area produces from 1,000 to 1,500 kilograms per hectare if cultivated on the dry system, and from 2,000 to 3,500 kilograms if irrigated. The cost of cultivation, according to the "Buenos Ayres Herald," is $50 per hectare, not including the value of the land. All the rice produced is consumed in the Province. There is not enough, however, to supply the demand, for some Carolina cleaned rice and some Salta rice in the husk are imported, the latter being threshed in Tucumán.

The native rice is good and has a pleasant taste. It is greatly appreciated in the Province, and sells at a better price than its foreign competitors. Rice is produced all over the lowlands of "Garden Province" (Tucumán), but the best results are obtained in the south, where there are greater facilities for irrigation. There is a large area of land in this portion of the Province available for rice culture. In the northern part the crop is considerably less, on account of its being grown on the dry system, but it is of very much better quality. Each grain produces about 40 stalks of 300 grains each. In no place in the world is rice, on a dry system, to be produced at less cost of money and labor than at Tucumán.

THE FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE.

Señor MARTÍN GARCIA MÉROU, Minister of Agriculture of the Argentine Republic, recently stated that the foot-and-mouth disease prevalent among the live stock of the Republic was of a very mild type, and that it was rapidly being stamped out. The whole Province of Buenos Ayres was free from the disease in June, and it was disappearing with appreciable rapidity in the Provinces of Santa Fé, Córdoba, and Entre Rios.

FROZEN MEAT EXPORTS.

During the year 1899 the exports of frozen meat from the Argentine Republic were 2,485,949 mutton carcasses and 113,432 quarters of beef, or a monthly average of 207,162 of the former and 9,453 of the latter. Up to and including the month of April, 1900, the exports of

frozen wethers were 702,399 against 778,553 for the same period in 1899, and 52,926 quarters of beef against 23,367 for the same period in 1899.

SOUTH AFRICAN TRADE.

"Commercial Intelligence" of London, for July 7, 1900, contains a letter from a correspondent in Sidney, Australia, in which it is stated that the Australian shippers are becoming uneasy at the rapid expansion of trade between the Argentine Republic and South Africa. This is because they fear the increase of business between Australian and South African ports will be checked. It had been anticipated that later in the year, when freights had become easier, it would be possible to arrange for shipments of live stock to the Cape, but in this the colonists have been forestalled by their South American competitors, who have just placed 50,000 head of cattle and sheep on the South African market at rates comparatively low considering the enhanced prices ruling in Australia. It is noted also that horses in considerable numbers are being shipped from the Argentine Republic to Durban and elsewhere. The correspondent says that the consoling feature of the situation consists in the fact that the Australians have already ample markets for their diminished food surplus and that there is no need for them to trouble themselves at present about Argentine competition. The real pinch will come when the ill effects of the Australian drought have passed away, and the surplus food products of the colonies recommence their former rapid rate of increase, rendering the expansion of existing markets or the creation of new ones a pressing necessity.

SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF GRASSES.

The National Department of Agriculture has commenced a scientific study of the grasses of the Republic. This has been found necessary owing to the fact that some of the varieties of which the cattle freely partake are said to be very deleterious, producing illness and sometimes death. These varieties are to be classified, studied, and fully described in order that they may be wholly eradicated, if possible.

NEW MEAT PRESERVATIVE.

A company at Belgrano is reported to have discovered a process for preserving meat indefinitely by means of sterilized air. Recently a party of twenty persons, including Dr. García Mérou, the Minister of Agriculture, is stated to have visited the factory of this company and to have inspected meats, which, after a period of ninety days under treatment, were found to be quite fresh and palatable.

A dispatch from Buenos Ayres, dated August 6, says: "The steamer *Southern Cross* sailed to-day for Liverpool, carrying a trial shipment of

fresh meat preserved in a special chamber by means of sterilized air. The trial shipment consists of several bullocks and sheep, the carcasses being without heads, but otherwise whole. Great national interests are involved in the result of the trial."

IMPORTANT PUBLICATION.

The "Boletin Official" of May 4, 1900, contains the following important decree:

"Whereas one of the most efficacious means for the encouragement of immigration and the attraction of foreign capital into the Republic, is a clear exposition of its fiscal and social conditions, and whereas there is not in existence a book especially intended to show in a positive and concise manner the different phases of our political, economic, and intellectual development, the President of the Republic decrees:

"ARTICLE 1. That the Director of the National Library, Señor Don P. GROUSSAC, compile a book upon the Argentine Republic which shall embrace, in addition to a descriptive summary of the country, a study of its intelectual, sociologic, and economic progress, accompanied by such historical matter as he may deem necessary.

"ART. 2. The book referred to shall be printed in Spanish, French, and English, and shall be concluded by the 31st of July, 1901, the author superintending its publication.

"ART. 3. The remuneration to be given Señor GROUSSAC shall be fixed at the proper time and in accordance with the importance of the work.

"ART. 4. The Department of Agriculture is charged with the promulgation of this decree."

INDIAN AGENCIES.

The official newspaper of the Government, in its number 1993, dated April 22, 1900, contains a full text of the law extablishing Indian missions (similar to the Indian agencies of the United States) in the Territory of Formosa, where 74,000 hectares of land have been set aside for that purpose. The object of the Government is to prevent depredations and outbreaks on the part of certain savage Indian tribes by gradually training them to agricultural avocations and bringing them, at the same time, under the beneficent influence of modern civilization. The lands, after a specified time, will become the property of the Indians referred to.

TELEGRAPHIC SERVICE.

"La Nación," of Buenos Ayres, in a recent issue, says that direct telegraph service was established between that city and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, via Libres and Uruguayana, on July 1, 1900. The rates, due

to an arrangement made between the Argentine Government's telegraph line, the telegraph line of Brazil, and the South American Cable Company, have been greatly reduced. The charges per word to the territory of the south division, which comprises up to Rio de Janeiro, is 18 cents national currency, and 38 cents per word to points in the north division.

The service to Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australia can now be made via the Argentine Republic and Brazilian Governments' lines to Recife, and from thence to destination by the line known as "Talisman." The tariff rates to these countries have also been considerably reduced.

GEOLOGICAL RESEARCH IN PATAGONIA.

Among the scientific investigations made by Princeton University in Patagonia, one of the most important results is the geological knowledge gained concerning that region. It has been found that the work previously done by investigators was pursued on lines which led to conclusions exactly the reverse of existing circumstances. The extensive observations on the strata of the country, made by JOHN BELL HATCHER, curator of vertebrate paleontology, coupled with the studies of Professor ORTMAN, curator of invertebrate paleontology, upon the fossils will, however, entirely eradicate the incomprehensible statements heretofore published. One of the most interesting deductions made by Dr. ORTMAN, in his studies of the invertebrate fauna of the region, is that Australia and southern South America were, in late geographical times, connected in one land mass.

Naturalists had previously arrived at the opinion that the only possible way to account rationally for the similarity in animal forms in South America and Australia, was to assume that communication had taken place through some antarctic connection of land long since destroyed, and the fossils and fossil shells now found far inland, in both Patagonia and Australia, prove the continuation of an unbroken coast line for both continents. The enormous collections amassed by the Princeton geologists and the results obtained through the study of them are eagerly awaited by the scientific world. A series of monographic volumes are now in course of preparation treating of the subjects in reference.

NEW GOVERNMENT ENGINEER.

The Government of the Argentine Republic has engaged Mr. E. L. CORTHEL as consulting engineer for the Department of Public Works on matters connected with river navigation and ports. Mr. CORTHEL was connected with MR. JAMES P. EADS in the improvements of the Mississippi River, especially in placing the jetties at the mouth of the river, which have since proved so beneficial to New Orleans by the scouring of the channel, so that deep-draft ves-

sels can come up to the docks of that city. Mr. CORTHEL has also seen active service at several other ports of the United States and in Mexico. In the Argentine Republic he is making his first investigations of the waters of the Paraguay and Uruguay rivers near their confluence, including the ports of Rosario and Santa Fé. He finds that it will be necessary to start a series of hydrographic surveys, as there has never been any work of the kind done in the Argentine Republic.

LUMINOUS BUOYS IN BUENOS AYRES HARBOR.

The Argentine Government has recently purchased 60 luminous buoys to be placed in Buenos Ayres Harbor. These buoys are filled with gas made from mineral oil and each holds a quantity sufficient for burning night and day for two months. They are to be placed along both sides of the north channel at intervals of 3 kilometers. It is believed that it will be less expensive to permit the gas to burn continuously than to have a service for extinguishing and lighting the lamps daily. The gas is to be made at special works on shore and taken by steamer to the buoys. Each of these buoys cost $1,600.

BUENOS AYRES GRAND NATIONAL TRAMWAYS COMPANY.

The annual meeting of the Buenos Ayres Grand National Tramways Company, Limited, was held in London on July 16, 1900. From the report of this corporation, for the year ending March 31, 1900, the following facts are obtained; The number of passengers carried was 15,800,000, against 13,298,000 in 1889–99; the number of miles traveled was 4,269,000, against 3,600,000 in the previous twelve months. The gross receipts per mile were 7.64d., against 7.39d.; the expenses were 5.87d., as against 6.04d.; the net receipts per mile run were 1.77d., against 135d.; traffic receipts aggregated £138,279, against £110,271, and the net revenue in Buenos Ayres was £32,018 as compared with £20,627 in the preceding year. After paying the London office expenses, there remained a net balance of £6,282.

TREATMENT FOR TUBERCULOSIS.

The Government will erect a sanitarium at Córdoba for the treatment of persons afflicted with tuberculosis. Steps have been taken for the raising of $200,000 for that purpose. The "Boletin Oficial" of the 1st of last May publishes a decree respecting the operation and management of this institution.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

A correspondent of the "South American Journal" states that a rich copper mine has been discovered near Los Morteros. Assays of

the ore show from 40 to 50 per cent copper. A ton, just as it was taken from the mine, has been sent to Europe for examination. This deposit is said to be extremely well located for working.

A syndicate having for its object the development of the production of hemp for the manufacture of bagging for grain, is being organized at Rosario, by Señor LOPEZ GOMARA. Hemp of remarkably good quality is said to be grown in Mendoza.

The President, in accordance with a decree published in the "Boletin Oficial" of May 6, 1900, has appointed Señor Don SILVIO SILVERA Y GALVEZ, Consul at Matanzas, Cuba, and Señor OSCAR M. DE ROJAS Y CRUZAT Vice-Consul at Cárdenas, Cuba.

A decree has been issued over the signature of Dr. GARCIÁ MÉROU, appointing Mr. J. S. ATWELL, Naval Attaché of the Argentine Legation at Washington, delegate to the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo, in 1901.

The "Boletin Oficial" of Buenos Ayres, official organ of the Republic, promulgates in its issue of April 20, 1900, the copyright treaty made with Italy at the International Conference held at Montevideo, Uruguay.

The Scandinavian Creamery Company has established three creameries in Clara colony, Entre Rios. Over 3,000 milch cows have been distributed among the colonists.

By decree of May 9, 1900, published in "Boletin Oficial" of May 10 last, Viedma is declared the capital of the Territory of Rio Negro, which was recently organized.

BOLIVIA.

IMPORTS THROUGH ANTOFAGASTA.

"El Comercio," of La Paz, under date of June 16, 1900, contains an important report from the customs agent of the Bolivian Government at Antofagasta, Chile. This report shows that during the months of January and February of the present year there were imported into the Republic, through the port of Antofagasta, 53,370 bundles of merchandise, with a gross weight of 1,898,532 kilograms, valued at 723,402.51 *bolivanos*. The duties collected on these importations

amounted to 240,608 *bolivanos*. The value (in *bolivanos*) and origin of the merchandise received are shown by the following summary:

England, 215,603.13; Germany, 208,476.62; France, 54,138.95; Belgium, 53,442.93; United States, 39,260.16; Peru, 29,871.70; Italy, 15,597.45; Chile, 7,178.90; Spain, 6,648.90; other countries, 93,183.77; total, 723,402.51.

The classification of this merchandise was as follows (values in *bolivianos*):

Cotton goods, 135,037.06; woolen goods, 120,965.13; linens, 1,868.11; silks, 15,034.58; ready-made clothes, 44,031.98; furniture, 11,247.30; miscellaneous, 134,357.23; hardware and cutlery, 89,175.64; wines and liquors, 42,985.27; provisions, 88,202.69; alcoholic liquors, 21,384.00; drugs and chemical products, 19,113.52; total, 723,402.51.

The value of the free importations (in *bolivianos*) made in accordance with commercial treaties and existing laws were as follows:

Peruvian products, 1,088.64; railway material, 585.04; Government supplies, 14,256; French wines, 13,959.20; total, 29,888.88.

During the month of May, 1900, there were imported into the Republic of Bolivia, through the port of Antofagasta, the following packages of merchandise: Sugar, 8,794; rice, 662; coal, 29,520; flour, 4,890; kerosene, 1,500; sundry merchandise, 22,368; lumber, 14,110; hay, 15; candles, 3,226; total number of packages, 85,085.

NEW RAILROAD CONCESSION.

The "La Plata Post" is authority for the statement that the German Consul in Cochabamba, Mr. RUDOLPH KRÜGER, has applied to the Government to obtain a concession for a Berlin syndicate to build a railroad covering southern Bolivia in different directions. The road is to commence at a port on the Paraguay River and run to Santa Cruz de la Sierra, from which point there are to be branch lines to Sucre, Cochabamba, Oruro, La Paz, and Potosi. The company asks a grant of 10 kilometers of land on each side of the line and privileges for sixty years, after which time the State may purchase the road. It is expected that the Bolivian Government will accept the proposition.

REPORT OF THE HUANCHACA MINING COMPANY.

According to the published report of the Huanchaca Mining Company, the net profit for the past year was 680,206.57 *bolivianos*. The value of the product of the famous Pulacayo mine is returned at 4,761,394.44 *bolivianos*. After deducting the cost of carriage to the coast, which amounted to 988,086.07 *bolivianos*, the value of the product was 3,773,308.37 *bolivianos*, as against 2,706,797.30 *bolivianos* in 1898. To the Bolivian Government the sum of 201,776.46 *bolivianos* was paid in the form of export duties. The cost of the exploitation

of this mine was 3,121,316.65 *bolivianos* in 1899, against 2,795,388.95 in 1898 for like service.

NEW MINISTER AT WASHINGTON.

Hon. GEORGE H. BRIDGEMAN, United States Minister at La Paz, has notified the Department of State at Washington that Dr. FERNANDINO GUERCHALLA has been appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Bolivia to the United States, Mexico, and Venezuela.

BRAZIL.

ESTIMATED REVENUE.

The Budget Committee of the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies estimates the public revenue of the country for 1901 at 278,565,000$ in currency and 46,191,667$ in gold, making a total of 324,756,667$. For last year the budget estimate of the currency and gold revenue was 351,114,000$, and the sum actually collected, as far as ascertained up to the present, was 322,110,706$296, of which 302,693,000$ was in currency and 19,417,706$296 in gold. For this year the budget estimate is 28,347,667$593 in gold and 312,938,000$ in currency, making a total of 341,285,667$593.

PAPER CURRENCY.

A dispatch to the "London Times" states that the report of the Minister of Finance shows that the actual paper money in circulation amounts to 703,000 *contos*, the equivalent of £29,290,000. The Minister does not approve of the stopping of speculation by special laws, but advocates the gradual reduction of paper circulation.

PORTUGUESE LABELS.

The Minister of Finance, on June 9, 1900, issued a circular with reference to the prohibition of importation into Brazil of goods bearing labels in Portuguese. This notifies importers that the said prohibition does not apply to goods labeled with trade-marks registered in conformity to the Brazilian law. The circular referred to is translated as follows:

"In compliance with a petition of the Chamber of Commerce of Rio de Janeiro, I notify the heads of departments under this Ministry that the prohibition contained in article 45, part 2, of law 641, of the 14th of November, 1899, included in article 57 of the regulations annexed to Decree 3,622 of the 26th of March, 1900, is not applicable to merchandise labeled with trade-marks registered in conformity with

law No. 3,346 of the 14th of October, and Decree 9,828 of the 31st of December, 1887; such heads of departments being, however, required to demand from persons importing such merchandise proof that the registration of the respective marks has been effected in accordance therewith."

EXPORTS IN THREE MONTHS.

The first number of the "Bulletin of Commercial Statistics," under the able direction of J. P. WILLEMAN, has but recently appeared.

According to statistics published in this bulletin the exports from the ports of Rio de Janeiro, Santos, Estancia, and Araeajú for the first three months of the present year, including the exports from the State of Maranhão in January and February, were as follows:

Europe:	Milreis.
Germany	10,764,733
Austria	6,304,378
Belgium	2,459,105
France	3,158,900
Great Britain	5,466,491
Spain	4,610
Holland	6,899,744
Italy	1,542,580
Portugal	448,384
Other countries	1,653,743

America:	Milreis.
Argentine Republic	925,030
Chile	11,269
United States	77,033,073
Uruguay	151,478
Asia:	
China and Japan	140,180
Africa	907,394
Total	117,871,092

MESSAGE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GOYAZ.

From the message of the Governor of the State of Goyaz, delivered on the occasion of the opening of the State Legislature, May 13, 1900, it appears that there are no manufactories in this State, the few articles that appear in the markets being handmade. The establishment of soap and candle factories, breweries, match factories, etc., is urgently recommended.

The Governor says that no State in the Union has a richer soil than that of Goyaz, which is capable of growing every product, yet it imports wheat, coffee, sugar, bacon, and even butter, notwithstanding that its principal income is derived from the cattle industry. The general complaint among the farmers is lack of agricultural laborers. The breeding lands of the State are excellent.

On the subject of railways the message states that negotiations were entered into last year with the Mogyana Railway Company for the extension of its line to Catalão, but up to that time no agreement had been reached.

A number of public works and improvements have been made, consisting of repairs of State and municipal buildings, improvement of wagon roads, construction of bridges, etc.

The receipts for the fiscal year ended June, 1899, amounted to 661,280 *milreis*, and the expenditures to 678,284 *milreis*, leaving a

deficit of 17,004 *milreis*. This deficit was met with the balance in the treasury from previous fiscal years.

LENGTH OF RAILROADS.

Mr. THOMAS C. DAWSON, Secretary of the United States Legation at Rio de Janeiro, in the course of a recent report to the Department of State at Washington, supplies some useful data regarding the railways of Brazil. From this statement it appears that there are, at present, sixty-three lines of railway in the Republic operating separately. The aggregate length, under traffic, is 14,801 kilometers (9,197 miles). Of this total, 1,462 kilometers (908 miles) are broad gauge (1.6 meters or 1⅞ yards); 12,459 kilometers (7,742 miles) are 1 meter (1.09 yards) gauge, and 887 kilometers (55 miles) are three-fourths of a meter (2 feet 4⅘ inches) gauge.

TRADE WITH GREAT BRITAIN IN SIX MONTHS.

The British accounts of trade and navigation for the first half of 1900 contains the following figures with reference to the trade with Brazil as compared with the same period in 1899:

IMPORTS FROM BRAZIL.

Articles.	1900.	1899.
Sugar	£28,640	£28,490
Coffee	28,716	74,755
Cotton	539,785	3,640
Hides	14,706	11,856
Total	611,847	118,741

EXPORTS TO BRAZIL.

Coal	£404,702	£331,134
Cotton piece goods	451,945	569,401
Jute yarn	134,284	84,577
Jute piece goods	5,138	11,746
Linen piece goods	26,825	24,953
Woolen tissues	31,346	37,993
Worsted tissues	46,772	56,118
Copper manufactures	28,368	22,462
Hardware and cutlery	30,410	32,766
Iron of all kinds	212,250	252,869
Tin plate	38,204	35,840
Leather, boots, and shoes	17,747	23,809
Cement	11,231	17,926
Earthen and china ware	27,186	27,760
Seed oil	23,669	18,484
Total	1,490,077	1,547,838

It will be observed that the great increase was in imports by Great Britain of cotton, owing to the advance in prices in the United States. The quantity imported from Brazil in the months under consideration in 1900 was 21,871,200 pounds, against 205,700 pounds during the same period in 1899. There was an increase in hides, while the value of sugar was nearly the same in both periods. There was a decrease of

nearly two-thirds in the value of Brazilian coffee imported by Great Britain in 1900, while the number of pounds was less than one-third of the imports of the first half of 1899, the quantity being 1,441,200 pounds in 1900, against 4,307,500 pounds in 1899.

SOUTHERN BRAZILIAN RIO GRANDE DO SUL RAILWAY COMPANY.

The report of the Southern Brazilian Rio Grande do Sul Railway Company states that the gross earnings of this line in 1899 amounted to 1,717,546 *milreis*, compared with 1,504,938 *milreis* for the preceding year, and that the expenses in Brazil amounted to 1,533,109 *milreis*, against 1,296,895 *milreis* in 1898. The expenses in London amounted to £3,250, compared with £3,282 for the previous year. The surplus of receipts over expenditures for 1899 was £2,276, compared with £3,480 for 1898, and a deficit of £1,641 for 1897.

The increase in the expenses of this line was due to the heavy rains which fell in 1898 and 1899. The repairs made in the line last year cost 102,477 *milreis*. The guaranty for 1899 was paid in funding bonds. The bonds received for the first half of the year were sold for £44,903, the average price being £84 2s. 5d. The amount due from the Government for the same period was £53,240. The bonds received for the second half of the year were sold for the sum of £44,762, the average price received being £84.

After the payment of the interest on debentures, due October 1, 1899, and the distribution of a provisional dividend at the rate of 3 per cent per annum, there remained a surplus of £66,862, including the surplus carried over from the preceding year. After the interest on debentures, due April 1, 1900, was paid, there remained a net balance of £35,889, from which the management recommended the payment of a dividend for the second half of 1899, at the rate of 5 per cent per year, or 10 *shillings* per share, making the total dividend for the year 4 per cent, and leaving a balance of £20,889 to be carried forward to the following year.

THE MOGYANA RAILWAY.

The length of this line under traffic is 1,225 kilometers, with 101 railway and telegraph stations. There were laid during the past year 2,908 meters of new switches, while 304,909 ties, 1,631 rails, 14,140 plates, 132,776 screws and bolts, and 458,566 nails were replaced. Rails of 25 kilograms weight were substituted for those of 19½ kilograms for a distance of 80 kilometers. New turntables were built at Ribeirão Preto and Jaguára. Considerable improvement was made in the traffic and telegraph service. The rolling stock of the company was increased by 17 coaches, and five new stations were opened. The cost of these new buildings and improvements amounted to 1,895,643 *milreis*. Two new branch lines of this road are in operation—that of Sertãosinho, which

cost 652,928 *milreis*, and that of Santa Rita, costing 1,390,422 *milreis*. The amount of the receipts over expenditures was 646,703 *milreis*. Stock of this company is quoted at an advance of from 25 to 30 per cent over the nominal value.

THE MINING INDUSTRY.

Until within a recent period but little attention has been paid in Brazil to the mining industry, although rich deposits of the precious metals and more important ores and minerals were believed to be in existence. But there are now signs of an awakening, as can be seen from the appended extracts from several of the Brazilian newspapers, and the country may yet develop into a great mineral producer.

GOLD MINING COMPANY OF MINAS GERAES.

In March, 1892, the "Companhia Aurifera de Minas Geraes" was organized at Juiz de Fóra to develop the old workings known by the name of "D. Florisbella." These workings are situated at Honorio Bicalho, on the Brazilian Central Railway. The original capital of the company was 200,000 *milreis*, which was afterwards increased to 1,000,000 *milreis*, and later to 5,000,000 *milreis*.

The percentage of gold in these mines is never less than 50 grams to the ton, and in some cases as high as 100 grams. Three analyses of this ore, made by the Mining School of Ouro Preto in 1898, showed an average of 407 grams per ton.

The water supply of the mine is excellent, it being able to utilize 500 liters of water per second. It has in addition two reservoirs, situated at a height of 100 meters above the Pelton wheel, which runs the mining machinery. Perhaps no other company of its kind has such an abundant supply of water situated at so high an altitude. The property of the company comprises 1,000 hectares of land, part of which is covered with forests, which supply all the lumber needed for buildings, etc. There are excellent clay beds, from which bricks, tiles, etc., are made. In addition to the gold mines, the land contains iron and other minerals.

Another point to which attention should be called is the excellent transportation facilities which the company enjoys. The mines are less than 50 meters from the railway station of Honorio Bicalho, on the Brazilian Central Railway.

Nine openings or levels have been driven for a distance of nearly 1 kilometer and have struck the lodes. The engines are of the California pattern and were furnished by the firm of Fraser & Chalmers, of Chicago. They have at present 10 stamps, but preparations are being made to mount 10 others. With 20 stamps in operation, and with the ore yielding on an average 30 grams, the average daily production of these mines will be 1,200 grams.

KAOLIN AND MICA.

The "Jornal de Minas," of recent date, states that Dr. ADOLPHO GOMES DE ALBUQUERQUE has been in the city of Alta do Rio Doce making an examination of the mica beds belonging to JOAQUIN FRANCISCO DE ARANJO. The report which he presented to the owner states that the bed is rich in minerals, especially in kaolin, which is found in great abundance and is of excellent quality, suitable for the manufacture of fine porcelain. The bed is situated about 25 kilometers from this city. The mica is found in an area of 40,000 square meters and is composed of silicates of protoxide and sesquioxide, alumina, magnesia, potash, soda, and lithia. Large sheets of mica have been cut from the upper layers of this bed.

GOLD REGIONS OF MINAS GERAES.

The following is taken from the "Minas Geraes" of Brazil:

"Notices received from the gold regions of the State report an increased activity in the mining industry which is most encouraging. Preliminary examinations of several workings have been made and an analysis of the ore shows a percentage of gold which will richly compensate the companies that are now being formed for their exploitation. At Caethé, Santa Barbara, Ouro Preto, Antonio Pereira, Santa Ana, and Sabará several mines are being examined, whose richness is attested by the great quantity of precious metal which has already been extracted from their rich beds.

"From repeated notices published in the newspapers of this State and of Rio it is evident that the eyes of European capitalists are turned upon these rich workings." * * *

It is also stated that at the Tassara mines at Ouro Preto ore has recently been found which yields 468 grams of gold per ton.

OTHER GOLD MINES.

The same journal states that the gold mines of Morro Velho, Passagem, São Bento, Juca, Vieira, Santa Quiteria, Cutão, and Honorio Bicalho, situated within a radius of about 12 leagues, employ 5,000 men and turn out about 16,000,000 *milreis* worth of gold per annum. If this amount is correct, then Brazil produces much more gold than the country is given credit for, unless the valuation is expressed in paper currency.

MANGANESE INDUSTRY AT BAHIA.

The "Rio News" reports that the manganese industry in Bahia seems to be making considerable progress. The bark *Severino*, which sailed on June 20 for Philadelphia, carried 2,000 tons of manganese, and the steamers *Ruskin* and *Guajara* were loading at the same date for English ports. The former was to carry 3,000 and the latter 2,400 tons.

MANGANESE DEPOSITS IN MINAS GERAES.

"It is not gold alone which attracts Europeans," the publishers of "Minas Geraes" state. "In the rich soil of this State, as is well known, are hidden immense riches. Among the ores is manganese, which continues to command a high price in Europe. A number of companies have been formed in the past year for the mining of this mineral, some of which have already begun operations with excellent results. In the municipal districts of Queluz and Ouro Preto, where the beds were first discovered, an army of miners are taking out daily hundreds of tons of this useful metal. We have just been informed that in addition to the Ayrosa Company, which is developing the manganese beds of Pequy, at Queluz, a Belgian company, under the direction of ADOLPHO DONCKER, a mining engineer, has already begun to work beds at São Gonçalo, in the same district. This company is building a railroad from the mines to Lafayette.

"Two new companies have been formed—NEWLANDS & BROS. and Messrs. MORAES SARMENTO and EWBANK DA CAMARA—which will shortly begin to work two other beds, one of which belonged to Mr. CHRYSOSTOMO DE QUEIROZ and the other to Mr. JOSÉ FERREIRA DA SILVA.

"The wise measures which the State and Federal Governments have taken to give an impulse to the extractive industry—such as a reduction in custom-house duties on mining machinery and other measures of a practical nature—have been the cause of this renewed activity in the mining industry."

QUICKSILVER DEPOSITS.

According to the "Minas Geraes" it is reported at Ouro Preto that a mining company is being organized in Europe for the purpose of extracting quicksilver at Tripuhy, which is in the vicinity of that city.

PARANÁ PINE.

The "Jornal do Commercio," in its issue of June 8, 1900, contains an interesting article on the pine of Paraná, by MANUEL F. FERREIRA CORRÊA. According to this writer, the pine is found in great abundance in the forests of the State of Paraná. Compared with European pine it is stronger and of greater elasticity. Tests made at the Government railroad shops of Belgium show that it is 20 per cent stronger than the yellow pine of Sweden and much harder also than the celebrated English pitch pine. At the present time large quantities of this wood are sent to Rio, São Paulo, and the River Plate. Between the years 1896 and 1899 there were shipped from Paraná to Rio de Janeiro 178,691 pieces sawed lumber, 82,567 boards, and 68,910 other pieces, or a total of 330,168 pieces, valued at 1,020,000 *milreis*.

There are 64 sawmills in the State which are occupied in making planks, beams, rafters, boxes, etc. The annual production of these mills is estimated to be worth 2,000,000 *milreis*.

The pine tree grows in the highlands of the State, and is scattered over an area of 80,000 square kilometers. It is estimated that there are 1,000 pine trees to every square kilometer, or 80,000,000 pine trees in Paraná. The average height of this tree is from 25 to 35 meters, and its trunk frequently reaches a diameter of 1.60 meters.

COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT WITH ITALY.

The "South American Journal" states that a commercial agreement has been concluded between Brazil and Italy. The result is a reduction by 20 *lire* of the duty on Brazilian coffees imported by Italy and the application of the minimum tariff rates to Italian products imported by Brazil.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS AT PORTO ALEGRE.

Commercial agents visiting Porto Alegre on business trips are subject to a municipal tax. This fee is required even though the agent shows his samples through the intermediary of a firm established in the city, the latter in such cases being responsible for the tax. For representatives of foreign houses, the rates are 500 *milreis* per year; for agents of firms from other States of the Republic, 250 *milreis*, and for salesmen from other parts of the State, 100 *milreis*.

CULTIVATION OF COTTON.

In São Paulo cotton is being planted on a large scale by the Piracicaba cotton factories, which expect within a comparatively short time to be able to supply all the sacking necessary for the moving of the coffee crop. Dr. Buarque Macedo, the superintendent of the cotton mills and the originator of cotton planting in that locality, has introduced overseers from the United States on the cotton plantations, where everything is as up to date as possible.

At Itú large plantations of cotton have also been inaugurated, which are said to be very promising. The "Brazilian Review" states that the cultivation of cotton is being carried on with success in Villa do Pilar. It would seem, from all accounts, that the growing of cotton, owing to the increased prices, is just now receiving a great impetus throughout the Republic.

COMMERCE OF PIAÚHY.

Parnahyba, the capital of the State of Piaúhy, is a city of about 8,000 inhabitants, of whom one-half are foreigners. This place is fully 500 miles (by sea) north of Pernambuco, with which communication is infrequent. The foreign trade of the State is carried on by means

of the steamers of the Liverpool and Maranham Steamship Company, which have a monthly service with Tutoia, the port of Parnahyba, which is 93 miles up the Parnahyba River. Cargoes are discharged at Tutoia in lighters, which are towed by steam launches to Parnahyba. The exports from the State are principally hides, cotton, and maniçoba rubber. The value of these products sent abroad via Pernambuco in 1899 was $414,081. However, other exports were sent out via Pará, Maranham, and Ceará, which, it is estimated, would bring the aggregate up to $500,000, United States currency. The export duties average 10 per cent on the official value of the merchandise.

The communication inland from Parnahyba is carried on chiefly by means of river steamers. There is telegraphic communication, however, with all parts of the country from this city. Commercial travelers pay a small municipal tax. The goods of foreign manufacture most in demand are prints, white sheetings, and threads.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

The Secretary of Agriculture of the State of São Paulo has addressed an official communication to the superintendent of public works, directing him to instruct his engineers when traveling in the service of the Department to pay particular attention to the condition of the roads leading from the various agricultural districts to the interior trade and railway stations. These engineers are to send in reports in cases where repairs are called for with approximate statements of the cost of the same, so as to insure their prompt execution. The object is to make things as easy as possible for the farmers, facilitating communication and aiding them to get their products to market with as little labor and expense as possible.

By decree No. 3684, of the 19th of June, 1900, the Government of Brazil has made a temporary reduction in freight rates on articles of prime necessity carried over the Baturité Railway.

The President recently sent a message to Congress asking for a special appropriation of 35,556 *milreis* for surveys on a railway route between Catalao and Cuyabá.

During the past year the State of Paraná exported 21,912,899 kilograms of herva maté valued at 657,386 *milreis*.

CHILE.

TRADE WITH GREAT BRITAIN.

According to official trade returns of Great Britain, the only imports credited separately to Chile during the first six months of 1900 were copper ore, copper regulus and percipitates, and unwrought copper, having an aggregate weight of 27,876 tons, valued at £779,138. The imports of all forms of copper during the same period in 1899 amounted to 23,354 tons, worth £676,018. Great Britain imported 85,979 tons of nitrate of soda, valued at £686,260, in the first six months of 1900, but the country of origin is not stated, though undoubtedly the greater part came from Chile. From January to June, inclusive, in 1889 the imports of wheat from Chile were valued at £5,125, but there were no imports in the same period of 1900.

Compared with the first six months of 1899 the exports to Chile from Great Britain for the first half of 1900, so far as enumerated articles are concerned, show an enormous increase, as may be seen from the following table:

Articles.	1900.	1899.
Cotton piece goods	£512,425	£240,657
Woolen tissues	78,377	31,846
Worsted tissues	107,384	36,192
Hardware and cutlery	12,588	5,496
Iron of all kinds	193,565	80,263
Total	904,339	394,454

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS IN MAY.

"El Mercurio," of Valparaiso, in its issue of June 10, 1900, publishes the following table showing the customs receipts of the Republic during the month of May last:

Arica	$30,617.28	Valparaiso	$1,912,998.99
Pisagua	231,865.32	Talcahuano	367,949.25
Iquique	1,181,998.35	Coronel	47,904.90
Tocopilla	204,933.41	Valdivia	38,282.18
Antofagasta	66,990.21	Puerto Montt	3,375.03
Taltal	76,415.74	Ancud	46.50
Caldera	13,351.56		
Coquimbo	81,603.60	Total	4,258,332.32

TRADE CONDITIONS.

The "Deutsche Export Zeitung" notes that British steam-power machinery controls the Chilean market. Some gas-power machinery comes from Germany, and German mining machinery is said to be preferred to British. The United States furnishes by far the largest

amount of agricultural machinery and implements. As all the breweries are in the hands of Germans, naturally Germany is selected as the source of necessary outfits of this nature. Great Britain is stated by the same authority to be in the lead in the matter of trade in iron. Statistics show, however, that continental countries are forging to the front while England is standing still. Cheaper freights from Antwerp and Hamburg are of great assistance in this particular. Belgian iron, though inferior to that of Staffordshire, is nevertheless acceptable and finds a ready market on account of its cheapness. Recently iron from the United States has been imported in some quantity. As it is as yet impossible to manufacture rails in Chile, they are admitted free of duty.

PATENTS AND CONCESSIONS.

A patent has been granted to "The Automatic Telephone Company, Limited," for a period of nine years for their improved system of automatic telephone communication. The decree is No. 925 and is dated March 31, 1900.

Decree 1,037, of April 3, 1900, concedes another year to Mark W. Marsden for the manufacture of a food substance (for stock) made out of cornstalks.

Mr. Alfred P. Tupper has been granted a concession for nine years for the exclusive use of his process for the extraction of iodide from water used in the treatment of nitrate. This privilege is covered by decree No. 1,047, of April 3, 1900.

The "Diario Oficial," of Santiago, in its issue of May 19, 1900, publishes a decree conceding to Mr. John H. McLean exclusive privilege for a period of nine years for use in the Republic of his improved machines for the manufacture of bricks, paving slabs, and artificial stone.

The "Diario Oficial" of May 30, 1900, contains the by-laws of the "Sociedad de Hornos Crematorios de Santiago" (Cremating Furnace Company of Santiago), whose object is to handle the refuse of that city. A concession has been granted this company for a period of nine years.

The "Diario Oficial," of Santiago, under date of June 2, 1900, publishes in full the by-laws of the "Compañía de Seguros sobre la vida la Sud-América" (The South American Life Insurance Company), of Río Janeiro, Brazil. This company has just been granted the privilege of transacting business in Chile, and will establish agencies in the principal cities of the Republic.

The "Diario Oficial," in its issue of June 6, 1900, publishes a decree granting a patent to Messrs. Nicolás Palacios and Charles F. Mason for a process of their invention for the concentration of nitrates. The

patentees are allowed two years in which to introduce their invention, and are conceded exclusive privilege for twenty years thereafter.

The "Diario Oficial" of June 11, 1900, promulgates a decree approving the by-laws of the "Compañía del Ferrocarril Urbano de Valparaiso" (The Urban Street Railway Company of Valparaiso). A full text of the by-laws referred to is also published. This company furnishes transit for the city of Valparaiso and suburbs, and is capitalized at $1,200,000, in shares of $100 each.

CONTRACT WITH PACIFIC STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

The "Diario Oficial," of Santiago, of June 13, 1900, publishes the contract made with the Pacific Steamship Company for the transportation of Government mails, passengers, and freight within the Republic and to the ports of foreign countries touched by the vessels of said steamship company. The Government provides for the payment to the company of an annual subsidy of $6,720, in consideration of which the company makes the following deductions in its regular freight and passenger tariffs:

On troops of the army and navy, criminals and third-class passengers, and Government freight between Valparaiso and Punta Arenas, 75 per cent.

On civil and military employees, free immigrants, and persons in the service of the Government who travel first-class between the ports indicated; Government employees of all kinds, and prisoners, traveling from Valparaiso to Puerto Montt, Liverpool, and intermediate points; indigent Chileans who may come third-class from Europe repatriated by the Government, and European colonists coming third-class, routed through the Straits of Magellan by agents of the Government, provided their number is not less than fifty on any one ship, 50 per cent.

The mails are to be carried free, and numerous reductions in the tariff are made on Government business transacted within the Republic.

The contract will last for five years provided the Government complies with the payment of the subvention, and may be continued indefinitely under the same conditions by mutual agreement of the contracting parties.

EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS.

A recent memorial from the Minister of Public Instruction to the National Congress shows that the public primary schools which in 1898 numbered 1,368 grew to 1,403 in 1899. The increase in the number of private schools during the same period was also quite noticeable, having risen from 394 in 1898 to 445 in 1899. The num-

ber of pupils in attendance in 1899 was 106,348 as compared with 99,889, the number of matriculates in 1898.

The Government has commissioned Mrs. Juana Gremler, principal of the school for girls at Santiago, to go to Europe to study the organization and working of similar schools there. On her return she will make a report to the Department of Public Instruction, setting forth the result of her investigations and embodying such recommendations as may be deemed advisable for the betterment and improvement of this class of schools in the Republic.

CONTINENTAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The by-laws of The Continental Fire Insurance Company are published in full in the "Diario Oficial" of May 29. The principal office of this company is in Valparaiso, and the articles of incorporation are for a period of fifty years. The capital stock is $1,000,000 divided into shares of $500 each. A general fire-insurance business will be transacted, and should the widening of operations require more capital, the capital stock may be increased to $2,000,000.

NEW GUANO DEPOSITS.

Messrs. Antonio Cordovez and Juan de Dios Olivares have been granted a concession for the exploitation of some newly discovered guano deposits situated on the coast in the vicinity of Antofagasta. The contract provides that this guano shall be exclusively for home consumption, and the concession was made with the special view of encouraging and rendering more profitable the agricultural industry of the Republic. Work shall be commenced within a period of six months from the date of the ratification of the agreement. The prices at which this fertilizer shall be sold in the different ports of the country are fixed by the concession.

COOPERATIVE BREWERY.

Santiago is to have a new brewery, to be erected by the Sociedad Cooperativa (Cooperative Society) for the manufacture of beer. The capital stock is $300,000, divided into 30,000 shares of a nominal value of $10 each. The constitution and by-laws are published in full in the "Diario Oficial" of May 28, 1900.

The incorporation of this society is for thirty years, at the end of which time it may be extended for a longer period at the option of the shareholders. The object of the organization is the manufacture of beer—especially beer free from alcohol—aerated waters, and other products belonging to a factory of this kind. The society may acquire real property, pledge or mortgage same in conformity with its by-laws, make such installations as may be deemed necessary, and establish agencies and warehouses in any part of the Republic.

NEW CONSUL.

The "Diario Oficial" of May 31, 1900, publishes a decree raising the consular office of Chile at Chicago to an office of the first class. Señor M. J. Steffens, who has been Vice-Consul, has been promoted to be Consul.

COLOMBIA.

NEW EXPORT DUTIES.

The "Shipping List" of June 30, 1900, says that early in June the General Government promulgated a decree placing a duty on exports, payable in gold; but the rates proved prohibitory and have been modified, as shown in decree No. 777, of June 11, 1900, establishing certain export duties. This decree reads thus:

"Article I. From the promulgation of this decree, rubber, coffee, hides, gold, and silver ore exported from ports of the Republic will pay the following duties:

"Each quintal rubber will pay five dollars ($5.00).

"Each quintal cleaned coffee, three dollars and twenty cents ($3.20).

"Each quintal coffee in husk, two dollars and forty cents ($2.40).

"Each quintal hides, three dollars and twenty cents ($3.20.)

"Each quintal goatskins, four dollars and fifty cents ($4.50).

"Gold and silver bars, assayed, two (2) per cent on certified value, converted into paper money, at rate of exchange at time of exportation.

"Gold dust and gold and silver bars not assayed, and in jewelry, or in whatever other form, will pay two per cent (2) insured value, converted in like manner into paper money.

"Gold and silver mineral will pay one (1) per cent on insured value, converted in like manner into paper money.

"Where documents of assay and insurance are lacking gold and silver will pay ten cents (10) per gramme; and mineral sixteen dollars ($16) per ton.

"Art. II. The Government reserves the right to increase or diminish these rates, or to make them payable in gold."

NAVIGATION LINES.

According to a report prepared by the French consulate at Colon the vessels of the following navigation companies stop regularly at the port of Colon: French, Compagnie Générale Transatlantique; German, Hamburg-American Line; American, Panama Railroad Company; English, Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, Harrison Line, West India and Pacific Steamship Company, Prince Line; Spanish, Compañia Transatlantica Espanola; Italian, La Véloce.

In addition to the above lines some American and English steamers come to Colon loaded with coal or wood for supplying the Panama Railroad and the new canal company.

A line of Norwegian steamers has a very good service for the transportation of bananas between Colon, Bocas del Toro, and New Orleans.

IMPORTS FROM GREAT BRITAIN.

The trade of Great Britain with the Republic of Colombia shows a great falling off for the first half of the year 1900 as compared with the same period of 1899. The imports from Colombia are not separately returned for either period in the British statistical publication, and but two items are given for the exports from Great Britain to Colombia. These are cotton piece goods, valued at £63,793 in 1900 as compared with £193,414 in 1899, and linen piece goods, valued at £5,424 in 1900 as against £12,456 in 1899.

THE PANAMA WHARF.

The successful anchorage of a heavy draft steamer alongside the new Panama Railroad wharf at La Boca, which was accomplished in the latter part of July, will completely revolutionize the handling of freight over this route. Since the opening of the Panama Railroad all transfers of shipments have been made by lighters and steam tugs down the bay. The Pacific mail steamship *Costa Rica*, however, drawing 15 feet of water and with full cargo, was unloaded at the company's wharf, under the inspection of the agent of the company at the time named, and other ships of greater tonnage will probably follow. The depth of the water at the wharf was 40 feet.

COSTA RICA.

ARBITRAL AWARD IN THE QUESTION OF LIMITS BETWEEN COSTA RICA AND NICARAGUA.

Through the courtesy of Señor Don Joaquín Bernardo Calvo, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Costa Rica, the Monthly Bulletin is enabled to publish the award of Gen. E. P. Alexander, fixing the center of Salinas Bay as the termination in the Pacific of the dividing line between the two Republics. The award is as follows:

"In the discharge of my duties as Arbitrator of whatever differences may arise in your works of tracing and marking the boundary line between the countries you represent, I was called upon in October last, by the Nicaragua Commission, to declare what point in Salinas Bay should be taken as its center, in laying out the final course of the

boundary, from its meeting with the Sapoa River to its ending upon this bay. The work in the field at that time was near San Carlos, with some months of work ahead before it could reach the Sapoa River, but the decision was asked in advance to allow time for argument and yet avoid any delay when the work arrived at that point.

"The Nicaraguan Commission, along with its request that I should fix the central point of the bay, submitted a statement of its views in the matter and some extracts from the proceedings of a former joint commission, which in 1890 considered this subject and seemed not far from an amicable agreement, but finally dissolved without effective action.

"This exposition of its views by the Nicaraguan Commission was immediately transmitted to the Costa Rican Commission, who were invited to make such reply as they saw fit.

"Both Commissions were also informed that, as an amicable agreement seemed possible, I would delay making any award in the matter as long as that possibility seemed to exist, and I asked to be informed from time to time of progress.

"No such agreement has been arrived at. Nor has the Costa Rican Commission submitted any statement or comments upon the views of the Nicaraguan Commission above referred to.

"Meanwhile the working parties in the field will soon reach the Sapoa River, and must then suspend work until the central point of Salinas Bay is determined before they can fix the direction of the final course of the boundary line.

"To avoid this delay, and its consequent expense to both Governments, I can no longer suspend my award in this matter; but, it is proper to point out in this connection, that my award has no effect to prevent amicable agreement from being even yet arrived at.

"Power is given the Commissioners in the Treaty of 1858 'to diverge from the straight astronomical line between Sapoa and Salinas, provided they can agree upon this, in order to adopt natural landmarks.'

"This power is in no way restricted or abridged by my award, which only determines where a straight astronomical line will run. Having therefore duly considered the whole matter, I announce my award as follows:

"The provisions of the Treaty of 1858 bearing upon this matter are these:

"From Article II: 'From the point where the boundary touches the river Sapoa, which, as before said, must be 2 miles from the lake, a straight astronomical line shall be projected to the central point of the Bay of Salinas, in the Sea of the South, at which place will terminate the demarcation of the territory of the contracting Republics.'

"From Article IV: 'The Bay of San Juan del Norte, as well as that of Salinas, shall be common to both Republics, and consequently their

advantages and the obligation to unite for their defense shall be common also.'

"The interpretation of this treaty upon all doubtful points was submitted to President CLEVELAND in 1888, and his award upon this matter was in the following very clear provisions:

"'2. The central point of the Bay of Salinas is to be fixed by drawing a straight line across the mouth of the bay and determining mathematically the center of the closed geometrical figure formed by such straight line and the shore of the bay at low-water mark.

"'3. By the central point of Salinas Bay is to be understood the center of the geometrical figure formed as above stated. The limit of the bay toward the ocean is a straight line drawn from the extremity of Punta Arranca Barba nearly true south, to the westernmost portion of the land about Punta Zacate.'

"In the argument made by the Nicaraguan Commission it is submitted to me that the true limit of the bay should be a line between Punta Zacate and Punta Mala. This would be between 1 and 2 miles inside of the line fixed by President CLEVELAND'S award. It is unnecessary to discuss the merits of this claim. By the Matus Pacheco Treaty, made at San Salvador March 27, 1896, this award was adopted as the law for this Commission.

"The first article of that treaty is as follows:

"'The contracting Governments are bound to appoint a Commission, respectively, each composed of two engineers, or surveyors, for the purpose of duly defining and marking out the dividing line between the Republics of Nicaragua and Costa Rica, according to the stipulations of the Treaty of 15th April, 1858, and the award of the President of the United States of North America, Mr. GROVER CLEVELAND.'

"The powers of arbitration given me in the second article of this treaty, to decide whatever kind of difficulties may arise, are plainly to be exercised only within the limits set by Article 1. Where the meaning of President CLEVELAND'S award is not in question, I have no authority to set it aside.

"As to the unfinished work and partial agreements of 1890, they were all set aside by this treaty of 1895.[1] It may be noted that the territory which would have accrued to Nicaragua by the proposed amicable adoption of the line from Punta Zacate to Punta Mala as the limit of the bay would be about three-fourths of a mile of shore front.

"It is further set forth in the Nicaraguan argument that the line from Sapoa to the center of the bay loses its character as a dividing or boundary line where it leaves the shore and enters upon the waters of the bay. This, indeed, seems to follow from Article IV of the Treaty of 1858, already quoted, which declares the waters of the bay to be

[1] Error; should read 1896.

common, and from the fact that the line is terminated at center of the bay, and not extended to the ocean.

"But, in my opinion, the functions of this Commission are limited to the *defining and marking out* of the dividing line between the Republics. The legal character of that portion of the line upon the water, and perhaps some questions of jurisdiction which might arise, are at least beyond the scope of the present inquiry, which is merely the location of the center of Salinas Bay as described in the award of President CLEVELAND.

"The Bay of Salinas was carefully surveyed and mapped by officers of the United States Navy in 1885, and a map of the same is published in the United States Naval Hydrographic Office, No. 1025. I have adopted this map, with the consent of both Commissions, as correctly representing the outline of the bay. In shape it is a curved pocket, starting east and bending southward, about 5 miles long and about one-half of that in average width. Its outline a little resembles the rounded handle or butt of a pistol, with some irregular projections and indentations.

"It is desired to find the mathematical center of this figure, closed by the straight line joining the headlands of the bay.

"The mathematical center of an irregular figure is the mid position of its area. All mechanical centers, such as the center of gravity or of equilibrium, etc., in which the action of any force is concerned must be excluded from consideration.

"This will readily appear if we consider for a moment the case of a bay in the shape of a crescent. The center of gravity of its figure would not fall upon the water of the bay at all, but upon the promontory of land embraced by the water. This, of course, could not be considered as the center of the bay.

"Neither is any general mathematical process applicable, such as that of the method of least squares. This method will find the center of any group of random spots, but were they disposed in crescent form the center would be, not among them, but within the convex space which they partially surround.

"Other methods must therefore be devised for finding the mid position of irregular and restricted areas, and many might be suggested more or less applicable to different figures; but it will be sufficient here to indicate only the method which I have adopted as best suited to the figure in hand, possessing, as this does, something of a curved or crescent shape.

"I have supposed a vessel to enter the bay from the ocean at a point midway between its headlands, and to sail a course as nearly as possible equidistant between the opposite shores, on the right and left, until it has penetrated to the remotest point of the bay. This course, being

carefully platted upon the map, although curved, may be taken as the long axis of the bay.

"At right angles to it, at different points, I have drawn straight lines reaching across the bay from shore to shore and, by use of a planimeter, I have determined the position of such a line which will exactly divide the whole area of the bay into equal parts. This line may be taken as the corresponding short axis of the bay, and its intersection with the long axis will be the center of the bay.

"When at that point a line drawn across the bow of the supposed vessel, perpendicular to her course, would have one-half of the waters of the bay in front of it and one-half behind it.

"Having carefully located the point in this manner, I have determined from the scale of the map its distance from the summit point of the small island in the bay, whose latitude and longitude are given upon the map as follows:

"Latitude, 11° 03′ 10″; longitude, 85° 43′ 38″.

"It proves to be 37 seconds to the northward and 14 seconds to the eastward of this point.

"I therefore fix the position of the center of Salinas Bay to be—

"Latitude, 11° 03′ 47″ north; longitude, 85° 43′ 52″ west.

"Toward this point the boundary line must run, from its meeting with the Sapoa River, unless the two commissioners can agree upon a line with natural landmarks."

OPERATIONS OF THE GOLD-STANDARD LAW.

The Government of Costa Rica began operations under the gold standard on July 16, 1900, the preparations for which, including the publication of the law in full, have been noted from time to time during the past three years in the MONTHLY BULLETIN. Advices received in the United States since the beginning of this era of monetary reform show that gold is circulating freely and that both the Government and the people are satisfied with the new system.

The first period of President IGLESIAS's administration was entirely devoted to promoting the economical conditions of the country, and in October, 1896, a law for the reform of the monetary system was enacted by Congress at the initiative of the Executive. A new contract was entered into with the bank which enjoyed the monopoly under the law of October, 1884, of issuing bank notes in the Republic, by which this bank relinquished the privilege of exclusive issue, the Government to supersede its notes with gold certificates issued at par. Pursuant to this plan a new coin was created called the *colón*, with a value of 46.5 cents gold, but not issued in denominations of a lesser value than 5 *colónes*. This coin was adopted as the monetary unit. The silver *peso* is now regarded as a fractional coin and is freely circulated.

During the period 1896–1900, the Government accumulated a gold reserve amounting to $5,000,000, by virtue of which, jointly with other economic measures, it succeeded in bringing down and normalizing the rate of exchange, which at times was very great. Besides this gold reserve, it has about $1,600,000 in subsidiary silver coins, which gives about $16 in gold per capita, or $22 per capita of the visible supply of both metals. This amount and the authorized issue of notes from the banks at 65 per cent of the capital paid—about $2,000,000—aggregate $8,600,000, or $28.66 per capita on the whole amount.

Economic conditions in Costa Rica having improved, especially in the last few years, owing to the efforts and wise policy of the administration, this reform completes and strengthens the basis of a new era of prosperity and development of the country.

From 1894 up to the end of the year 1899, the value of the products exported from Costa Rica amounted to $31,953,015, in the money of the United States, while imports amounted to $26,632,442, leaving $5,321,573 as balance of trade in favor of Costa Rica. The agricultural and mining interests have been greatly increased and foreign capital largely invested, and commerce, especially with the United States, promises to grow to a more important extent.

The receipts and expenditures of the National Treasury, in silver, in the last five years have been as follows:

Year.	Receipts.	Expenditures.	Surplus.
1895	$6,123,873	$6,121,493	$2,380
1896	6,528,975	6,187,927	341,048
1897	7,435,611	6,697,327	738,284
1898	8,424,104	8,315,455	108,649
1899	8,225,143	7,444,951	780,192

EXPORTS OF LOW GRADE COFFEES.

"La Gaceta," of San José, in its issue of June 27, promulgates the following law:

"In compliance with the provisions of Article II of legislative decree No. 19, of the 16th of June, 1898, the President of the Republic decrees:

"That the exportation of coffee of the classes known as *terceras* (thirds), whether hand picked or not, and other inferior grades, in order to enjoy the exemptions prescribed by that same law, shall be made within a period of seventy-seven days embraced between the 1st of July and the 15th of next September."

TARIFF DECREE.

The Executive having been informed that there are being imported at the present time spirituous liquors that do not come under the head

of wines and which can not be considered as *mistelas* (mixed), not having the strength of such, and there being no proper provision in the customs tariff for the appraisement of such liquors, orders

"That article 86 of the customs tariff shall be increased in the following manner: Sweet wines, when of fermented grape juice, per kilogram, 0.09 *peso*. Spirituous liquors which go under the name of wines and into whose composition enter the juice of any fruit, sirup, or alcohol, provided the strength does not exceed 12°, per kilogram, 0.22 *peso;* if in excess of 12°, per kilogram, 0.80 *peso*."

The foregoing decree was promulgated on June 19, 1900.

REDEMPTION OF GOLD COINS.

"La Gaceta Oficial," of San José, in its issue of June 14, 1900, publishes the following decree:

"Whereas the redemption of the old gold national coin referred to in Article XIX of the Finance Law of October 24, 1896, should be made precisely in proportion to the intrinsic value that that coin bears to the new coin for which it is exchanged,

"And in exercise of the power conferred by fraction 13 of article 73 of the Constitution, the Congress of the Republic decrees:

"Article XIX of the Finance Law of October 24, 1896, is hereby modified as follows:

"'Article XIX. The intrinsic value of the national gold coin of the former issue shall be redeemed in *colónes* less the reductions specified in Article X.'

"This law is effective from the date of its publication."

UNIT FOR GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS.

"La Gaceta," official organ of the Government, in its number 13, of July 15, 1900, promulgated the following important decree, which took effect July 14, 1900:

"Whereas the new gold coin has been placed in circulation, it is necessary, in compliance with the law, to use it in the transaction of all Government business, the President therefore decrees:

"Article 1. That from and after this date all orders of payment that may be drawn upon the Public Treasury shall be expressed in *colónes;* also that the accounts of the Treasury Department and of its branches, with the exception of those operations that are expressly made in foreign coin, shall be kept in said money.

"Art. 2. The principal stamp office and its branches shall pay the drafts drawn upon it for account of the Treasury in gold coin, and may do so in silver coin to the amount established by law as obligatory."

IMPROVEMENT OF THE PORT OF BEBEDERO.

"La Gaceta," of San José, official organ of the Republic, under date of July 21, 1900, promulgates the following decree:

"Whereas it is urgently necessary to enlarge the limits of the village of Bebedero and open the road that leads from Liberia to the port of Ballena, as well as to provide that port with sufficient land for the founding of a town, the Congress of the Republic of Costa Rica, in use of the power conferred upon it by fraction 13, article 73 of the Constitution, decrees:

"ARTICLE 1. The Federal Executive is authorized to acquire, whether by purchase or expropriation, lands of the property known as 'Mojica' and 'Pasohondo' to the extent of 150 hectares each, which shall be used for the widening and improvement of the port of Bebedero.

"ART. 2. The Executive is also authorized to expend such an amount as may be required in the expropriation of the necessary land of the ranch called 'El Viejo' for the purpose of constructing the road that leads from Ballena to the canton of Carrillo, and an additional 200 hectares for the founding of the village of Ballena. The adjudication of lots shall be free or for a consideration, according to the pecuniary condition of the solicitors.

"ART. 3. The lands referred to for the formation of the villages of Bebedero and Ballena shall be allotted in the quantity, form, and conditions specified by the respective law governing same.

"ART. 4. The Federal Executive shall adopt such means as he may deem most convenient for the execution of this decree."

TAX ON RAILWAY TICKETS AND RAILROAD CARS.

Decree No. 26, published in "La Gaceta," of San José, of July 21, 1900, places a tax of 5 cents on every ticket sold by any railway or other transportation company, if the value of same be from 25 cents to $2, and 10 cents each if the value exceeds $2. Thousand-mile books are taxed one half cent per mile for first-class tickets, and one-fourth cent per mile for second-class tickets. Passenger trains are taxed $2 per car for each passenger coach. Official trains and the persons who travel in them in an official capacity or on a pass from the proper authorities are exempt from the tax.

The product of these taxes shall be distributed to the following hospitals: 31 per cent to the hospitals of San José; 23 per cent to that of Cartago; 19 per cent to Alajuela; 15 per cent to Heredia; 12 per cent to Limón. When the Pacific Railway is completed and in operation,

the product of the tax belonging to that line shall be held in the Public Treasury until the amount reaches 20,000 *colónes*, when it will be appropriated for the construction and support of a hospital in the port where said railway terminates.

CONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGES.

Congress recently authorized the President of the Republic to contract for the construction of bridges over the Tempisque and Las Cañas rivers, a decree to that effect having been promulgated on July 14, 1900. The bridges will be erected in the canton of Santa Cruz, Province of Guanacaste. The roads leading into that region will also be improved, so that when these structures are completed the facilities for reaching and developing that rich agricultural section will be greatly improved.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATION.

Under date of July 17, 1900, "La Gaceta," of San José, publishes a decree authorizing the establishing in the Republic of a Central Scientific Agricultural Station. The object of this station is to improve by all means possible the present state of national agriculture, and to encourage, at the same time, the raising of new agricultural products, a previous scientific experimental study having been made of same with respect to their nature and the especial conditions of the different zones of the country.

"The institution shall be called 'Granja Nacional de Agricultura' (National Station of Agriculture). The station shall have a department or annex for the keeping of imported breeding animals of the best stocks, and for the raising of choice breeds of domestic animals that may be acclimated in Costa Rica. The seeds harvested in the station shall be distributed gratuitously, and plants shall be furnished at cost. Brood animals shall be sold at a reasonable price.

"The station shall have a monthly illustrated bulletin called 'El Agricultor Costarricense' (The Costa Rican Agriculturist), and shall publish on the 1st of January of each year an attractive and instructive Rural Almanac, which shall be in the nature of an agricultural encyclopedia and guide, and shall be distributed free to farmers and planters. The station shall, at stated times, hold fairs and agricultural assemblages, and shall give prizes to the exhibitors of the most perfect animals and products."

The station will be under the auspices of the Department of Public Works, and is to be established in the Province of San José at a place to be designated by the President. Fifty thousand *colónes* have been appropriated for the founding of this station.

MANUFACTORY OF CLAY PRODUCTS.

The Limón Clay Works and Estate Company, Limited, have published their by-laws in the official paper (La Gaceta) of San José, of July 15, 1900. These by-laws have been approved by the Government. The duration of the company is for twenty-five years, but it may be dissolved sooner by a vote of two-thirds of the stockholders. The object of the corporation is the manufacture of building, ornamental, and street-paving brick, drainage pipes, and all kinds of articles made from clay. It may also establish lime kilns, buy real estate, engage in tropical agriculture, etc. The capital of the company is $60,000, divided into 600 shares of $100 each.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

The city of San José has made a contract with the Costa Rica Electric Light and Traction Company by which it are authorized to extend its tramway to the street called Escasú, following the south side of the village of Sabana and parallel to the Pacific Railway's roadbed, in conformity with the plan presented by the department of public works. The company is also authorized, should it so desire, to encircle with its line the village of Sabana and return to the city in accordance with the plans already approved and which forms a part of the contract. The company shall in no case charge more than a 15-cent fare for any trip over its line. Uniformed postal and telegraph messengers, as well as policemen, shall be carried free.

In a recent communication addressed to the Bureau of the American Republics, Hon. William I. Buchanan, Director-General of the Pan-American Exposition, states that commissioners to Buffalo have been appointed by the Costa Rican Government. The number of square feet of space required for the Costa Rican exhibit has also been specified. The special commissioner, in behalf of the Exposition, is now in Central America, and will visit Guatemala and Nicaragua.

The Department of Agriculture has placed at the disposal of planters who may desire them, small quantities or samples of Chilean nitrate that is used so largely at the present time as a fertilizer. The Department of Statistics will make the distribution, and will exhibit to interested parties photographs showing the effect of the use of the fertilizer in the cultivation of various products.

CUBA.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

On July 31, 1900, the War Department of the United States promulgated an order fixing the time for the holding of an election in Cuba for the selection of delegates to the Constitutional Convention. After reiterating the declaration of the United States Congress that "the people of the island of Cuba are, and of right, ought to be free and independent;" that the United States disclaims any disposition or intention to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction, or control over said island after pacification, and citing the fact that the people of Cuba have established satisfactory municipal government, the proclamation says:

"Therefore it is ordered that a general election be held in the island of Cuba on the third Saturday of September, in the year 1900, to elect delegates to a convention to be held in the city of Havana, at 12 o'clock, noon, the first Monday of November, in the year 1900, to frame and adopt a Constitution for the people of Cuba and, as a part thereof, to provide for and agree with the Government of the United States upon the relations to exist between that Government and the Government of Cuba, and to provide for the election by the people of officers under such Constitution, and the transfer of the government to the officers so elected. The election will be held in the several voting precincts of the island under and pursuant to the provisions of the electoral law of April 18, 1900, and the amendments thereof."

The voters of the several Provinces will elect delegates in number proportionate to their population, as determined by the census taken by the United States, as follows: Havana, 8; Matanzas, 4; Pinar del Rio, 3; Puerto Principe, 2; Santa Clara, 7, and Santiago, 7; total, 31.

IMPORTS AT HAVANA.

The Division of Customs and Insular Affairs of the War Department of the United States reports that there was imported into the port of Habana during June, 1900, merchandise and coin to the value of $4,420,088. Of this amount $4,439 was silver coin imported from Spain. The free articles admitted were valued at $185,079.

The total value of merchandise, gold, and silver imported at Havana during the first six months of 1900 was $28,109,646 as against $27,396,962 for the same period in 1899, showing an increase of $712,684.

PURCHASE OF CONDUIT.

The Potomac Terra Cotta Conduit Company, of the city of Washington, recently shipped 16,000 feet of two-duct conduit for use by

the Havana Electric Railway Company. This order was secured through the Morris Electric Company of New York, which is purchasing most of the material, equipment, etc., required by the Havana system.

ECUADOR.

PRODUCTION OF CACAO.

The "Revista Comercial," of Guayaquil, in its issue of May 31, 1900, contains an extract of a report of the president of the Board of Trade of that city, covering the first six months of the year 1899. From this report it is seen that the exportation of cacao (in kilograms) from the Republic during the period referred to was as follows:

Guayaquil, 24,072,499; Manta, 73,317; Bahia, 2,279,617; Esmeraldas, 60,438; Puerto Bolivar, 1,217,674; total, 27,703,545.

Taking the world's output of cacao, as is shown by the following table, Ecuador occupies the first place, producing about 30 per cent of the total quantity exported:

Countries.	Years.	Tons.	Countries.	Years.	Tons.
Ecuador	1899	27,703	Cuba	1896	1,440
Trinidad	1899	12,408	Jamaica	1899	1,050
St. Thomas	1899	12,047	Peru	1898	604
Brazil	1898	10,272	Colombia	1898	553
Venezuela	1897	8,866	Other countries	.....	12,278
Santo Domingo	1898	3,789			
Haiti	1899	2,018	Total	.....	93,028

The trade journals report a firm market for cacao, with a good demand and prices generally advanced, on August 1, 1900. For the first half of the present year the exports of cacao to London from Guayaquil were 136,473 bags against 139,015 bags for the same period in 1899.

EXPORTS TO GERMANY IN 1899.

In 1899 Ecuador exported products to the value of $10,949,625 (United States currency), according to the report of the Ecuadorian Consul-General in London. Of this grand total, Germany received more than any other single nation, or to the value of $3,762,968 (United States currency), or 15,810,790 *marks*. Of the latter amount the exports of cacao to Germany represented 11,935,570 *marks;* vegetable ivory nuts, 2,516,470 *marks;* india rubber, 676,240 *marks;* coffee, 190,260 *marks;* hides, 177,300 *marks;* tobacco, 132,200 *marks*, the other exports to Germany being straw hats, medicinal barks, feathers, wool, cotton, and sundries.

GUATEMALA.

NEW CABINET.

The personnel of the Guatemalan Cabinet is as follows:

Minister of Foreign Affairs.....Señor Don Juan Barrios Morales.
Minister of Finance.....Señor Don Guillermo Aguirre.
Minister of Public Works.....Señor Don Rafael Spinola.
Minister of the Interior.....Señor Don Juan T. Argueta.
Minister of War.....General Don Luis Molina.
Minister of Public Instruction..Señor Don Antonio Madujano.
General Subsecretary.....Señor Don José Flamenco.

CONCESSION FOR CUTTING MAHOGANY AND CEDAR.

"El Gualtemalteco," of Guatemala, official organ of the Republic, in its issues of June 4 and 6 of the present year, publishes the full text of the contract entered into between the Government and the Guatemalan and Mexican Mahogany Export Company regarding the cutting of timber. The contract of July 12, 1898, was approved by the President on the 23d of the same month and year. By this contract the Government conceded to the company certain timber-cutting privileges in consideration of certain specified payments, and as an evidence of good faith the company made a deposit of $40,000.

On the 19th of May last a contract was executed between Hon. Rafael D. Ponciano, acting as Secretary of Public Works, and Tranquilino Pulido, representing the company, in which it was acknowledged that the company had cut timber to the amount of more than $15,000, and the Government had returned to the company the balance of $25,000 of its deposit, and that the contract of 1898 was rescinded and canceled, all of which was duly approved by the President on the 23d of May, 1900, upon which date a contract was entered into the substance of which is as follows:

The Government grants to the company the right to cut mahogany and cedar timber to the extent of 15,000 trees, or 45,000 tons, in the vacant lands of the Department of Peten, within the following limits:

1. On the right bank of the river Chixoy to its confluence with the Pasión.
2. On both sides of the river Pasión.
3. Upon the right side of the river Usumacinta.
4. Upon the banks of the rivers Mopan and Checubul, the districts granted to the Northern Lumber Cutting Company, Limited, being excepted.

The concession covers 2½ leagues from the banks of the rivers. The

Government reserves the right to grant the same privileges to others within the same limits, taking care, however, not to include the timber already appropriated by the present company.

The duration of the concession is five years, and may be extended three years longer in case unforeseen circumstances should prevent its fulfillment.

The consideration paid by the grantee is $125,000 in national currency, which sum shall be paid to the National Treasury as the value of the timber referred to.

The contract provides for cutting, measuring, marking, and inspecting. All questions regarding the contract are to be submitted to arbitration.

The contract is transferable with the consent of the Government, and carries with it the introduction of the necessary labor. The importation of Chinese labor, however, is prohibited.

NEW SERIES OF POSTAGE STAMPS.

The supply of 1 and 6 cent postage stamps of the old issue having been exhausted, the President on June 11, 1900, promulgated the following decree:

"First. That the new postage stamps of the denominations of 1 and 6 cents, whose colors are, respectively, dark and light green, be placed in immediate circulation.

"Second. That from the 30th of the present month (June) there also shall be placed in circulation the new stamps of the denominations of 2, 5, 10, 20, and 25 cents, and whose colors are, respectively, red, blue brown, violet, and light yellow.

"Third. From the 30th of the present month all of the former issue of postage stamps, and the re-marked supplemental stamps made upon same, with the exception of stamps made of the denominations of 50, 75, 100, 150, and 200 cents, are canceled and retired from use."

EXPORT DUTIES ON COFFEE.

The Government of Guatemala has placed an export duty on coffee harvested during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1901, amounting to $6 per quintal on clean coffee (*café en oro*), and a proportionate charge on coffee in parchment (*café en pergamino*). The exportation duties are payable in the maritime ports of the Republic at the time of making the shipments. "El Gualtemalteco" of July 6, 1900, contains a full text of the decree.

MILITARY INSTRUCTION ESTABLISHED.

"La República," of Guatemala, in its issue of June 28, 1900, states that the Government has promulgated a decree establishing military

instruction in all of the primary, secondary, high, and professional schools of the Republic devoted to the education of males. This law went into effect July 1, 1900.

HAITI.

NEW LICENSE FEES.

The United States Minister at Port au Prince has informed the Department of State at Washington that, according to a new law, native and foreign persons in business in Haiti will hereafter be required to pay a license fee of $500 per year for engaging in banking and $200 per year for importing in small shipments. The banking license was formerly $200. By "small shipments" is meant the receipt of goods in less than full cargoes on any one steamer.

DEVELOPMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES.

Commenting on the mineral resources of Haiti and to what extent railroad construction would develop that island, Hon. WILLIAM F. POWELL, United States Minister, says the great need of the Republic is easy means of communication between the different sections. He reports also that the Government has recently made concessions to several parties to build railroads, including one on the south side of the salt lakes, a distance of 50 miles. This road when completed is to eventually connect the capitals of Haiti and Santo Domingo, and will open up a rich agricultural and mineral section. Another projected line is to the north, through St. Mark, Gonaives, and Port de Paix, and will have its terminus at Cape Haitien. Another road is now in course of construction from Cape Haitien to Gran Rivière, near the base of the Cibao range of mountains. Some of these roads will traverse mineral districts.

In the southern part of Haiti, or that part crossed by the Hotte Mountains, copper and magnetic iron ore are to be found. To the north of Jacmal gold has been discovered in paying quantities. Within the last year the Government has granted concessions to develop its mineral resources, several of which are held by citizens of the United States. The principal one—the opening of the gold belt—has been granted to Mr. ANTON JAEGERHUBER, a citizen of the United States and head of one of the leading commercial houses in Port au Prince. This gentleman also holds a concession to construct two lines of railway, one to the north from the capital and the other east toward the Dominican border, both of which will develop a rich section of the country.

CUSTOMS DECLARATIONS—FORMALITIES FOR MANIFESTS.

The following notices regarding customs declarations and formalities relating to manifests have recently been revived. The former was first promulgated on July 29, 1899, and the latter on March 5, 1900.

CUSTOMS DECLARATIONS.

"Notice is hereby given to merchants that the customs will levy double duty on account of false declaration on all articles enumerated in the tariff when declared otherwise than in accordance with the proper tariff denomination or under any heading foreign to the tariff; for instance, gray cloth declared as brabant, nankinette as siam, denims as checks; gauze, woolen or cotton cloth, silk satin, *mirobon* as lining, etc.

"This rule shall only be departed from in the event of the goods not being generally known. In such case they shall be assimilated to the goods provided in the tariff which they most closely resemble; the price thereof shall be assessed by the director of customs and staff of controllers, assisted by two merchants; whereupon such goods shall be definitely classified."

FORMALITIES RELATING TO MANIFESTS.

"The attention of all concerned is invited to the following provisions of the customs laws:

"ARTICLE 42. In order that the manifest delivered by the master (of a vessel) may be considered as genuine, it must have been drawn up and signed by the customs (authorities) at the foreign port of clearance of the vessels abroad and vised by the nontrading Haitian Consul or consular agent, if any, in the place of clearance." (Law of July 13, 1858.)

"ART. 46. The manifest shall state the number of all trunks, boxes, packages, cases, or casks, etc., also numbers, marks, and checks on each trunk, box, package, case, or cask, together with detailed particulars of contents, number of pieces or half pieces, length, weight, measure, and foot measurement of wood and planks; in fact, the exact description, quality, and number of all goods generally whatsoever, with total amount of invoice." (Law of July 13, 1858.)

"In default of visé, either of the invoices or authentic declaration, a penalty fixed at the sum of 50 *piasters* will attach." (Art. 2, law of October 19, 1881.)

"Representatives of the Republic in foreign countries are accordingly enjoined to refused to visé all manifests or invoices not complying with the foregoing prescriptions."

GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP OF GAS PLANT.

United States Minister POWELL, at Port au Prince, informs the Department of State that the Haitian Government has concluded to furnish lights to its cities in the future and not to grant concessions for this work to corporations. The Government will cancel all such concessions now extant and pay the holders for their plants, and such amounts for other purposes as have been expended by them. The Government has also promised to introduce a system of electric lights for the capital in the early autumn of 1900.

HONDURAS.

GOLD, COPPER, AND IRON DEPOSITS.

The Bureau of the American Republics is indebted to the courtesy of Señor Don F. SOMOZA VIVAS, of Tegucigalpa, a member of the committee of the Pan-American Exposition for that Republic, for some very interesting information regarding the discovery of important gold, copper, and iron ores in Honduras.

Señor VIVAS, writing under date of July 5, 1900, states that an exceedingly rich gold mine, containing an abundance of high-grade ore and situated in the Department of Olancho, is now being worked on a small scale, owing to its isolation and the great difficulties experienced in reaching it and in transporting the ore to the market. These obstacles could easily be overcome by the construction of suitable roads, and with the outlay of a comparatively small amount of money serviceable trails could be made to almost any part of this mining district. In this manner mills could be erected, and the ore could be concentrated and easily freighted out upon the backs of mules or burros. This particular mine is owned by private parties, with whom it is quite probable some mutually favorable arrangement could be made for its exploitation by enterprising capitalists.

Señor VIVAS mentions another promising mine located about 2 kilometers from Comayagua, and within a few hundred yards of the proposed route of the interoceanic railway, which road is now being constructed. This is a copper mine called "Santa Maria," is quite large in extent, and has the appearance of a mountain of copper of some 10 or 12 miles in circumference. Samples taken from four different points of the workings average from 10 to 15 per cent copper.

In his correspondence a mountain of magnetic iron called "Agalteca" is also referred to as existing almost in a pure state and in enormous quantities. This deposit of ore is the property of the Government, which is disposed to make favorable concessions for its development.

Evidently the rich mineral resources of Honduras have been overlooked or are but little known among mining men in the United States, for if such were not the case there would be a rush of prospectors to this promising region, which bears every indication of being a veritable Klondike. The climate of the mountainous parts of Hon duras, where the principal mines are located, is unsurpassed for salubrity and healthfulness, and in that favored clime the miner, prospector, and investor does not have to contend with the biting cold of the north, the perilous journeys over icebound rivers and snow-capped mountains, and a thousand other dangers and disadvantages, which have made the trails to the Alaskan gold fields horrible death traps.

The mining industry of Honduras, which has so long languished, is now quickening to new life, and opportunities are presenting themselves on every hand for the employment of labor and capital in their most remunerative forms.

BRITISH COMMERCIAL REPORT.

The British Consul at Tegucigalpa, in a recent report to his home Government, points out that though in imports the increase has been from £139,242 in 1897 to £280,803 in 1899, other details are not yet obtainable. Nearly the whole of the increase has been in imports from the United States, Germany, and Great Britain. The figures given show that the share of the United States was £203,000; of Germany, £33,000, and Great Britain £22,000. The statistics relative to the export trade are not given.

MEXICO.

TREATY OF COMMERCE, FRIENDSHIP, AND NAVIGATION WITH CHINA.

The official publication of the Mexican Government, "El Diario Oficial," for July 24, 1900, published the full text of the Treaty of Friendship, Commerce, and Navigation concluded and signed in the city of Washington, on December 14, 1899. The treaty was approved in executive session by the Mexican Senate on May 21,1900, and ratified by President Díaz on the following day. The Emperor of China had previously (March 26, 1900) ratified it, and the ratifications were exchanged at Washington on June 19, and promulgated on June 30, 1900.

The full official text of this most important treaty is as follows:

"The President of the United Mexican States and His Majesty the Emperor of China, being equally animated by the desire to establish friendly relations between the two countries and their citizens and

subjects, have resolved to conclude a treaty of friendship, commerce, and navigation, and for that purpose have named their respective Plenipotentiaries—that is to say:

"The President of the United Mexican States, [names] MANUEL DE AZPIROZ, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United Mexican States in Washington, and

"His Majesty the Emperor of China, [names] Wu Ting Fang, an official of the second rank, Minister of State of the fourth class by brevet, and Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the United States of America, Spain, and Peru:

"And we, the said Plenipotentiaries, after having exhibited our respective full powers, and finding them in due and good form, have agreed upon the following articles:

"ARTICLE I. There shall be perpetual, firm, and sincere friendship between the United Mexican States and the Chinese Empire, as also between their respective citizens and subjects. They shall be at liberty to freely go to the respective countries of the High Contracting Parties and reside therein. They shall there have complete protection in their persons, families, and property, and they shall enjoy all the rights and advantages which are granted to the subjects of the most favored nation.

"ART. II. In order to facilitate friendly relations between the two countries, the President of the United Mexican States may appoint a Diplomatic Agent to the Court of Peking, and His Majesty, the Emperor of China may likewise appoint a Diplomatic Agent near the Mexican Government.

"The Diplomatic Agents of each of the High Contracting Parties may reside permanently or temporarily in the capital of the other, with their families and members of their suite, and enjoy, in the countries of their respective residence, the same prerogatives, exemptions, immunities, and privileges granted to the agents of the same rank of the most favored nation.

"ART. III. Each of the high contracting parties may appoint, at the ports or cities of the other, open to foreign commerce, Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, and Consular Agents. These shall not enter in the discharge of their duties until they receive the exequatur of the Government of the country where they are to reside. The exequatur shall be issued free of charge. At the ports or cities where no Consul is appointed, his functions may be performed by a Consul of a friendly nation. Where there is no Consul, the local authorities shall see that the citizens or subjects of the other contracting party enjoy the benefits of the present treaty.

"The consular officers of the high contracting parties shall perform all the functions and enjoy all the immunities and privileges which, in either of the two countries, are granted to the consular officers of the most favored nation.

"The consular officers shall not support the demands of their citizens or subjects if provocative or offensive to the authorities or inhabitants of their place of residence.

"Should a consular officer adopt offensive conduct toward the laws of the country of his residence, the exequatur may be withdrawn from him.

"ART. IV. Mexican citizens shall be permitted to go into the interior of China and travel therein, provided they are furnished with a passport issued, at the request of the Mexican Consul, by the Customs Taotai. This passport, written in the two languages, Spanish and Chinese, must be shown when the authorities of the place of transit ask it, and be returned at the end of the journey. No obstacle shall be placed in the way of travelers engaging men, vehicles, or vessels for the transportation of their baggage.

"In case the traveler is not provided with the proper passport, or he commits an unlawful act, he shall be delivered for trial to the nearest Consul of Mexico or of a friendly nation previously designated by the Mexican Government. In this case the local authorities can only arrest the traveler, without insulting him or permitting any violence to him.

"Mexican citizens shall be at liberty to make excursions without the necessity of providing themselves with a passport, in the neighborhood of open ports, for a distance not exceeding one hundred *li*, and for a time not exceeding five days.

"These stipulations are not applicable to the crews of vessels, who shall be subject, during their stay on land, to the regulations established by the Consuls and the authorities.

"Chinese subjects shall be at liberty to travel through all the territory of Mexico, as long as they conduct themselves peaceably and do not violate the laws and regulations of the country.

"ART. V. It is agreed between the two high contracting parties that the emigration of their respective subjects, whether accompanied by their families or not, shall be in future free and voluntary; consequently they disapprove of every act of violence or trickery which might be committed in the ports of China or anywhere else for the purpose of expatriating Chinese subjects against their will.

"The two Governments engage themselves to prosecute with all the rigor of the laws any contravention of the preceding stipulation, and to impose penalties established by their respective legislations upon the persons and ships who may violate this stipulation.

"ART. VI. Mexican citizens shall be at liberty to travel with their merchandise and engage in commercial pursuits in all the ports of China where the subjects of other nations are permitted to engage in commerce.

"Chinese subjects shall likewise be at liberty to travel and engage in commerce in all places of the Mexican Republic under the same

conditions as the subjects of all other nations. It is to be understood that in case either of the high contracting parties should hereafter grant, of its own accord, to any other nation, advantages subject to special conditions, the other contracting party shall enjoy said advantages, only provided it complies with the conditions imposed therein or their equivalent, to be mutually agreed upon.

"ART. VII. The citizens or subjects and merchant vessels of each of the high contracting parties shall be subject, at the ports of the other open to foreign commerce, to the legal provisions which now regulate commerce with all other nations or which may be issued hereafter.

"ART. VIII. The import duties imposed in the United Mexican States on the produce of the soil and industry of China, and in the Empire of China on the produce of the soil and industry of Mexico, shall be no other nor higher than those which the same produce of the most favored nation are or may be subject.

"The same principle shall be observed in regard to exportation.

"No prohibition nor restriction of importation or exportation shall take place in the reciprocal commerce of both countries, unless it be likewise applied to all other nations, except for sanitary motives or for the purpose of preventing the propagation of epizooties or the loss of the crops, or also in view of events of war.

"ART. IX. The ships of war of each of the contracting parties shall be admitted into the ports of the other, where those vessels of all other nations are allowed to enter, and to be treated as those of the most favored nation.

"They shall have entire liberty to purchase provisions, coal, and the necessary articles for a voyage, as also to get water and have all necessary repairs made.

"The ships of war shall be exempt from the payment of all duties, both on their arrival and departure.

"The commanders of Mexican ships of war in China and the local authorities shall mutually treat each other on the basis of equality.

"ART. X. The citizens or subjects of each of the contracting parties, in the dominions and possessions of the other, shall be exempt from all compulsory military service whatever, whether in the army, navy or national guard, or militia. They shall likewise be exempt from all contributions, whether pecuniary or in kind, imposed as a compensation for personal service, finally, from forced loans and from charges, requisitions, and war contributions, unless imposed on real property when they shall pay them equally with nationals.

"The vessels, cargoes, merchandise or effects of citizens or subjects of neither contracting party shall be detained for any military expeditions or for any public purpose whatever without corresponding compensation first being agreed upon and settled.

"ART. XI. The merchant vessels of each of the contracting parties shall be at liberty to frequent the ports of the other open to foreign commerce or that may hereafter be opened.

"It is, however, agreed that this concession does not extend to the coasting trade, granted only to the national vessels in the territory of each of the contracting parties. But, if one of them should permit it wholly or in part to any nation or nations, the other party shall have the right to claim the same concessions or favors for its citizens or subjects, provided said contracting party is willing, on its part, to grant reciprocity in all its claims on this point.

"The vessels of each of the contracting parties shall not be subject, in the territory or ports of the other, on their entrance, departure, or stay, to other or higher duties, charges or fees of public officials on account of tonnage, light-house, port, pilotage, quarantine, salvage, assistance in case of damage, shipwreck, nor to other charges or duties, local or Federal of whatever kind or denomination, than are paid or which may hereafter be paid by vessels of any other nation.

"For the application of this and other articles of the present treaty those are to be understood as ports of each of the contracting parties which are opened or that may hereafter be opened to the import and export trade by the respective government.

"The two contracting parties agree upon considering a distance of three marine leagues, measured from the line of low tide, as the limit of their territorial waters for everything relating to the vigilance and enforcement of the custom-house regulations and the necessary measures for the prevention of smuggling.

"The vessels of each of the high contracting parties which may have been disabled near the coasts of the other and may have to seek shelter in a port shall receive from the local authorities all the assistance which they can render.

"The merchandise saved shall not be subject to the payment of duties, unless it shall be landed for the purpose of sale.

"Those vessels shall be treated on the same terms as are granted under similar circumstances to those of other countries.

"ART. XII. The engagement by contract of citizens or subjects of one country as laborers, servants, or the like in plantations, mills, shops, business establishments, or private families in the other country shall be subject to rules to be established by mutual agreement between both high contracting parties.

"ART. XIII. Mexicans in China who may have occasion of complaint against Chinese shall lay their complaint before the Mexican Consul, who shall investigate the facts of the case and exert himself to bring about an amicable settlement.

"If a Chinese should likewise have any occasion of complaint against

a Mexican in China, the Mexican Consul shall listen to his complaint and try to obtain a friendly settlement. Should the Consul be unable to reconcile the parties, the case is then to be submitted in all equity, whether the plaintiff be a Mexican or a Chinese, only to the court to which the accused is subject.

"ART. XIV. Mexican citizens in China who may commit any crime against Chinese subjects shall be arrested by the Mexican consular authorities and punished in accordance with the laws of Mexico.

"Chinese subjects guilty of criminal acts against Mexican citizens in China shall be arrested and punished by the Chinese authorities in conformity with the laws of China.

"As a general rule, every civil or criminal suit instituted in China between the citizens or subjects of the two contracting parties shall be tried only according to the laws and by the authorities of the country to which the defendant or accused belongs.

"The high contracting parties shall not be bound to reimburse any money that has been stolen or obtained by fraud, or owing by a citizen or subject of one of the two countries to the subject or citizen of the other country. In case of robbery or fraud the proceedings to be instituted shall be in accordance with the laws of the country to which the accused belongs, and in case of debt the authorities of the country of the debtor shall do all they can to make the debtor comply with his obligation.

"Should Chinese subjects in China who are principal actors or accomplices of a crime, take refuge in the houses, warehouses, or on board the merchant vessel, of Mexican citizens, the Chinese authorities shall lay the facts in this case before the Mexican consular officers, and they shall conjointly appoint agents for the apprehension of the criminals, who shall not be protected nor hidden.

"ART. XV. All legal questions that may arise in China between Mexican citizens concerning their persons or property shall be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Mexican authorities. Suits instituted in China between Mexican citizens and foreigners shall be decided only by the authorities of their respective countries.

"When Chinese shall be concerned in suits, the proceedings shall be in accordance with the provisions of the two preceding articles.

"Should the Chinese Government think proper hereafter to establish, in accord with foreign powers, a code for the purpose of settling the matter of jurisdiction over foreign subjects in China, Mexico shall have an equal share in said agreement.

"ART. XVI. Persons, of whatever condition they may be, who may land from vessels of one of the high contracting parties at an open port of the other, and cause any disturbance on shore within twenty-four hours of their landing, shall be punished by the proper local

authorities, but only with fine or imprisonment, in accordance with the usages established at said port.

"The questions arising from collisions in Chinese waters between vessels of the two countries shall be decided by the authorities of the accused in accordance with the legal regulations in force in all countries respecting collisions.

"Should the complainant not be satisfied with the decision, the agents of the country to which he belongs shall be authorized to apply officially to the authorities that have tried the offender, and they shall retry the case and give a final and equitable decision on the same.

"ART. XVII. Chinese subjects in Mexico shall have free access to the judicial tribunals of the country for the defense of their legitimate rights. They shall enjoy, in this respect, the same rights and concessions enjoyed by Mexicans or by subjects of the most favored nations.

"ART. XVIII. This treaty shall be engrossed in the three languages of Spanish, Chinese, and English. The Spanish text shall be observed in Mexico, the Chinese text in China, and, in case of disagreement, the English version shall be decisive.

"ART. XIX. This treaty shall remain in force for ten years reckoned from the day of the exchange of ratifications. The high contracting parties can, at the expiration of that time, propose modifications by means of a notice to be given six months in advance; and if neither of them should do so the treaty shall continue to remain in force in all its provisions until the expiration of one year after one of the parties has expressed to the other its intention of terminating it.

"ART. XX. This treaty shall be ratified by the two high contracting parties and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Washington as soon as possible.

"In witness whereof we, the respective Plenipotentiaries, have signed this treaty and have hereunto affixed our respective seals.

"Done at Washington, in two originals and in three languages, Spanish, Chinese, and English, this fourteenth day of December, of the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine of the Christian era, corresponding to the twelfth day of the eleventh moon of the twenty-fifth year of Kwang-Hsu.

"[L. S.] MANUEL DE AZPÍROZ.

"[L. S.] WU TING-FANG."

FOREIGN COMMERCE FOR TEN MONTHS.

The following tables give the value in round numbers of the exports and imports of the Republic of Mexico for ten months of the fiscal year 1899–1900, as compared with the same periods in the two preceding fiscal years:

IMPORTS (GOLD VALUATION).

Class of products.	1900.	1899.	1898.
Animal substances	$3,557,000	$2,781,000	$1,967,000
Vegetable substances	6,886,000	6,007,000	5,036,000
Minerals	13,006,000	9,509,000	9,417,000
Tissues and manufactures	8,281,000	7,873,000	6,730,000
Chemical products	1,957,000	1,596,000	1,593,000
Wines, liquors, and beverages	2,240,000	2,098,000	1,830,000
Paper and paper manufactures	1,722,000	1,463,000	1,131,000
Machinery	7,980,000	6,314,000	5,062,000
Vehicles	1,150,000	751,000	906,000
Arms and explosives	1,349,000	927,000	1,421,000
Miscellaneous	1,419,000	1,054,000	892,000
Total	49,547,000	40,373,000	36,075,000

EXPORTS (SILVER VALUATION).

Mineral	$68,793,000	$70,683,000	$70,003,000
Vegetable	40,697,000	33,363,000	26,459,000
Animal	8,578,000	7,694,000	7,815,000
Manufactured	1,687,000	2,136,000	1,403,000
Miscellaneous	565,000	24,000	36,000
Total	120,320,000	113,900,000	105,716,000

At a gold valuation the imports were worth $49,546,767, while the exports were worth $61,727,531, or a total foreign trade for the ten months of 1900 of $111,274,298. The grand total of foreign commerce of the corresponding months of the previous fiscal year was $98,-682,134, showing an increase to May 1, 1900, of $12,592,164. Of the exports for the period to May 1, 1900, the mineral products were valued at $32,841,911, or 53.5 per cent of the total.

Of the imports of the ten months of the fiscal year 1900 a little more than 24 per cent, or $11,931,034, was received from the United States.

FRENCH VIEW OF THE ECONOMIC SITUATION.

In an article continuing his series of excellent reports on Mexico, published in a recent French official review, on the economic situation of Mexico, Mr. Charles Stephan, a member of the French Board of Trade, attributes the great industrial, agricultural, and commercial development of that country in great part to the establishment of railroads, which are daily increasing in importance and extent.

In the last fifteen years Mexican imports increased from 64,000,000 to 102,000,000 *pesos*, the exports from 46,000,000 to 54,000,000 *pesos;* the total revenues of the Republic for last year, he says, amounted to

68,000,000 *pesos*, or more than the total receipts for any single twelve months for fourteen years.

The telegraph lines in the same length of time have increased from 23,000 to 70,000 kilometers, the railroads from 5,000 to 13,000 kilometers, exclusive of those which are under construction and which will further augment this extensive system.

"Industry is every day becoming more active and on every side are to be seen factories under construction. Foreign capital is flowing in from every direction in large amounts, looking for investments in all branches of development. Several business men have conceived the idea of organizing a company for the establishment of a permanent exposition where all, foreigners and natives alike, can compete with their inventions and exhibit the products or industries so that they way be brought to the attention of the Mexican public."

He observes that the progress manifested in the importation of articles used in the development of mines is a proof of the unquestionable industrial activity of Mexico. In fact, the greater part of the imports consist of machinery and tools. During the last fiscal year these imports reached 7,642,949 *pesos* (silver). Electrical apparatus figure for 254,955, or about 16 per cent of the total imports; adding to this 710,053 for leather articles; 160,117 for manufactured zinc, tin, and lead; 2,553,685 for heavy iron articles; 1,367,319 for hardware; 214,633 for telegraph material; 1,721,743 for rails; 538,954 for railway rolling stock; 366,342 for carriages of all kinds; 96,355 for bicycles, a total is reached of 15,652,919 *pesos*.

"This importation will not remain stationary, for in increasing its activity in industrial development Mexico is sure to become a greater consumer of industrial material, while the introduction of more modern methods in mining and agriculture will naturally accentuate the demand for mining and agricultural machinery. The prosperity of Mexico seems to be assured, based not only upon the existence of very rich natural resources but also upon the constant development of the consuming power of the country."

Mr. STEPHAN says the commercial conditions of Mexico begin to show a tendency toward close corporations. "It is interesting to note that the greatest activity in this direction is due to the Spanish commercial element, which is responsible for the organization of companies exercising certain control over the production of sugar and alcohol, as well as for an attempt to form a cotton syndicate. However, monopolies seem at present rather difficult in Mexico on account of the imperfect means of communication which force certain consuming and producing centers to maintain a certain degree of independence. The foreign commerce of Mexico is in a most flourishing condition. The principal products which Mexico sends abroad are coffee, rubber, sugar, chicle, beans, pease, garlic, valuable dyewoods, rough marble,

goat skins, purga de Jalapa (purgative root), tobacco, and vanilla. The total exports amounted to $18,179,972 (silver), in which the exports of mineral products and precious metals figured extensively."

In 1899 the principal exports to Germany consisted of cacao, mahogany, ixtle, dyewoods, sarsaparilla, honey, hides and skins, wax, and tobacco. The importation of products of Mexican raw materials, such as oil, rubber, gum resin, vegetable fibers, seeds, ramie, and tropical products used by German chemists, druggists, and perfumers, is being studied by a group of Dresden merchants. Spain has sent a special agent to Mexico, commissioned to study the exchange of such products as coffee, skins, henequen, fibers, resinous gums, and rubber for Spanish wines in general.

"The nations which have bought the greatest amount of Mexican products are the United States and England. In one month in 1898 the United States bought 808,000 pounds of coffee, worth $73,962, and in one month in 1899 2,385,225 pounds of coffee, worth $205,818.

"The United States sent to Mexico in 1898 $153,805 worth of mining and agricultural machinery, while in 1899 the same exports were worth $306,731. Besides this, the United States sold to Mexico in 1899 $494,704 worth of scientific instruments; $424,103 of coal and fuel; $874,260 of railway coaches and locomotives; $494,784 of rails and stationary railway stock; $689,722 of unmanufactured cotton; $541,115 of manufactured cotton; $57,228 of typewriters and accessories; $433,803 of crude mineral oils; $214,213 of refined oils; $701,048 of vegetable oils, and $324,912 of furniture."

The principal agricultural product exported was coffee, and the most valuable articles of import were tissues, which were valued in 1899–1900 at $5,892,891 gold, France being largely represented in this commerce. The demand for Mexican oranges in the United States is increasing; the variety of Mexican lemons is also very much in demand in the United States, being more acid than the California variety. The cattle exports show progress, Cuba being the principal market. The exportation of cattle horns has given rise to important transactions.

All kinds of industries have sprung up recently. Near the Cuervanaca Railroad to the Pacific a terra cotta factory has been established. This establishment employs more than 200 workmen, the greater number being Americans. Tubes and pipes of baked clay are made for the drainage canalization and irrigation works, identical to those of St. Louis. A Spaniard is to establish a cork factory, for which the raw material will be obtained from the State of Michoacan. A factory for the manufacture of typewriters and cash registers is being considered. The coach-building industry is also beginning to develop the iron, wood, and leather existing in the country. Several factories of the American style of carriages and harnesses have been

established. A New York company has sent agents to study the production of onyx and make a report as to whether exploitation on a large scale is possible. These agents are visiting the States of Oaxaca and Puebla, where the largest deposits are to be found.

The agricultural progress is equally as important. The Mexican agricultural society has ordered a million German hop plants, which are to be tried in the temperate lands of Mexico. Enormous quantities of Bavarian hops are imported, and if the German plants are productive in Mexico it is certain that the price of beer will decrease and its consumption increase.

Between the States of Vera Cruz and Oaxaca there is a very large region, well watered, and where coffee and cacao grow almost without effort, which is now being examined by agents of an important American agricultural company. Mexico possesses an excellent banking system. Mining has developed step by step with agriculture, new deposits being discovered on every side.

In the State of Sonora coke has been discovered, which will prove of the greatest importance to industry. Near the city of Muzquiz, State of Coahuila, rich coal deposits have been found. The mines of "Fuente," in the Rio Grande district, are worked on a large scale and give excellent profits. These new discoveries of fuel deposits have prevented the immoderate cutting of the forests.

Near Sierra de Prieto, in the suburbs of Torreon, paying gold and silver mines have been discovered. The ore is found about 22 kilometers northeast of Gervanil, station of the International Railroad. The samples have given very satisfactory results, 40.68 grams of precious metal per ton, which gives a value of 60 *pesos* without counting the value of the silver.

Mexico owns copper mines in abundance, especially in the States of Sonora, Sinaloa, and in the Pacific States. Mineral deposits containing a high grade of copper and gold have recently been discovered at San Blas, while at Moctezuma, near Casas Grandes, mines of copper containing gold have also been found. Miners have heretofore neglected copper mining, no doubt because copper has until now been considered a depreciable metal. But of late years it has acquired increasing values because of the new uses to which it is put. Without copper, electrical apparatus could not be made, and as this industry tends to subordinate all others it is easy to figure the demand there will be for copper twenty years hence, when all industries will be run by electricity. The geological configuration of Sonora consists of an enormous succession of layers of minerals, believed to be sufficient for the entire world. These recent discoveries have necessitated the organizing of powerful syndicates. Important oil wells have also been found in the States of Tabasco and Vera Cruz. The opening of the Nicaragua Canal and the commercial activity which reigns already on the

Pacific will give the State of Sonora supremacy over all the other States of the Republic, but this will be accomplished, not by the geographical situation of Mexico nor by the increase in the means of communication, but rather by the quantity of products which can be sent to foreign markets. Copper mines are to-day actually worth more than gold mines. At present the number of hectares of copper land under development is 2,869.

COMMERCIAL EXPANSION.

"El Tiempo," an important daily newspaper published in the city of Mexico, in its issue of July 15, 1900, states that the wishes of the Mexican Consul at Valparaiso, Chile, in regard to the sending to that port of samples of Mexican tobacco has been complied with. With the samples were also forwarded the data requested respecting prices, places of production, probable freights, a list of the principal producers, and other information interesting to buyers.

It is a noticeable fact that the Mexican Consuls in Central and South America have entered upon a period of unusual activity in their endeavor to expand the commerce of Mexico in that part of the continent. They are much encouraged from the fact that numerous inquiries have been received from the Argentine Republic, Chile, Paraguay, and Uruguay in reference to tobacco. In addition to this, Costa Rica and Nicaragua are being supplied with considerable quantities of cotton and knit goods; Guatemala is importing cacao from Tabasco and cereals from Chiapas, and the consumption of Mexican pottery in Colombia is increasing.

Present indications tend to show that a new and important market for Mexican surplus products and manufactures will soon be established in Latin America, due largely to the sensible and practical manner in which that country, through its efficient consular service, is encouraging commerce and endeavoring to secure trade throughout all of the territory mentioned.

COLONIZATION CONTRACT IN CHIHUAHUA.

The Department of Public Works has made a colonization contract with Señor Antonio de la Peña y Reyes, in representation of the colonists, a full text of which appears in the "Diario Oficial" of July 5, 1900.

By this contract 100,000 hectares of public lands, situated on the left bank of the river Tecorachic, in the State of Chihuahua, are set aside for the use of the colonists. The object of the concession is to provide homes for 1,000 families resident in the States of Coahuila and Durango.

The concession specifies that two years after the promulgation of the contract there shall be established on these lands as permanent colo-

nists 100 families, and the remaining number to complete the full complement provided for shall be permanently settled upon the lands within the three years following.

Each colonist, upon complying with the conditions of the concession, is entitled to 100 hectares of Government land. The principal conditions are that the colonist shall have resided upon the property five years consecutively and shall have cultivated at least the tenth part of same. The abandonment of the land or the failure to cultivate it for more than six months at a time, unless for such cause as may be deemed justifiable by the Government, shall result in the forfeiture of the land in favor of some new colonist.

The colonists are exempted from military service; from all kinds of taxes, except municipal and stamp taxes; from duties on the importation of provisions, agricultural implements, tools, machinery, supplies, building materials, household furniture, live stock for actual use or for breeding purposes, and from exportation duties on crops. In addition to this, premiums are offered for extraordinary yields, and special protection will be given the introduction of new products or industries.

BANK CONSOLIDATION.

"La Gaceta Comercial," of the City of Mexico, in its issue of July 7, 1900, contains an interesting article regarding the consolidation of the Banco Minero (Mining Bank) and the Banco Comercial (Commercial Bank), of Chihuahua.

The combined capital of these banks at the time of their consolidation was $2,100,000. In addition to this sum, the new company issued shares at 10 per cent premium to an amount of $1,900,000, making the total capital of the new bank, which will operate under the name of "Banco Minero," $4,000,000. Most of the stock is owned by local capitalists, and the demand for the shares was so great at the time they were placed upon the market that $1,250,000 was subscribed in excess of the amount offered.

The consolidation brings to the Banco Minero nine branches, with authority to establish, under the terms of the new concession obtained from the Federal Government, new branches in the States of Sinaloa, Sonora, Durango, Coahuila, Nueva Leon, and Chihuahua. The policy of the new bank is to do an extensive business in northern Mexico and to open branches wherever practicable.

The new concession authorizes the issue of $12,000,000 in bank notes, being a considerable increase in the present issue of the same bank, whose bills are now in active circulation. The Banco Minero, under these favorable auspices, will doubtless become one of the principal financial institutions of the Republic.

CONCESSIONS FOR MANUFACTORIES.

The State of Aguascalientes has granted a concession to Messrs. Felgueres and Gallegos for the establishing of an ice factory in the city of Aguascalientes. The concessionaires are obligated to invest at least $5,000 in the enterprise. The capital, machinery, lands, and buildings used in the construction and operation of the plant are exempt from taxation for a period of ten years.

Messrs. Chávez & Bernal have also been authorized by the Legislature of the State of Aguascalientes to operate a factory in the capital of the State for the manufacture of iron and brass bedsteads and wire springs. Their investment, which must not be less than $5,000, is exempt from taxation for a period of ten years.

Neither of these industries exist at the present time in this State, and the concessions have been made for the purpose of encouraging and attracting new enterprises. "El Republicano," official organ of the State of Aguascalientes, under date of July 29, 1900, publishes in full the concessions referred to.

COMMERCE OF SAN BLAS.

"La Democracia," of the city of Tepic, in its issue of July 8, 1900, contains an interesting article upon the commerce of the port of San Blas. A large quantity of corn, the surplus of the last crop, has been stored in that city and vicinity, and has for the last few weeks been forwarded to market from that point. Large consignments of corn have been made to all the principal ports of the west coast of the Republic, the quantity shipped from May 21 to June 18, 1900, being 12,324 sacks, or about 50,000 bushels of shelled corn. The average price obtained for this corn delivered in San Blas was about 75 cents, Mexican currency, per bushel. Recently, however, there has been a tendency to a rise in prices, owing to the large orders received from Mazatlán and Acapulco and the scarcity of corn in both of the ports named. This heavy shipment of corn has caused an increased consumption of jute sacks, and to supply the demand a considerable quantity of sacks was brought from San Francisco.

The last crop of tobacco gathered in this district (River of Santiago) was not very large, and the prices obtained were not as high as had been anticipated. It was, however, of an exceedingly good quality, and it is claimed that with proper attention to its culture the tobacco of this region would be able to successfully compete with the famous and highly prized tobacco of the State of Vera Cruz.

GUAYMAS AND SAN FRANCISCO STEAMSHIP LINE.

The Mexican Government publishes in its official newspaper, the "Diario Oficial," under date of July 20, 1900, the contract entered

into with Mr. ALFONSO B. SMITH, modifying the contract of November 21, 1898, relative to steam navigation in the Pacific, as follows:

"ARTICLE 1. Article 2 of the contract of the 21st of November, 1898, is changed in the sense that the ship or ships used shall be employed in the service between San Francisco, California, and not between San Diego, California.

"ART. 2. Paragraph 2 of said contract is changed as follows: 'The ship shall make round trips from San Francisco, California, to San Benito, stopping at Guaymas both going and coming, and the duration of each voyage shall not exceed two months. Round trips shall be calculated from the time of leaving Guaymas.'

"ART. 3. The other provisions of the contract referred to remain in force, and are not modified by the present contract."

FORFEITURE OF CONCESSION.

The colonization contract of March 22, 1897, which provided for the settlement of 100 European, Japanese, and Mexican families as colonists at the Bay of Topolobampo, State of Sinaloa, within a period of three years from the ratification of the contract, has been declared forfeited, the concessionaire, Mr. ALBERT K. OWEN, not having complied with the provisions of the agreement. The deposit of $2,000 in bonds of the national debt, as a guaranty for the fulfillment of the contract, reverts to the Government.

EXTENSIVE POWER PLANT.

The work of constructing one of the most extensive power-producing plants in the Republic is now in progress in the State of Chihuahua, located on the San Juan branch of the Concho River. The company was incorporated several months ago, according to the laws of the United States, in the State of Illinois, with a capital stock of $1,000,000, gold, a former United States Consul at Chihuahua being the promoter. The undertaking includes the construction of a dam in the river named between the city of Peral and Chihuahua. This dam is to be 250 feet wide and 150 feet in height, which, it is believed, will form a lake in the valley 15 miles long with an extreme width of 3½ miles. The electric power generated by the waters of this lake will be transmitted to Peral, 40 miles away, and to Chihuahua, 80 miles distant. The system is so planned that connecting cables can be run from the main lines in any direction, and whatever amount of power is desired by their enterprises can be delivered at a reasonable cost. From 6,000 to 10,000 horsepower has already been contracted for in the two cities directly interested.

IMPORTERS AT HERMOSILLO.

The British Consul in the city of Mexico states that the principal houses for the importation of machinery for the State of Sonora are

at Hermosillo. They deal in ore-crushing and other appliances necessary for the development of mines and the reduction of ores. Attention is called to the fact that all the business of the Republic is not confined to the cities of Mexico, Vera Cruz, and Tampico, and that commercial travelers would greatly develop trade by visiting the merchants of smaller centers of distribution.

ENTERPRISES AT MAZATLÁN.

A communication from a firm at Mazatlán, dated July, 1900, has been received at the Bureau of the American Republics. In this it is stated that the Mexican Government is not improving the harbor of that city, as has been published in many papers in the United States recently, but is making improvements in the harbor of Manzanillo. From the same source it is learned that there will be erected at Mazatlán a brewery with $300,000 capital; a furniture factory, with $40,000 capital; a soap factory, with $80,000 capital, and brick works, with a capital of $60,000. Two distilleries, capitalized at $50,000 and $100,000, respectively, were at the date named just starting into operation. Two new steamship companies, with capitals of $200,000 and $400,000 were recently inaugurated. The sums named are subscribed in Mexican currency.

EXPORTS OF ORANGES.

The exports of Mexican oranges to the United States during the last season were about 20 per cent less than for the previous year, according to "El Economista Mexicano." This falling off has been due to several causes, principally to the advantageous rivalry of the Jamaica oranges. Notwithstanding this, from a Mexican standpoint, the business has not been a bad one, for each box has been sold at $1.11 gold, net. One firm alone, in St. Louis, estimated that during the year 104 cars or 31,200 boxes were sold there. These oranges came mostly from Guadalajara, La Barca, Atotomilco, El Alto, Yautepec, Yurecuaro, and Hermosillo. The publication named expresses surprise that the States of Vera Cruz and Tabasco, where oranges are very abundant and can be cultivated at slight cost, should have made no effort to ship them to the United States, as the transportation, being by sea, would naturally be cheaper.

COFFEE PRODUCTION.

The figures for the production of coffee in Mexico for the year 1899 are not complete, but it is estimated that the total will exceed 30,000,000 kilograms and that the yield of the present year will reach nearly 40,000,000 kilograms. The estimated value of the crop of 1899 is $11,000,000 and that of 1900 is expected to reach $15,000,000. The United States is the best market for Mexican coffees. All the larger

importing houses of the United States send buyers to Mexico during the season, and the crops are purchased as soon as the berry is ready for the market.

SALE OF ROSE-GARNET DEPOSITS.

Press reports from the City of Mexico state that the extensive deposit of rose-garnet rock, situated near Cuautla, State of Morelos, Mexico, is to be worked on a large scale. This valuable deposit was discovered by Prof. WILLIAM NIVEN, of New York City, and it is reported to have passed into the hands of a United States syndicate.

According to the estimates of J. H. KERR, professor of chemistry and geology and formerly consulting mining and metallurgical engineer of the British Legation in the City of Mexico, the rose garnet from these quarries will bring in the market a price equal to the finest onyx, as it is a much harder and more durable stone, and surpasses onyx in beauty. Mr. KERR says:

"I have made what I believe to be a just and fair estimate of the rock practically exposed, viz, one-third of the amount thus indicated, or 240,000 tons of 'rosalite.'"

Several months ago 5 tons of the rose garnet from these quarries were shipped to New York and there manufactured into a number of different articles. These articles were thoroughly tested and the results obtained were highly satisfactory. A portion of the rough material was sold in New York for $25 per cubic foot. This stone will be used to manufacture mantelpieces, table tops and wainscoting, and numerous ornamental articles. When polished it is exceedingly beautiful and represents living roses in stone.

RUSSIAN COLONISTS.

"El Correo," of Guaymas, Sonora, under date of July 17, 1900, states that, according to recent data, 380 Russian colonists have settled upon private lands in the State of Chiapas within the last three months. The Government has granted them a considerable area of public land situated in the same State and has extended to them all the privileges of colonists to which they are entitled according to law, during the period necessary for the celebration of their colonization contract. The colonists will engage in the cultivation of coffee and other tropical products.

CONCESSION FOR TIMBER, RUBBER, SUBSTANCES, ETC.

"El Diario Oficial" of July 12, 1900, publishes the contract entered into between the Mexican Government and Mr. MAXIMILIAN DOREMBERG for the exploitation of timber, rubber, and resinous substances that may be found upon the lands covered by the concession situated in the Department of Palenque, State of Chiapas.

The concessionaire agrees not to cut mahogany or cedar trees that measured less than 2 meters in circumference at their base. He also agrees to pay to the Government the following prices: $1.50 for each mahogany or cedar tree that he cuts or proposes to cut; $18 per ton for chicle gum; $24 per ton for crude rubber; $1 annually for each hectare of ground cultivated, and 50 cents annually per head for cattle pastured. The prices mentioned are payable in advance.

If the concessionaire should not be able to remove within the period of one year all the trees selected and felled during that time, he may do so during the following year by giving due notice to the office of public lands. The contract is not transferable except with the consent of the Federal Government.

GREAT LAND SALES.

"La Gaceta Comercial," of Mexico, says that two large sales of Mexican land have recently been made to United States companies. One of these includes a tract of 1,250,000 acres of agricultural and grazing land, stocked with 22,000 head of cattle. The price paid was 630,000 *pesos*. The second sale covers 194,000 acres of land and includes 7,500 head of cattle, the price paid being 150,000 *pesos*.

COINAGE IN 1899-1900.

"El Porvenir," of Chihuahua, in its issue of July 8, 1900, says that during the fiscal year that terminated June 30, 1900, the mints of the Republic issued the following coins:

GOLD PIECES.

Number.	Denomination.	Value.
29,052	20 dollars	$581,040
244	10 dollars	2,440
376	5 dollars	1,880
14,082	1 dollar	14,082
43,754		599,442

SILVER PIECES.

20,846,088	1 dollar	$20,846,088
593,740	20 cents	118,748
814,070	10 cents	81,407
404,000	5 cents	20,200
22,657,898		21,066,443

PAVING CONTRACT.

The city council of the City of Mexico has made a contract with the Neuchatel Asphalt Company, Limited, for the paving of the streets. The prices to be paid for the pavement, per square meter, are as fol-

lows: Class A, 10.73 *pesos*; class C, 9.13 *pesos*. These prices include the conservation of the pavement for a period of ten years. This company will pave five streets, and if these prove satisfactory to the city authorities the work will be continued, otherwise the contract shall be declared forfeited.

NUMBER OF COTTON MILLS.

There are now in operation in the Republic 134 cotton mills, distributed as follows: Puebla, 27; Coahuila, 10; Federal District, 14; Tlaxcala, 10; Veracruz, 9; Mexico, 8; Durango, 8; Jalisco, 7; Nuevo León, 4; Querétaro, 4; Sinaloa, 4; Chihuahua, 3; Hidalgo, 3; Oaxaca, 3; Tepic, 3; Colima, 2; Chiapas, 1; Guerrero, 1; San Luis Potosí, 1; Guanajuato, 6; Michoacán, 5; Sonora, 1. The importation of cotton for use in these mills during the present fiscal year promises to be largely in excess of the consumption of the previous year.

SUGAR PRODUCTION.

The MONTHLY BULLETIN for May, 1900 (page 792) contains an item translated from the French regarding the production of sugar in Mexico. In this the amount was given in tons instead of in kilograms. The exact production of refined sugar during 1898–99 was 50,670,576 kilograms, or 50,670 tons of 2,204 pounds each. The total production of sugar, including *piloncillo* (the raw or unrefined product), was about 150,000 tons, but at least one-half of the *piloncillo* was distilled into spirits, together with the greater part of the molasses.

TRADE WITH GREAT BRITAIN.

The accounts relating to trade and navigation of Great Britain for the six months of 1900, ending with June 30, contain no separate enumeration of the imports from Mexico; but the items of export named, in comparison with the values for the same half of the year 1899, are as follows: Cotton piece goods, £210,666 as against £218,782; linen piece goods, £19,429 as against £19,829; railroad iron, £58,561 as against £28,941, and galvanized iron, £49,197 as against £28,453.

SCIENTIFIC EXPLORING EXPEDITION.

Prof. BENJAMIN CLUFF, of Provo College, the leading institution of learning in the State of Utah, is now in Mexico making arrangements for a scientific expedition through that country and thence to Central and South America. Besides Professor CLUFF, the party will consist of three specialists in botany, zoology, geology and archæology, and twenty-three students. They expect to spend two years in their researches. Pack animals will carry their camping outfit and supplies and the specimens as they are collected. The entire cost of the expedition will be borne by Provo College.

NEW INDIA RUBBER COMPANY.

The Palma Real Company, with a paid-up capital of $1,500,000, has been incorporated under the laws of West Virginia, to acquire 68,000 acres in the State of Veracruz, to be devoted to the planting of india rubber. The head offices are in Pittsburg, Pa. The incorporators include a number of wealthy citizens of Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Indiana. According to the "India Rubber World," this company's lands are located on the Tesechoan River, an affluent of the Papaloapan, which empties into the Gulf of Mexico near Veracruz. The company offers for public subscription $350,000 in 6 per cent first mortgage gold bonds.

UNITED STATES PATENTS FOR MEXICAN CITIZENS.

The Patent Office at Washington has issued notice of the granting of the following patents in the United States to citizens of Mexico:

July 17, 1900, No. 653,792, to ARTHUR DASCONAGUERRE, of the City of Mexico, for a "centrifugal ore-separator."

July 17, 1900, No. 654,012, to ROBERT LEWIS, of Chihuahua, for a "bit-brace."

August 7, 1900, No. 655,478. to JOSÉ M. DAMM, of Durango, for an "ore mixer and sampler."

PATENTS TO UNITED STATES CITIZENS.

The Mexican Government has granted a twenty-year patent to Mr. B. W. DUNN for certain improvements made on shrapnel bombs and bullets for same. A patent has also been issued to Mr. BIRNEY C. BATCHELLER covering his sytem of improved automatic transmitters. Mr. A. C. PRATT has also been accorded a patent on his improved cranes and hoisting apparatus.

Registry of a trade-mark consisting of the word "Directurn" has been allowed to Messrs. JAMES BEGGS & Co., boiler manufacturers of New York. The use of this word, in connection with an arrow, has proved of considerable advantage to this firm in placing their manufactures in Spanish America.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

The "Deutsche Export Zeitung" states that if the present prosperous condition continues throughout the Republic the increased demand for articles of luxury, as instanced in the large imports of watches and jewelry, will also be correspondingly great. During the year 1898–99 the imports of jewelry amounted to 153,955 *pesos*, the value of watches imported being 44,425 *pesos*. The chief source of supply for this class of goods in northern Mexico is the United States.

French and German goods are better known in the south of the Republic.

"El Nacional," of the City of Mexico, under date of July 10, 1900, states that the Treasury Department has notified the *Ayuntamiento* (city council) of the City of Mexico that the Federal Government has appropriated 500,000 *pesos* for the improvement of the capital during the present fiscal year.

"El Correo de Sonora" of July 26, 1900, says that the State Legislature has approved the contract made on April 5 last between the city of Guaymas and Señor Don Luis A. Martinez for the construction of a market house at that port.

NICARAGUA.

CELEBRATION OF THE BOUNDARY AWARD.

On July 24, 1900, in the Hall of Congress at Managua, Gen. E. P. Alexander, of the United States, who was appointed Arbitrator by President Cleveland at the request of the two Governments interested, and the engineers appointed respectively by and in the behalf of the Presidents of Nicaragua and Costa Rica, signed the maps and profiles jointly agreed upon delimiting the boundary between the two Republics.

The occasion was made a joyous one and will be memorable because of the combined military, civil, and religious ceremonies incident to the celebration of the peaceful settlement of what was formerly a source of irritation. A large and distinguished company witnessed the several parties attach their signatures to the maps and documents, of which each nation receives a set to be preserved among the Government archives at its capital. The award of the Arbitrator is published in the present number of the Monthly Bulletin.

A message from Managua dated July 27, 1900, states that on that day President Zelaya presented to Gen. E. P. Alexander a gold medal in recognition of his services in connection with the arbitration. The gift was accompanied by an expression of the hearty thanks of the Government of Nicaragua. It is understood that the decisions of the Arbitrator are mutually satisfactory to both Governments interested.

INDIA RUBBER AND AGRICULTURAL COMPANY.

The "Nicaragua Rubber and Agricultural Company" was incorporated in the State of Delaware on September 26, 1899, with a capital of $250,000. The "India Rubber World" states that this company owns 8,105 acres of land on the Rio Coco, 80 miles inland from Cape

Gracias. The land was purchased with a view to planting rubber and bananas and other fruits. This company issues a pamphlet on rubber cultivation, compiled from various sources, and another on bananas. Mr. E. W. PERRY, of Cape Gracias, is president of this organization.

PARAGUAY.

COMMERCIAL EXPANSION AND INTERNAL DEVELOPMENT.

The Consul of Paraguay at Philadelphia, Señor A. A. RUTIS, informs the Bureau of the American Republics that the "Paraguayan Development Company" was recently incorporated under the laws of the State of New Jersey, with an authorized capital of $500,000. The objects of this company, as set forth in its certificate of incorporation, are: "To open up and develop the natural resources of South American countries, and especially of the Republic of Paraguay; to organize and conduct explorations; to engage in the mining of common and precious metals; to establish, lease, or operate steamship lines; to promote immigration; to obtain and develop concessions of every kind; to execute or provide for the execution of public improvements of every description, such as harbor works, docks, waterworks, railways, sewers, and electric and other lighting plants; to charge and discharge vessels; to receive and store merchandise and issue warehouse receipts for same, and to conduct financial negotiations and operations for governments or individuals."

The Consul says that among the men behind these projects are capitalists and practical men of affairs who intend to personally engage in the important work of providing much-needed improvements in Paraguay. Much of the interest of the capitalists of the United States in Paraguayan improvements is credited to Señor CARLOS R. SANTOS, who represented that country at the recent International Commercial Congress at Philadelphia.

As supplementary to the above, it is reported by Mr. JOHN N. RUFFIN, United States Consul at Ascunsión, that much interest is being shown in public improvements in Paraguay. On May 1, 1900, the President sent to Congress a project for a law creating a fund to construct roads, build bridges, deepen river channels, improve the port, etc. For these improvements he asks that $500,000 be annually taken from the nation's income. The Minister of Finance asks that 30 per cent be devoted to the construction of roads and bridges and 70 per cent to the dredging of rivers and the construction of port walls.

In addition, the following prospective improvements are noted. Arrangements are being made to build a narrow-gauge railroad from San Pedro to the river. There is an opportunity for good returns on

capital invested in the construction of short railways. Parties interested should communicate with Señor CARLOS R. SANTOS at Asunción. He speaks and writes English. There is a plan to open up ports at San Pedro and Rosario, important points for the shipment of tobacco, skins, hides, and yerba maté, at Villetta, which has considerable commerce in the exportation of oranges, and at Paso de Patria, situated at the south end of the Republic, the doorway of the River Alta Parana and the extensive zone of Misiones, the rich cattle section. Studies are being made to ascertain the cost of constructing a system of waterworks for the capital. The mayor has expressed a desire to have an American engineer open new streets and broaden old ones in the city.

NEWSPAPER DIRECTORY OF ASUNCIÓN.

Boletín Oficial. (Official; daily.)
Cívico, El. (Political, literary, and news; daily.)
Congreso Nacional, El. (Official; daily.)
Democracia, La. (Political, literary, and news; daily.)
Estudiante, El. (Political, literary, and news; weekly.)
Gaceta Municipal. (Official; monthly.)
Gaceta Policial. (Official; daily.)
Joven Pluma, La. (Educational; monthly.)
Municipio, El. (Political, literary, commercial, and news; weekly.)
Norte del Paraguay, El. (Political, literary, commercial, and news; weekly.)
Paraguay, El. (Political, literary, and news; daily.)
Paraguay Randschau. (Scientific and news; weekly.)
Patria, La. (Political, literary, and news; daily.
Porvenir de Caacupé, El. (Social and literary; weekly.)
Porvenir, El. (Political, literary, and news; weekly.)
Prensa, La. (Political, literary, and news; daily.)
Pueblo, El. (Political, literary, and news; weekly.)
Revista Cómica. (Political, literary, and news; weekly.)
Revista de Agronomía. (Scientific; monthly.)
Revista de la Universidad. (Scientific; monthly.)
Revista del Instituto Paraguayo. (Scientific, literary, and historical; monthly.)
Revista Mensual. (Scientific and colonial; monthly.)
Tribuna, La. (Political, literary, and news; daily.)

PERU.

EXPORT DUTIES ON RUBBER AND CAOUTCHOUC.

The Government issued a decree on May 23, 1900, relative to the duties levied upon rubber exports. In the concessions of rubber plantations by the Minister of Public Works, it is stipulated that over and above the rent of 2 *sols* per quintal of rubber extracted a corresponding export duty shall be paid if said rubber be exported.

"It has therefore been decided to recover in the maritime custom-houses of the Republic the rents already overdue and those that may

become due for rubber plantations at the rate of 2 *sols* per quintal of rubber exported.

"An export duty of 5 *centavos* per kilogram of caoutchouc and of 1 *centavo* per quintal of fine rubber exported, or that may be exported on the contracts signed by the Minister of Public Works for the working of rubber plantations.

"That the custom-houses shall exact that the name of the place from which the rubber proceeds or is gathered, as also the contract to which it belongs, shall be declared in the permit of exportation, and that in case the rubber proceeds from Bolivia the necessary documentary proof must be presented."

TRADE WITH GREAT BRITAIN.

Great Britain imported from Peru, in the first half of 1900, sugar to the value of £91,680; alpaca, vicuña, and llama wool to the value of £99,994, or a total for the two products of £191,674. During the same period of 1899 the imports of sugar were worth £135,099 and the imports of wools peculiar to Peru were valued at £98,273, or a total of £233,372. This showed a decrease for the first six months of 1900 of £41,698.

The exports to Peru from January to June, inclusive, 1900, were: Cotton piece goods, valued at £144,926; woolen tissues, £39,420; worsted tissues, £17,978, and iron £26,733, or a grand total of £229,047. For the same period in 1899 the items enumerated were valued as follows: Cotton piece goods, £173,950; woolen tissues, £39,040; worsted tissues, £19,038; iron, £15,781, or a total of $247,799. The decrease in the value of exports for 1900 as compared with the same period in 1899 was £18,752.

THE GOLD STANDARD.

Mr. George E. Roberts, Director of the Mint of the United States, has been apprised by the Hon. Irving B. Dudley, United States Minister at Lima, that Peru has completed the reform in its monetary system contemplated in April, 1897, when the free coinage of silver was suspended. The single gold standard has been adopted and a gold coin issued, known as the *libra* or Peruvian pound, being identical in weight and fineness with the English pound sterling. The *libra* and the silver *sol* are now received on equal terms by the banks of the country and circulate concurrently. The coinage of the former is free, while coins of the latter kind are used only in a subsidiary capacity.

MARKET FOR UNITED STATES WHEAT AND FLOUR.

The steamer *Octavia*, of the Kosmos Line, recently brought from San Francisco a cargo of 40,000 sacks of wheat, consigned to the port

of Callao. American wheat and flour come into competition in that market with the Chilean product, and, notwithstanding the long haul and heavy freight charges on shipments from San Francisco, wheat and flour from the United States, due to their cheapness and fine quality, are able at the present time to practically control the Peruvian markets.

REPRESENTATIVE AT MEXICO.

The Peruvian Government has appointed Dr. MANUEL ALVAREZ CALDERON as representative of Peru at the Pan-American Congress at Mexico in 1901.

SEALING AND WHALE FISHING.

The British legation at Lima reports that the Minister of Public Works has issued a decree permitting the hunting of seals and whales on the Peruvian coast. Regulations are to be drawn up under which this industry, which was suspended several years ago, may be carried on.

SALVADOR.

EXPORT TAX ON CATTLE.

The "Diario Oficial" of July 11, 1900, contains the following decree:

"Whereas the continued exportation of bovine cattle has resulted in an alarming decrease in their number throughout the country, producing a consequent scarcity and increase in prices; and

"Whereas it is the duty of the Executive Power to foresee the necessities of the people and anticipate evils that may arise; and

"Whereas the placing of a tax on each head of cattle exported will bring about a decrease in exportation and at the same time will be of benefit to the National Treasury, the President therefore decrees:

"ARTICLE 1. That for the exportation of each head of bovine cattle there shall be paid $5 if male and $10 if female.

"ART. 2. For the purpose of insuring the enforcement of this provision, the authorities, civil as well as military, and especially the authorities on the frontier, shall require of the shipper (conductor) a document or waybill certifying to the payment of this tax, which shall be paid to the Administration of Rents nearest the place where the cattle are exported.

"ART. 3. The lack of this requisite shall be cause for confiscation and the imposing of a fine equal to twice the amount of the tax.

"ART. 4. The fines imposed in accordance with this law shall be equally divided, one-half going to the Government and the other half to the employee who makes the confiscation or to the private informer."

EXPLOITATION OF FIBER PLANTS.

"El Diario del Salvador," in its issue of June 16, 1900, contains an important article regarding the exploitation of fibrous plants in Central America.

These plants are very abundant in a wild state, but up to the present time have not been cultivated, notwithstanding the fact that their tillage would be extremely profitable to the agriculturist and of great benefit to the country in general. Mexico is cited as sending thousands of tons of her fibers to foreign markets, where they are in excellent demand and where the prices obtained are exceedingly advantageous. During the last few years great improvements have been made in the manufacture of machinery for the extraction of fibers from plants, and old and antiquated machinery and methods have been largely discarded and almost entirely replaced by modern contrivances and processes. A small installation of fiber-extracting machinery costs approximately $4,000.

In Central America many thousands of tons of fibrous leaves are destroyed annually on account of the absence of extracting machinery. From this abundant supply of raw material there could be manufactured many useful articles of commerce, such as ropes, sacks, carpets, nets, large quantities of cloth and knit goods, and numerous other articles. Many of these things have a large local demand, are suitable for home consumption, and if produced within the country, a great saving in duties, freights, etc., would result.

Cocoanut fiber is referred to as being extensively used in the manufacture of rugs, ropes, brushes, brooms, and sundry other articles. It is generally calculated that 1,000 nuts will produce from 200 to 220 pounds of fiber suitable for the manufacture of yarn and from 30 to 50 pounds adapted to the manufacture of brushes. The market price of this material in London is about £26 per ton. There is also quite a demand for the fiber extracted from the leaves of the pineapple. One thousand of these leaves will produce about 60 pounds of clean fiber, which sells in London at from £22 to £28 per ton.

SANTO DOMINGO.

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS FIRST QUARTER OF 1900.

The MONTHLY BULLETIN is indebted to Señor Don JOSÉ G. GARCÍA, Honorary Corresponding Member of the International Union of American Republics at Santo Domingo, for the following table showing the duties collected in that Republic on imports of merchandise during the first quarter of the present year:

Santo Domingo, $123,067.72; Puerto Plata, $108,118.34; Montecristi, $12.914.10; Samaná, $7,349.92; Sanchez, $51,288.15; Macorís, $189,517.10; Azua, $10,252.10; Barahona, $1,119.40; total, $503,626.83.

UNITED STATES.

TRADE WITH LATIN AMERICA.

STATEMENT OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The following is the latest statement from figures compiled by the Bureau of Statistics, United States Treasury Department, showing the value of the trade between the United States and the Latin-American countries. The report is for the month of June, 1900, with a comparative statement for the corresponding month of the previous year, also for the twelve months ending June, 1900, compared with the fiscal year ending June 30, 1899. It should be explained that the figures from the various custom-houses showing imports and exports for any one month are not received at the Treasury Department until about the 20th of the following month, and some time is necessarily consumed in compilation and printing, so that the complete returns for June, for example, are not published until some time in August.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

Articles and countries.	June—		Twelve months ending June—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Chemicals:				
Logwood (*Palo campeche; Páu campeche; Campeche*)—				
Mexico	$1,515	$710	$22,853	$14,270
Coal, bituminous (*Carbón bituminoso; Carvão bituminoso; Charbon de terre*):				
Mexico	15,576	4,306	234,884	124,647
Cocoa (*Cacao; Coco ou cacao crú; Cacao*):				
Central America	.....	358	8,597	12,235
Brazil	13,824	11,202	646,756	994,283
Other South America	131,802	304,343	1,378,604	1,567,950
Coffee (*Café; Café; Café*):				
Central America	441,683	399,098	5,368,711	4,356,407
Mexico	235,340	336,109	2,686,248	3,312,608
Brazil	2,909,139	1,028,566	35,253,834	34,333,762
Other South America	680,108	399,158	7,217,590	4,595,751
Cotton, unmanufactured (*Algodón en rama; Algodão em rama; Coton, non manufacturé*):				
South America	3,302	12,040	136,776	287,459
Fibers:				
Sisal grass (*Henequen; Henequen; Hennequen*)—				
Mexico	540,970	702,069	8,902,213	11,506,350
Fruits:				
Bananas (*Plátanos; Bananas; Bananes*)—				
Central America	229,290	256,436	1,816,843	2,333,361
South America	146,226	73,155	732,431	998,860
Oranges (*Naranjas; Laranjas; Oranges*)—				
Mexico	2,454	1,538	139,644	186,048
Fur skins (*Pieles finas; Pelles; Fourrures*):				
South America	19,443	22,388	151,704	135,596
Hides and skins (*Cueros y pieles; Coutos e pelles; Cuirs et peaux*):				
Central America	40,242	44,270	287,557	502,492
Mexico	123,216	163,400	1,879,750	2,380,251
South America	1,449,873	918,563	10,447,178	10,770,449

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	June—		Twelve months ending June—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
India rubber, crude (*Goma elástica; Borracha crua; Caoutchouc brut*):				
Central America	$71,186	$59,794	$855,145	$792,250
Mexico	15,907	45	142,887	201,326
Brazil	872,370	1,034,289	16,999,345	17,954,490
Other South America	68,343	19,562	951,737	876,584
Lead, in pigs, bars, etc. (*Plomo en galápagos, barras, etc.; Chumbo em linguados, barras, etc.; Plombs en saumons, en barres, etc.*):				
Mexico	139,016	219,930	1,908,111	2,537,855
Sugar, not above No. 16 Dutch standard (*Azúcar, no superior de la escala holandesa; Assucar não superior ao No. 16 de padrão hollandez; Sucre, pas au-dessus du type hollandais No. 16*):				
Central America	54,988	8,604	158,639	90,600
Mexico	10,247	323	52,976	41,077
Cuba	2,606,213	2,220,652	16,412,088	18,243,635
Brazil	.....	334,421	810,276	1,693,588
Other South America	252,577	361,174	5,341,713	5,487,832
Tobacco, leaf (*Tabaco en rama; Tabaco em folha; Tabac en feuilles*):				
Mexico	1,171	1,603	229,554	81,203
Cuba	483,824	402,672	4,964,749	7,622,333
Wood, mahogany (*Caoba; Mogno; Acajou*):				
Central America	5,004	34,188	369,126	305,883
Mexico	70,246	29,830	413,222	425,810
Cuba	10,624	40,528	33,671	211,943
South America	1,937	800	16,696	25,042
Wool (*Lana; Lã; Laine*):				
South America—				
Class 1 (clothing)	198,419	203,807	478,180	2,257,710
Class 2 (combing)	.....	.....	106	48,600
Class 3 (carpet)	131,262	36,603	459,429	793,982

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE.

Agricultural implements (*Instrumentos de agricultura; Instrumentos de agricultura; Machines agricoles*):				
Central America	$166	$1,093	$6,244	$7,520
Mexico	20,603	71,236	222,476	456,967
Santo Domingo	144	313	735	3,350
Cuba	11,412	12,130	43,104	175,816
Argentine Republic	225,785	56,916	1,679,019	1,805,744
Brazil	803	2,193	34,130	32,121
Colombia	5	.....	1,540	1,380
Other South America	11,379	13,205	284,204	292,873
Breadstuffs:				
Corn (*Maíz; Milho; Maïs*)—				
Central America	2,236	2,911	38,468	42,567
Mexico	15,643	21,962	63,412	243,968
Santo Domingo	10	.....	266	373
Cuba	91,217	56,543	293,507	568,990
South America	1,995	1,236	23,122	69,632
Wheat (*Trigo; Trigo; Blé*)—				
Central America	4,113	1,897	34,323	13,711
Mexico	2	.....	5,145	2,047
South America	385	79,380	191,211	323,848
Wheat flour (*Harina de trigo; Farinha de trigo; Farine de blé*)—				
Central America	65,672	66,527	986,553	828,272
Mexico	18,356	12,840	138,979	147,344
Santo Domingo	13,716	15,437	126,166	144,294
Cuba	190,252	206,230	1,739,165	2,047,652
Brazil	295,696	432,827	3,399,027	2,549,065
Colombia	53,979	14,375	425,904	256,627
Other South America	154,090	134,459	1,410,485	1,532,900

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	June—		Twelve months ending June—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Carriages, cars, etc., and parts of (*Carruages, carros y sus accesorios; Carruagens, carros e partes de carros; Voitures, wagons et leurs parties*):				
Central America	$393	$7,887	$36,695	$30,505
Mexico	94,712	96,018	510,247	1,010,096
Santo Domingo	254	177	21,438	18,697
Cuba	13,991	27,546	131,714	212,635
Argentine Republic	20,026	12,302	533,931	334,361
Brazil	1,280	974	105,583	163,657
Colombia	1,841	2,644	25,801	25,889
Other South America	2,107	4,485	51,531	65,069
Cycles, and parts of (*Bicicletas y sus accesorios; Bicyclos e accessorios; Bicyclettes et leurs parties*):				
Central America	728	80	6,330	2,664
Mexico	2,219	954	48,301	24,030
Santo Domingo		29	253	329
Cuba	7,583	3,216	22,614	150,723
Argentine Republic	34,737	2,951	238,788	161,259
Brazil	3,040	4,520	55,046	30,812
Colombia	1,040	58	9,328	6,327
Other South America	4,531	2,595	54,441	63,713
Coal (*Carbón; Carvão; Charbon*):				
Central America	990	6,772	14,024	30,286
Mexico	104,372	151,572	1,235,265	1,766,954
Santo Domingo	1,808	6	12,827	15,324
Cuba	56,655	50,663	685,297	726,815
Brazil	822	19,435	151,354	128,977
Colombia	9,356	155	25,765	39,128
Other South America	732	38,311	179,425	153,731
Copper (*Cobre; Cobre; Cuivre*):				
Mexico	31,097	42,056	297,940	611,761
Cotton, unmanufactured (*Algodón no manufacturado; Algodão não manufacturado; Coton, non manufacturé*):				
Mexico	4,064	68,577	1,043,473	814,231
South America				8,155
Cotton cloths (*Tejidos de algodón; Fazendas de algodão; Coton manufacturé*):				
Central America	78,420	52,744	567,514	754,176
Mexico	31,810	29,761	481,569	470,471
Santo Domingo	45,956	15,771	198,893	115,454
Cuba	95,892	12,945	447,839	445,010
Argentine Republic	22,190	10,788	195,624	113,028
Brazil	49,071	23,432	545,545	394,114
Colombia	53,047	20,656	392,343	262,689
Other South America	80,678	113,808	1,374,117	1,132,783
Wearing apparel (*Ropa de algodón; Roupa de algodão; Vêtements en coton*):				
Central America	32,717	17,741	232,896	421,966
Mexico	38,487	33,027	401,962	488,418
Santo Domingo	1,240	3,812	26,205	30,653
Cuba	14,286	9,749	112,580	167,242
Argentine Republic	2,872	420	65,484	17,205
Brazil	2,098	2,059	41,657	42,004
Colombia	6,116	3,248	46,793	47,671
Other South America	4,602	5,037	52,404	70,297
Instruments:				
Electric and scientific apparatus (*Aparatos eléctricos y científicos; Apparelhos electricos e scientificos; Appareils électriques et scientifiques*)—				
Central America	3,232	6,792	77,989	66,434
Mexico	37,094	27,524	429,188	424,637
Argentine Republic	36,701	18,041	247,062	259,608
Brazil	6,646	29,519	113,981	222,137
Other South America	10,974	12,782	120,951	220,192
Iron and steel, manufactures of:				
Steel rails (*Carriles de acero; Trilhos de aço; Rails d'acier*)—				
Central America	1,000		34,627	13,877
Mexico	89,945	102,803	587,589	747,822
South America	2,300	48,052	249,080	254,196

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	June—		Twelve months ending June—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Iron and steel, manufactures of—Continued.				
Builders' hardware, and saws and tools (*Materiales de metal para construcción, sierras y herramientas; Ferragens, serras e ferramentas; Matériaux de construction en fer et acier, scies et outils*)—				
Central America	$6,656	$9,297	$82,480	$106,023
Mexico	37,340	49,908	358,213	510,637
Santo Domingo	546	1,122	11,072	13,302
Cuba	38,279	25,818	262,379	347,468
Argentine Republic	33,514	35,611	232,579	306,961
Brazil	21,855	26,014	225,191	296,746
Colombia	10,956	3,602	108,758	58,749
Other South America	15,112	24,171	234,059	278,788
Sewing machines and parts of (*Máquinas de coser y accesorios; Machinas de coser e accessorios; Machines à coudre et leurs parties*)—				
Central America	2,152	3,555	20,312	31,480
Mexico	13,601	24,772	270,592	291,882
Santo Domingo	127	315	2,373	3,432
Cuba	4,121	27,784	12,323	99,050
Argentine Republic	24,377	35,712	143,893	184,699
Brazil	11,449	7,618	112,398	135,522
Colombia	8,681	753	69,374	13,723
Other South America	8,288	11,861	127,299	160,648
Typewriting machines and parts of (*Máquinas de escribir y accesorios; Machinas de escribir e accessorios; Machines à écrire et leurs parties*)—				
Central America	275	148	2,440	3,264
Mexico	5,920	4,189	45,824	63,324
Santo Domingo	20	78	208	452
Cuba	1,021	4,288	19,769	36,003
Argentine Republic	1,096	1,328	31,164	36,946
Brazil	650	115	6,135	11,719
Colombia	286	100	3,942	2,507
Other South America	2,646	3,126	25,981	24,960
Leather, other than sole (*Cuero, distinto del de suelo; Couro não para solas; Cuirs, autres que pour semelles*):				
Central America	56	1,942	10,278	28,734
Mexico	100	2,295	9,872	41,365
Santo Domingo	225	291	1,759	2,798
Cuba	5,746	3,230	14,828	37,857
Argentine Republic	2,388	11,294	34,433	73,390
Brazil	13,182	13,694	53,913	107,231
Colombia	550	50	3,781	2,039
Other South America	4,147	4,828	32,033	44,448
Boots and shoes (*Calzado; Calçados; Chaussures*):				
Central America	11,678	7,129	106,554	152,688
Mexico	24,103	26,672	212,245	353,691
Colombia	4,871	7,460	34,231	54,145
Other South America	710	4,454	36,562	47,212
Naval stores:				
Rosin, tar, etc. (*Resina y alquitrán; Resina e alcatrão; Résine et goudron*)—				
Central America	1,100	746	14,474	13,004
Mexico	847	558	8,924	6,996
Santo Domingo	46	211	3,760	2,593
Cuba	629	1,530	9,032	15,455
Argentine Republic	1,205	150	74,242	123,203
Brazil	7,350	14,392	220,213	145,670
Colombia	278	230	12,517	10,370
Other South America	4,328	6,382	80,540	97,080
Turpentine, spirits of (*Aguarrás; Agua-raz; Térébenthine*)—				
Central America	828	696	4,181	7,695
Mexico	374	213	4,393	3,968
Santo Domingo	110	9	627	434
Cuba	4,686	2,746	35,371	43,823
Argentine Republic	21,539	21,513	55,785	167,454
Brazil	4,543	19,631	51,791	78,260
Colombia	426	487	6,738	3,989
Other South America	7,602	10,538	47,859	71,367

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	June—		Twelve months ending June—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Oils, mineral, crude (*Aceites minerales, crudos; Oleos mineraes, crús; Huilcs minérales, brutes*):				
Mexico	$59,838	$68,696	$395,386	$455,372
Cuba	25,913	35,792	192,686	416,501
Oils, mineral, refined or manufactured (*Aceites minerales, refinados ó manufacturados; Huiles minérales, raffinées ou manufacturées*):				
Central America	9,739	13,528	131,333	158,778
Mexico	24,590	19,743	191,480	208,685
Santo Domingo	964	5,674	39,955	57,449
Cuba	4,625	5,593	125,156	69,748
Argentine Republic	124,172	97,084	856,127	1,367,998
Brazil	79,073	269,257	1,499,118	2,027,496
Colombia	20,351	16,926	129,600	148,847
Other South America	76,533	95,594	890,460	1,341,349
Oils, vegetable (*Aceites vegetales; Oleos vegetaes; Huiles végétales*):				
Central America	361	293	5,114	7,053
Mexico	73,435	117,800	491,114	1,021,613
Santo Domingo	4,013	7,008	30,627	54,798
Cuba	3,667	----------	20,395	38,135
Argentine Republic	3,716	4,472	29,752	55,621
Brazil	11,452	46,626	196,501	284,936
Other South America	9,180	12,090	97,897	143,023
Provisions, comprising meat and dairy products:				
Beef, canned (*Carne de vaca en latas; Carne de vacca em latas; Bœuf conservé*)—				
Central America	1,370	1,634	20,148	29,630
Mexico	2,422	2,192	19,570	21,051
Santo Domingo	----------	----------	117	90
Cuba	470	10	13,698	5,412
Argentine Republic	93	540	1,445	1,372
Brazil	725	175	17,101	31,946
Colombia	552	436	5,073	9,704
Other South America	263	1,965	11,861	21,400
Beef, salted or pickled (*Carne de vaca salada ó en salmuera; Carne de vacca salgada ou em salmoura; Bœuf, salé ou en saumure*)—				
Central America	4,737	2,991	35,858	40,048
Mexico	45	53	625	2,606
Santo Domingo	1,098	501	4,875	4,306
Cuba	744	414	32,014	15,795
Brazil	44	25	2,530	4,391
Colombia	2,192	1,386	14,713	22,183
Other South America	14,093	19,626	174,498	193,839
Tallow (*Sebo; Sebo; Suif*)—				
Central America	7,783	11,243	92,126	83,032
Mexico	1,986	499	33,575	23,351
Santo Domingo	18	1,158	15,840	14,450
Cuba	23	788	19,165	3,065
Brazil	990	4,105	37,778	62,478
Colombia	2,346	275	14,408	9,534
Other South America	508	1,929	33,762	54,400
Bacon (*Tocino; Toucinho; Lard fumé*)—				
Central America	1,835	2,309	17,914	27,518
Mexico	2,059	1,527	17,277	22,652
Santo Domingo	320	182	1,903	2,338
Cuba	95,175	56,725	643,381	777,045
Brazil	7,340	10,739	415,745	135,392
Colombia	308	92	1,862	2,815
Other South America	382	2,269	16,758	13,403
Hams (*Jamones; Presunto; Jambons*)—				
Central America	2,495	1,910	23,260	30,647
Mexico	1,974	3,420	30,856	44,982
Santo Domingo	545	800	7,483	8,040
Cuba	72,609	43,818	559,584	676,908
Brazil	176	685	3,649	5,409
Colombia	2,642	1,628	16,507	19,608
Other South America	7,159	5,407	84,837	73,089
Pork (*Carne de puerco; Carne de porco; Porc*)—				
Central America	6,402	7,901	63,395	83,681
Santo Domingo	1,165	1,270	5,949	8,078
Cuba	4,289	35,785	39,466	411,921

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	June—		Twelve months ending June—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Provisions, comprising meat and dairy products—Continued.				
Pork (*Carne de puerco; Carne de porco; Porc*)—C't'd.				
Brazil	$1,488	.....	$7,368	$1,570
Colombia	1,410	$1,491	9,513	15,669
Other South America	15,992	26,751	236,575	226,790
Lard (*Manteca; Banha; Saindoux*)—				
Central America	13,186	13,403	159,526	193,335
Mexico	14,509	29,354	169,689	440,214
Santo Domingo	4,692	3,398	27,945	28,856
Cuba	189,016	246,758	1,472,604	2,183,001
Argentine Republic	153	1,301	3,636	6,706
Brazil	101,013	104,910	1,209,882	830,321
Colombia	21,690	10,108	105,119	140,661
Other South America	59,425	57,731	628,355	768,528
Butter (*Mantequilla; Manteiga; Beurre*)—				
Central America	4,415	3,073	46,637	51,064
Mexico	3,000	2,772	49,767	45,289
Santo Domingo	910	1,984	11,154	17,762
Cuba	5,157	1,344	99,497	45,469
Brazil	20,127	21,587	177,514	189,886
Colombia	1,733	1,302	15,127	15,531
Other South America	17,130	11,518	141,219	132,169
Cheese (*Queso; Queijo; Fromage*)—				
Central America	1,609	1,491	17,602	24,041
Mexico	1,851	1,019	19,919	24,473
Santo Domingo	471	516	4,928	8,270
Cuba	3,137	2,020	76,884	42,077
Brazil	.....	.....	638	90
Colombia	728	494	7,950	8,174
Other South America	1,017	554	13,362	11,717
Tobacco, unmanufactured (*Tabaco no manufacturado; Tabaco não manufacturado; Tabac non manufacturé*):				
Central America	1,254	4,092	24,629	33,685
Mexico	12,275	23,273	143,786	182,938
Argentine Republic	2,252	.....	24,677	23,394
Colombia	964	746	6,449	13,107
Other South America	10,343	4,874	97,663	107,222
Tobacco, manufactures of (*Manufacturas de tabaco; Manufacturas de tabaco; Tabac fabriqué*):				
Central America	988	7,306	51,694	59,860
Mexico	2,025	498	20,338	7,028
Cuba	14,475	19,562	160,547	196,563
Argentine Republic	2,028	175	6,204	24,157
Brazil	.....	.....	500	457
Colombia	1,281	998	6,663	6,848
Other South America	4,561	9,031	84,655	64,858
Wood, unmanufactured (*Madera no manufacturado; Madeira não manufacturado; Bois brut*):				
Central America	1,600	3,821	28,988	28,367
Mexico	6,473	29,627	257,918	252,076
Cuba	7,216	7,167	43,723	59,760
Argentine Republic	607	112	18,706	22,616
Brazil	.....	11,136	4,524	17,992
Colombia	258	300	22,445	8,308
Other South America	.....	255	26,192	74,197
Lumber (*Maderas; Madeiras; Bois de construction*):				
Central America	3,875	7,214	59,567	50,475
Mexico	85,083	117,250	797,565	1,164,361
Santo Domingo	3,538	293	34,109	34,987
Cuba	35,931	92,339	730,964	1,137,371
Argentine Republic	78,059	63,929	990,730	1,168,040
Brazil	52,682	15,867	443,622	366,099
Colombia	4,436	4,945	49,736	69,498
Other South America	48,972	40,383	521,315	540,322
Furniture (*Muebles; Mobilia; Meubles*):				
Central America	4,113	3,190	37,489	47,841
Mexico	20,547	35,846	235,072	407,064
Santo Domingo	1,808	1,400	9,027	11,070
Cuba	13,776	100,839	92,248	603,669
Argentine Republic	17,222	24,024	77,157	113,950
Brazil	3,345	1,620	32,819	38,339
Colombia	3,608	780	29,969	17,955
Other South America	1,978	4,412	66,555	62,450

COMMERCE WITH LATIN-AMERICA DURING THE LAST FISCAL YEAR.

The "Monthly Summary of Foreign Commerce" (advance sheets), prepared by the Bureau of Statistics of the Treasury Department, among reports covering all countries having commercial relations with this country, publishes statistics showing the total valuation of the imports from Latin-America and of the exports from the United States to the Latin-American countries. From this, the official figures (subject, possibly, to slight revision for the year just ended) are obtained for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900, in comparison with the years 1899 and 1898. British Honduras, Cuba, Porto Rico, Miquelon, Langley, etc., and the Guianas are grouped with the countries belonging to the International Union of American Republics, the first named, and Miquelon, Langley, etc., being classed with the North American countries for convenience. In the total for exports to South America in 1898, the sum of $1,010, the value of merchandise sent to the Falkland Islands in that year, is included; there has been no commerce with those islands since. Most of the commerce of Bolivia is through the port of Antofagasta, Chile, to which country it is credited. Likewise a great proportion of the commerce of the United States with Paraguay is through Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic and Montevideo, Uruguay, and the statistics are credited to those countries.

NORTH AMERICA.

Countries.	Imports.			Exports.		
	1900.	1899.	1898.	1900.	1899.	1898.
Mexico	$28,615,881	$22,995,722	$19,004,863	$34,974,361	$25,483,075	$21,206,939
British Honduras	198,040	198,203	171,920	620,447	500,802	576,111
Cuba	31,571,704	25,408,828	15,232,477	26,513,613	18,616,377	9,561,656
Porto Rico	3,078,415	3,179,827	2,414,356	4,640,431	2,685,848	1,505,946
Haiti	1,184,797	826,530	876,582	2,996,689	2,455,966	2,968,579
Santo Domingo	3,680,413	3,125,779	2,382,139	1,317,098	1,104,013	1,151,258
Miquelon, Langley, etc	66,709	86,283	161,030	179,387	194,624	205,005
Total	68,195,959	55,821,172	40,243,367	71,242,026	51,040,705	37,175,494

CENTRAL AMERICA.

Costa Rica	$2,980,030	$3,581,899	$2,732,426	$1,462,355	$1,240,950	$1,520,161
Guatemala	2,402,978	2,111,264	1,854,303	785,462	1,102,963	1,201,714
Honduras	988,606	911,849	784,741	1,184,193	832,016	752,203
Nicaragua	1,520,266	1,514,630	1,095,865	1,815,129	1,186,511	1,049,505
Salvador	738,674	1,085,703	799,145	679,440	625,414	796,575
Total	8,630,554	9,205,345	7,266,480	5,926,579	4,987,854	5,320,158

SOUTH AMERICA.

Countries.	Imports.			Exports.		
	1900	1899.	1898.	1900.	1899.	1898.
Argentine Republic	$8,114,304	$5,112,561	$5,915,879	$11,558,237	$9,563,510	$6,429,070
Bolivia	22			59,223	31,298	20,675
Brazil	58,073,457	57,875,747	61,750,369	11,578,119	12,239,036	13,317,036
Chile	7,081,186	2,942,962	3,736,307	3,287,362	2,107,124	2,351,727
Colombia	4,307,814	5,126,731	5,183,604	2,710,688	3,042,094	3,277,257
Ecuador	1,524,378	1,054,653	765,590	1,216,008	882,591	855,193
British Guiana	3,795,358	3,500,207	3,060,968	1,912,814	1,749,545	1,747,375
Dutch Guiana	1,230,412	1,651,009	1,457,135	491,236	443,757	408,414
French Guiana	37,564	37,929	12,551	195,037	170,090	150,041
Paraguay		160		4,884	10,751	699
Peru	2,122,543	1,496,978	714,247	1,662,475	1,325,650	1,302,695
Uruguay	1,848,077	1,281,109	1,772,480	1,816,881	1,242,822	1,214,248
Venezuela	5,500,019	6,507,847	7,722,564	2,452,757	2,851,634	2,746,261
Total	93,635,134	86,587,893	92,091,694	38,945,721	35,659,902	33,821,701

EXPORTS OF LEATHER ARTICLES.

In the last few years, says the "New Yorker Handels Zeitung," the competition of the leather industry of the United States in the markets of the world has made itself clearly felt. Ten years ago the idea of introducing American shoes in foreign markets would have met with little encouragement. Now it is an accomplished fact, and the results obtained prove that American industry can compete successfully with the foreign industry. The industrial evolution in shoemaking is such that the production already exceeds the consumption. The American factories can in nine months manufacture enough shoes to supply the consumption during the whole year. The development of the industry has reached such a degree that it is obliged to look to other countries for new outlets for its overproduction. However, the exportation of shoes has not obtained the success of leather articles. Eleven per cent of these latter are sent abroad, while only 1½ per cent of the former is sent. The exports rose in value to $1,900,000 in 1898 and to $3,800,000 in 1899, and for the present year this figure will be greatly exceeded. The increase in the exports of machinery necessary for the manufacture of shoes is a sure sign that the products of the American shoe industry are more and more appreciated abroad. From $494,000 in 1898 the exports of this machinery rose to $503,000 in 1899. While a decrease in customs duties is granted to foreign raw materials reexported under form of manufactured articles, the duties levied on hides and skins nevertheless constitute a great obstacle for the American trade in its foreign relations.

Besides Europe, which offers an outlet more and more favorable to American shoes, can be mentioned the West Indies, where the demand is constantly increasing. The new Cuban and Porto Rican tariffs will contribute to facilitate the sale of United States products there.

RECIPROCAL TREATIES WITH GERMANY AND ITALY.

On July 14, 1900, a newly signed reciprocity treaty between the United States and Germany was proclaimed at Washington. Germany

secures a reduction of duties on wines, argols, etc., while the United States, in return, obtains the benefit of "most favored nation" clause, or, in other words, the minimum tariff rates on goods exported to Germany.

On the 18th of July, 1900, proclamation was made at Washington of a reciprocal commercial arrangement between the United States and Italy, in accordance with the provisions of section 3 of the tariff act of the United States enacted July 24, 1897. Concessions were made by the United States on argols, brandies, and other spirits, still wines and vermouth, paintings in oil, water colors, pastels, pen and ink drawings, and statuary coming from Italy. In return Italy makes reduced rates upon cotton-seed oil, pickled and preserved fish, agricultural machinery and detached parts, scientific instruments of copper, bronze, brass, steel, and iron, dynamo-electrical machinery and detached parts, sewing machines, and varnishes that come from the United States. In addition, turpentine, natural fertilizers, skins and furs exported from the United States will be admitted by the Italian customs free of duty.

PAN-AMERICAN EMBLEM.

The official emblem of the Pan-American Exposition, which was designed by Raphael Beck, a Lockport, New York, artist, and was accepted as the most artistic and suitable of several hundred designs submitted, has the especial merit of effectively symbolizing one of the chief purposes of the Exposition, which is to bring into closer social and trade relationship the Republics, States, and Territories of North and South America. The emblem shows a fair maiden, typifying the North, extending a kindly hand to clasp that of her brunette sister of the South, thus forming a bond of continental sisterhood and establishing a unity of sentiment and interests between the countries of the Western Hemisphere.

NEW LATIN-AMERICAN CONSULAR OFFICERS.

The following consular officers, representing Latin-American governments, have recently been recognized by the United States Government:

Luis M. Moraguez, Consul of Nicaragua at Mobile, Alabama.

Ormond W. F. O. Llin, Honorary Vice-Consul of Guatemala at San Diego, California.

Vicente T. Vidal, Honorary Vice-Consul of Guatemala at Pensacola, Florida.

Carlos M. Grebus, Consul of Honduras at Detroit, Michigan.

Charles M. Barnet, Consul of Costa Rica at Norfolk, Virginia.

William A. Riordan, Vice-Consul of the Dominican Republic at Baltimore, Maryland.

ANDREW J. HOWELL, Jr., Vice-Consul of the Dominican Republic at Wilmington, North Carolina.

FEDERICO ALFONSO PEZET, Consul-General of Peru at New York.

ARTHUR CAMERON HUMPHREYS, Vice-Consul of Mexico at Norfolk, Virginia.

RECEIPTS IN PORTO RICO.

The Secretary of the Treasury has received a statement of the receipts of the Government of Porto Rico during the month of July, as follows: From customs, $106,880; internal revenues, $56,534; miscellaneous, $4,232; total, $167,646. This is at the rate of over $2,000,000 a year, and is satisfactory to the Treasury officials. The report also states the exchange of Porto Rican money for that of the United States had been practically accomplished on August 1.

CERTIFICATION OF CONSULAR INVOICES.

The Treasury Department of the United States has recently had occasion to reiterate one of its former decisions relative to consular invoices. This decision was that such invoices "should be certified before the Consul of the district in which the goods are when purchased, or from which the journey of exportation to the United States commences."

CUSTOMS SERVICE IN HAWAII.

A supervising special agent of the Treasury of the United States recently reorganized the customs service of Hawaii. The force has been cut down from 100 to 50 men, as there is no longer any collection of imports from the United States, from whence most of the supplies come. It is believed, however, that the revenues from merchandise imported will amount to $500,000 a year.

URUGUAY.

REPORT OF TARIFF COMMISSION.

The United States Consul at Montevideo reports that the commission appointed to examine into needed tariff changes for Uruguay has submitted a report to the Government in which the whole list of importations comes in for "harmonizing changes." The import rate on lumber from the United States was greatly reduced, and other favorable changes made. It was found, however, that the rates proposed would not afford the requisite amount of customs revenue. There will, it is said, therefore, be no modification on any goods coming into Uruguayan ports for several years at least.

AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS.

Mr. ALBERT W. SWALM, Consul of the United States at Montevideo, in speaking of the official statement of the quantity and value of the

agricultural exports of the Republic for 1899, says that the report is of especial value in showing the growing exports of wheat, flour, and maize. He also notes that in 1899 flour from the River Plate exceeded all other flour imports in the Brazilian market, and ventures the prediction that within a comparatively short time the flour market of Brazil will be almost exclusively controlled by Uruguay. It is stated that new mills of the best United States patterns are being contracted for, and that the flour will be handled in the most modern manner.

TRADE WITH GREAT BRITAIN.

A British official report shows the following were the exports to Uruguay during the first half of 1900, as compared with the first half of 1899: Cotton piece goods, £160,637 as against £181,137; woolen tissues, £27,167 as against £22,432; worsted tissues, £49,353 as against £41,533; iron of all kinds, £67,783 as against £28,102; a total of £304,940 for 1900 as against £273,204 in 1899.

No imports from Uruguay are separately returned in the British report, though attention is called to the fact that the hides credited to the Argentine Republic include also the value of hides from Uruguay.

RATIFICATION OF TREATY WITH GREAT BRITAIN.

On June 9, 1900, the Minister of Foreign Affairs for Uruguay and the British Minister to that country exchanged the ratifications of a convention entered into by the countries they respectfully represent continuing for three years the commercial treaty of 1885. The date of the convention was July 15, 1899.

EXPORTS OF WOOL.

The exports of wool from Montevideo from November 15, 1899, to June 20, 1900, were 37,912 bales in comparison with 64,619 bales for the same period in 1898–99. For the time named, ending June 20 last, the number of bales sent abroad were to the following markets: Dunkirk, 12,276; Antwerp, 11,333; Hamburg, 5,603; Liverpool, 5,322; Bremen, 1,744; Genoa, 983; New York, 436, and Havre, 215.

VENEZUELA.

NEW STAMP LAW.

Hon. Francis B. Loomis, United States Minister at Caracas, has forwarded a translation of a decree issued by President Castro and ratified June 13, 1900. As many citizens of the United States are called upon to pay these stamp taxes, inasmuch as they have intimate business relations with Venezuelan importers and exporters, the

subject is of considerable importance to them. The decree is as follows:

"ARTICLE I. The national tax of instruction stamps will be continued according to the following tariff:

"On documents or writings of any kind which deal with values, whether for circulation in the Republic or foreign countries, stamps will be affixed and canceled as follows:

Value.		Stamp.	
Bolivars.	United States currency.	Bolivars.	United States currency.
25 to 50	$4.82 to $9.65	0.05	$0.0096
50 to 100	9.65 to 19.30	.10	.0193
100 to 200	19.30 to 38.60	.20	.0386
200 to 300	38.60 to 57.90	.30	.0579
300 to 400	57.90 to 77.20	.40	.0772
400 to 500	77.20 to 96.50	.50	.0965
500 to 1,000	96.50 to 193.00	1.00	.193

"And from 1,000 *bolivars* on, a stamp of 1 *bolivar* (19.3 cents) for every additional thousand, or fraction thereof.

"The stamps which, according to this article, must be canceled on checks and drafts must be attached to the stubs thereof, or on the original if there is no stub.

"ART. II. Navigation licenses will have stamps canceled on them as follows:

Ships of—	Stamp.	
	Bolivars.	United States currency.
10 to 50 tons	0.50	$0.0965
50 to 100 tons	1.00	.193
100 to 500 tons	1.50	.289
500 to 1,000 tons	3.00	.579
1,000 to 2,000 tons	5.00	.965
2,000 tons and over	10.00	1.93

"ART. III. A stamp of 2 *bolivars* will be used for the health bill of sailing vessels and one of 10 *bolivars* for that of steam vessels.

"ART. IV. On importation and exportation manifests, stamps of 2 *bolivars* will be used for each 1,000 *bolivars* of said manifests, and on coast-trade manifests stamps of 1 *bolivar* will be used for each 1,000 *bolivars*.

"ART. V. On bills of lading for coast trade, stamps of 2 *bolivars* will be used, and on those for export stamps of 5 *bolivars*.

"ART. VI. Stamps of 1 *bolivar* will be used—

"(1) On all petitions or demands for justice, sent in writing to any public employee, at the rate of 1 *bolivar* for each party interested. If more than 20 persons are interested, only this number need to provide stamps.

"(2) On all authorized copies.

"(3) On all second-class-passage tickets sold by agents of steam or sailing vessels.

"(4) On manifests for the importation of cartridges, pistols, revolvers, and all firearms, at the rate of 1 *bolivar* for each piece, and 1 *bolivar* for every kilogram of cartridges, with the exception of such arms and cartridges as are to be used for hunting purposes exclusively.

"ART. VI. Stamps of 2 *bolivars* will be used—

"(1) On certificates of exemption from military service on account of sickness or any other cause.

"(2) On all certificates of public officials of whatever rank.

"(3) On all first-class tickets sold by steam or sailing vessel agencies.

"(4) On documents granting special powers, whether given by one or more persons.

"(5) On the substitutions and revocations of such powers.

"(6) On degrees of bachelor of arts, preceptor, veterinary surgeon, or those of any other liberal or mechanical profession.

"ART. VIII. Stamps of 4 *bolivars* will be used—

"(1) On documents granting full powers, whether given by one or more persons.

"(2) On substitutions or withdrawals of same.

"(3) On open wills and on documents revoking same.

"(4) On licenses for carrying arms.

"ART. IX. Stamps of 10 *bolivars* will be used—

"(1) On contracts, transactions, and other acts in which civil or commercial associations are reformed, extended, or dissolved.

"(2) On contracts, transactions, and other acts in which rights or services that can not be expressed in figures, such as real or personal services, are constituted, transferred, modified, or renounced.

"(3) On the granting of rights to guardians and tutors; on declarations of emancipation, prohibitions, disqualifications; on documents legitimizing and recognizing illegitimate children, adoptions, and on acts revoking, modifying, or annulling the above.

"(4) On all final sentences in civil and mercantile matters, with the exception of what is set forth in Article XVII.

"(5) On the title-pages of wills and closed codicils.

"(6) On personal bonds for values or services that can not be expressed in figures, as well as on cancellations of same.

"(7) On the recordings of suits and sentences which, according to the civil code, must be registered, as well as on the drawing up of legal mortgages.

"(8) On degrees of doctor or professor of any science, and on those of lawyer, solicitor, engineer, surveyor, dentist, and man midwife.

"(9) On permits for public amusements.

"(10) On letters of nationality.

"(11) On literary or artistic copyrights or privileges.

"(12) On permits of private vehicles.

"ART. X. Stamps of 20 *bolivars* will be used—

"(1) On writings concerning values given as dowries or matrimonial cessions which can not be given in figures.

"(2) On the final receipts or discharges of public accounts.

"(3) On privileges granted to new industries.

"(4) On patents of navigation.

"(5) On trade-marks or commercial patents.

"(6) On invention patents.

"ART. XI. Stamps to the value of 40 *bolivars* will be used—

"(1) On deeds of mines and of concessions of waste or municipal lands.

"(2) On cancellations of mortgages of every description and other similar obligations; on divisions of property, liquidations of same, donations between living persons, revocations of same and declarations of reduction, and all other cases when one-fourth of 1 per cent is paid for registry charges when it is not possible to obtain the sum total of the values which the acts mentioned above represent.

"(3) In exemptions from importation duties such as are not included in Article III.

"ART. XII. The tax will be paid in the proportion given in Article I of this decree—

"(1) On contracts, transactions, and other acts which deal with pensions, such as leases, life income, annuities, partial alienations, the tax to be paid will be that corresponding to the sum of the pensions or incomes to be paid during the first five years.

"(2) When obligations of this kind are transferred to other persons or to other properties or are modified, decided upon, or renounced.

"(3) On cancellations of promissory notes, guaranties, bonds, mortgages of all kinds, and other obligations; on divisions of property, acts of adjudging, liquidations of property, revocations and declarations of reduction of donations between living persons; and in all cases where one-fourth of 1 per cent is paid for registry charges, the stamp tax will be paid on the amount expressed in or referred to by such documents.

"When a document must needs be recorded in different registry offices, owing to the situation of the properties, stamps will be used only in proportion to the value of the property that occasions the recording.

"(4) On the final receipts and discharges of private accounts.

"(5) On the titles of civil, military, and ecclesiastical employees, and on documents giving military rank in the army and navy, stamps will be used corresponding to the amount of salary for one year.

"(6) On documents of marriage portions and matrimonial cessions, stamps will be used in proportion to the amount received by the married parties.

"(7) On stocks, bonds, or policies of corporations or other such companies, stamps will be used of the value corresponding to the value of such stocks, etc.

"(8) On industrial patents, the stamps to be used should correspond to the amount of the taxes on such patents during one year.

"ART. XIII. On papers granting exemption from importation duties given by the Federal Executive, stamps should be used by the parties concerned on the respective manifests as follows: One hundred *bolivars* when the exemption is granted on machinery, utensils, or articles for mines; 10 *bolivars* when on machinery, utensils, or other articles for industrial undertakings of other kinds; and 50 *bolivars* on any other exemptions.

"ART. XIV. On donations to relatives, 3 per cent of the total amount will be used in stamps; and on donations to persons not related to the donor, 20 per cent of such amount.

"When the donor reserves the right of enjoying and using the donation during his lifetime, the stamping of the document will be effected after his death; but if the reservation be partial or limits in any way the enjoyment of the donation by the recipient thereof, this will be done at the time of the donation, deducting the value of the reservation, upon which the corresponding stamp tax will be levied upon the death of the donor.

"ART. XV. The stamp tax formerly levied on cigarettes and tobacco for same will be collected in the custom-houses on imported cigarettes and tobacco for same at the rate of 2 *bolivars* per kilogram. The use of stamps on the cigarette packages is hereby eliminated, and the tax created by paragraphs 15 and 16 of the law of June 3, 1897, is revoked.

"The collection of taxes on cigarettes and tobacco for same which may be imported into the country will be made in the same way as that of custom-house duties, and the product will be sent semimonthly to the general treasury of public instruction.

"The collectors of the custom-houses will open a special account for this branch of collection and will hand in a report of same to the Minister of Public Instruction on the first of each month.

"ART. XVI. On contracts made by the Government, the stamp tax created by the registry law now in force will be paid.

"ART. XVII. The following are exempt from stamp taxes:

"Receipts for payments in the public service and those granted by public officials for sums belonging to the national treasury.

"Final sentences pronounced in civil and mercantile cases of minor importance.

"ART. XVIII. Merchants doing business in whatever branch of merchandise or natural products will pay a stamp tax of 10 per cent of the license they pay annually for their cash sales.

"ART. XIX. This decree will go into force on July 1, 1900, from

which date all other decrees dealing with the subject are to be considered as annulled.

"ART. XX. The Minister of Public Instruction is charged with the execution of this decree."

CONCESSIONS FOR THE EXPLOITATION OF RUBBER.

The Government of Venezuela has granted to Señor JUAN DALL'ORSO, of Maracaibo, a concession for the cultivation and exploitation of rubber and other tropical products. Mr. ELBARO SPINETTI, of Caracas, is the representative of the concessionaire and is desirous of interesting capitalists in the enterprise.

The following is an extract of the contract, as published in the "Gaceta Oficial" of Caracas of June 19, 1900:

The contractor agrees, within a period of two years from this date, to establish and found, as he may deem desirable, plantations or agricultural settlements whose objects shall be the exploiting of the natural wealth of the country and the encouraging of its development. Special attention shall be given to the cultivation and exploitation of caucho and gutta-percha upon the lands described below:

The National Government leases to the contractor, his successors or assigns, 15 square leagues of Government lands, which shall be selected and surveyed within a period of two years from this date, from those that exist in the district of Colón, State of Maracaibo, comprised within the following boundaries: On the north by the river Bravo to the Bay (*ensenada*) of Congo, in Lake Maracaibo; on the east by the banks of the lake of the same lagoon, or Bay of Congo, to the mouth of the river Catatumbo; on the south from the Palizada promontory to the site of the former village of "El Pilar" and the tributaries of the river Catatumbo; on the west by the mountains which lie at the foot of the Perija range and which are pierced by the river Bravo—the location to be selected anywhere within these boundaries that may, in the opinion of the concessionaire, be deemed most suitable for the purpose for which it is intended.

The contractor agrees to pay to the National Government, in cash, 40 *bolivars* for each 100 kilograms of caucho exported. He likewise agrees to import from Brazil the best seeds of the tree called "Elastic Siphonia," or *Hevea Brasilensis*, and distribute them among the agriculturists of the country who may desire to engage in their cultivation.

The contractor may engage in the cultivation and exploitation of caucho alone or by the intervention of a company which he may organize for that purpose. He shall take care not to cut down the trees and shall preserve the plantations in good condition.

The grounds occupied for the construction of offices, warehouses, and habitation shall be the absolute property of the concessionaire,

provided he so solicits and complies with the requisites prescribed by the law of Government lands.

The contractor may appropriate from the national forests such timbers as may be necessary for the construction of his offices, warehouses, and habitations without payment to the National Government, but in no case shall he sell or export such timbers in any form.

The Government shall permit the introduction, free of duties, of all the machinery and accessories, vehicles, boats for river navigation, supplies, and agricultural implements that may be necessary, in the opinion of the Government, the contractor observing in each case the formalities prescribed by law.

The contractor agrees to commence operations within a period not later than one year from the signing of the contract. The National Government grants to the contractor the free navigation (exempting him from all taxes now in force or which may be created) of the rivers, canals, lakes, and lagoons embraced within the boundaries of the concession or which are naturally tributary to them, but he shall at all times be subject to the fiscal laws of the Republic.

The contractor may import immigrants at his own expense, and in accordance with existing laws. The duration of the contract shall be fifty years, and may be transferred wholly or in part to any person or company, the previous consent of the Government being obtained, but in no case shall it be transferred to a foreign government.

At the expiration of fifty years the lands, with all buildings, improvements, etc., revert to the Government, with the exception of those lands which the contractor may have obtained in accordance with the law of public lands, or such lands as may have been transferred to immigrants in conformity with existing laws.

The Government has also granted a concession to Señor ALEJANDRO ORTEGA MARTINEZ for the exploitation of rubber and other tropical products within an area covering 7,515 hectares of public lands situated in the State of Maracaibo. The concessionaire agrees to pay the National Government 40 *bolivars* for each 100 kilograms of crude rubber exported. The "Gaceta Oficial" of Caracas, in its issue of June 23, 1900, publishes the concession in full.

IMPORTATION OF MATCHES.

A decree has been published in the "Gaceta Oficial" of June 23, 1900, permitting, on and after that date, the importation of all kinds of matches under Class VI of the tariff, or, in other words, upon the payment of 3 *bolivars* per kilogram.

TRADE OF PUERTO CABELLO IN 1899.

Mr. LUTHER T. ELLSWORTH, United States Consul, sends from Puerto Cabello, under date of May 28 and June 15, 1900, itemized statistics

of the imports and exports of his district for the calendar year 1899. The Consul's report, as issued by the Bureau of Foreign Commerce, is very exhaustive and reflects great credit on the compiler.

According to this compilation the majority of the exports from Puerto Cabello go to Cuba and Europe. The value of the exports in 1899 was $3,303,546 in United States currency, of which Cuba received $1,301,779; France, $1,097,280; Germany, $364,916; other European countries, $134,114, and the United States, $405,457.

The imports were valued at $1,193,271. These were received from the following countries: United States, $365,828; England, $336,340; Germany, $253,515; Holland, $91,011; France, $81,644; Spain, $33,853, and Italy, $31,086.

PURCHASES FROM GREAT BRITAIN.

During the first six months of 1899 Venezuela purchased from Great Britain cotton piece goods to the value of £240,628; in the same period of 1900 the purchases of the same class of goods were only valued at £66,979.

THE WORLD'S COFFEE PRODUCTION AND TRADE.

Mr. Richard M. Bartleman has transmitted to the Department of State at Washington, from Malaga, a translation of a newspaper article containing information with reference to the coffee production of the world. He says that the Dutch brokers recently published a very important work giving statistics on coffee during the past six years, and from the figures given he deducts the following data with reference to importations and deliveries for the year, and the consumption and stock on hand in Europe and the United States on December 31, 1899:

Description.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.	1894.
EUROPE.	*Sacks.*	*Sacks.*	*Sacks.*	*Sacks.*	*Sacks.*	*Sacks.*
Importations for the year....	9,165,700	9,426,800	9,181,900	7,374,300	7,340,000	6,494,000
Delivered for consumption ..	8,867,400	8,502,900	7,968,100	7,405,700	6,805,400	6,647,800
In stock on December 31.....	4,114,800	3,816,500	2,892,600	1,678,700	1,710,200	1,175,600
UNITED STATES.						
Importations for the year....	6,433,900	5,822,900	5,817,900	4,585,900	4,588,900	4,465,100
Delivered for consumption ..	6,271,900	5,822,900	5,408,900	4,554,000	4,435,000	4,400,000
In stock on December 31.....	1,080,000	918,000	918,000	508,000	475,000	321,000
UNITED STATES AND EUROPE.						
Importations for the year....	15,599,600	15,249,700	14,999,800	11,960,200	11,928,900	10,959,100
Delivered for consumption ..	15,139,300	14,325,800	13,377,900	11,959,700	11,240,400	11,047,800
In stock on December 31.....	5,194,800	4,734,500	3,810,600	2,186,700	2,185,200	1,496,600

According to said work, the universal production during the past six fiscal years was as follows, the last two quantities being approximates:

Year.	Production.	Year.	Production.
	Sacks.		*Sacks.*
1895–96	10,355,000	1898–99	13,723,000
1896–97	13,605,000	1899–1900	14,437,000
1897–98	16,178,000	1900–1901	13,975,900

These figures show that the consumption has increased in the last four years almost at the rate of 1,000,000 bags per annum, and if the estimates which have been made of the next crop prove true and the consumption only reaches that of the previous year, there will be next year an important unbalanced market of more than 1,000,000 sacks against the production, which will considerably diminish the large stocks with which the market has been unfavorably loaded in the past few years. This belief is the main reason for influencing the good outlook which the market presents to-day.

The European stocks have suffered a decrease of 3,000 tons in the month, and there are 232,550 tons remaining. The world's visible stock has also diminished about 7,790 tons, leaving some 382,080 tons.

"The American Grocer" of July 18, 1900, publishes an interesting article entitled the "World's Coffee Trade," in which it is stated that the coffee trade year ending June 30, 1900, is notable for the largest deliveries on record and an advance in prices, which would indicate that the consumption is very close to the production; also that the disparity between supply and demand is much less than it has been for some years. This statement is followed by a table showing the actual deliveries of coffee in Europe and the United States for the past ten years. In 1890–91 the deliveries in the United States were 2,672,976 bags and in Europe 6,045,685 bags, or a total of 8,718,661 bags. In 1899–1900 the deliveries had grown to the following proportions: United States, 6,035,623 bags; Europe, 8,937,076 bags; or a total of 14,972,699 bags, The grand total for both countries for the ten years' period was 118,666,346 bags, or a yearly average of 11,866,635 bags.

These figures show that during ten years the world's requirements have increased nearly 72 per cent. From 1890–91 to 1896–97 coffee ruled high in cost, and if this fact is taken in connection with the deliveries quoted, it is noted that for five years—from 1891–92 to 1895–96, inclusive—the deliveries were practically stationary and did not vary much from a yearly average of 10,935,595 bags. From this the inference is drawn that the growth in consumption was checked by high prices. During this period, coffee growing was a very profitable industry and, except in the East Indies, stimulus was everywhere given to the production. This was evidenced by a Brazil crop of

8,680,000 bags in 1896–97, against an average of 6,015,800 annually for the five preceding years. The Brazil crop for the ten years beginning 1890–91 and ending 1899–1900 shows a grand aggregate of 72,309,000 bags, or an average yearly production of 7,230,900 bags. The article quoted is accompanied by a map showing the coffee-producing area of Brazil and the territory capable of development, which "would insure a supply great enough to meet the world's wants for many years to come, subject to the influences which the markets of the world exert in stimulating production by high prices, and checking the development of the industry by prices so low as to render the industry unprofitable."

The exports from Rio and Santos for the year ending June 30 show that the number of bags sent from the former port to the United States was 2,376,000 and to Europe 905,000; from the latter port 1,619,000 bags were sent to the United States and 4,119,000 to Europe. From both ports the total exports in ten years amounted to 71,748,000 bags, or 4,220,470 tons, the yearly average being 7,174,800 bags. These figures represent 60 per cent of the world's total deliveries.

During 1899–1900 Brazil supplied 9,019,000 bags, out of a grand total for the world of 14,972,699 bags. In 1898 the visible supply of coffee was 5,435,974 bags, but the deliveries have been so much greater that on July 1, 1900, the visible supply was only 404,587 bags more. This would indicate that the supply and demand are keeping close together, and that any shrinkage in crops would materially advance prices.

The total sales of the New York Coffee Exchange for the year ending June 30, 1900, were 5,879,500 bags, against 4,060,500 bags in 1898–99. The most active month in the year was September and the dullest July, the highest price paid being 8.05 cents in May for June delivery, and the lowest, 4.10 cents, in September for October delivery.

The number of pounds of coffee imported by the United States during the year ending with June 30, 1900, was 787,983,611, at an average valuation of nearly 6.66 cents per pound, or the total sum of $52,466,993. In the fiscal year 1899 the number of pounds imported was 831,827,063, valued at $55,275,470, an average price per pound of a little more than 6.64 cents. The importations in 1898 aggregated 870,514,455 pounds, with a valuation of $65,067,631, or an average of a little more than 7.48 cents per pound.

THE METRIC SYSTEM.

In a discussion on mineral statistics at the recent International Metallurgical Congress held in Paris, several speakers expressed the opinion that the general adoption of the metric system would be a

great step toward securing a general standard system of statistics. The adoption of one system is indispensable, it was argued, if comparisons of statistics for the different countries are to be made, and the metric system is now so generally used that it has far stronger claims than any other.

The Congress of the Chambers of Commerce of Great Britain during the latter part of June, 1900, adopted the following resolution:

"That this Congress is of the opinion that the metric system of weights and measures should, as recommended by a select committee of Parliament in 1895, be legalized in all parts of the Empire, except India, for all purposes, and after a period of two years be everywhere rendered compulsory by act or ordinance, and that meanwhile the system shall be thoroughly taught in all public elementary schools as a necessary branch of arithmetic."

TRADE OPPORTUNITIES IN LATIN AMERICA.

It is expected that the Honduras syndicate will be in the market for considerable railroad material and equipment at an early date. The syndicate, which is also known as the Astor syndicate, has secured from the Honduras Government concessions for building an isthmian railroad across the Republic of Honduras from Puerto Cortez, on the Atlantic, to Amapala, on the Pacific, a distance of 200 miles. This is considered the largest railroad undertaking ever projected in Central America. The line has been surveyed. It is thought that work will begin at once, as by the terms of the concession the work must be completed within four years. The syndicate can issue bonds and float them to the amount of $20,000 in gold to every mile of road.

According to the "Moniteur Officiel", of Paris, proposals are soon to be asked from foreign capitalists for the execution of the following public works in the Argentine Republic:

Leasing of the port of La Plata with concession of a railroad line; construction of a harbor at Mar del Plata, and the establishment of new lines connecting this latter port with the richest districts of Buenos Ayres Province.

It is reported that Mr. William Goodwin, of No. 268 Calle Reconquista, Buenos Ayres, is to shortly be in the market for all the material necessary to build a grain elevator, concession for which he obtained from the Argentine Government some time ago. The undertaking is to cost $700,000 gold, and all the material for the construction is to enter into the country free of duty.

The "Chilian Times," of July 7, 1900, states that the Chilean Government is calling for bids for the following railroad cars: Three composite coaches, 3 trucks, 95 ballast trucks, and 50 ore trucks for 1 meter gauge and 40 ballast trucks for 5 feet 6 inches gauge track.

Private information sent from Valparaiso, Chile, to merchants in London, and from the latter to their agents in New York, says that at least 4,000 freight cars will be needed by Chilean railroads during the next year, which will mean an expenditure of more than $2,700,000.

TRADE WITH SPANISH AMERICA.

The Acting Consul-General at New York reports the imports from Mexico through that port during the month of June last as follows: Henequen, 8,322 bales; coffee, 14,877 sacks; hides, 1,897 bundles; hides, loose, 8,198; ixtle fiber, 2,946 bales; goatskins, 303 bundles; deerskins, 61 bundles; rubber, 156 bales; tobacco, leaf, 3,604 bales; cigars, 170 boxes; broom root, 2,924 bales; chicle gum, 1,165 bales; fustic, 6,505 pieces; Tecali marble, 242 pieces; hair, 28 bales; lead bullion, 79,676 bars; metals, 209 boxes; ores, 28,575 sacks; sarsaparilla, 347 packages; vanila, 11 boxes; alligator skins, 106; heron plumes, 36 boxes; bones, 764 packages; honey, 485 barrels; cedar, 3,981 logs; mahogany, 2,219 logs; jalap, 4 sacks; copper, 6,855 bars; dyewood, 7,436 packages; barley, 2,545 sacks; horn, 27 bundles; garlic, 539 packages.

During the same month 15 steamships, carrying 115,672 packages, were cleared, and 15 steamships, bringing 185,013 packages, were entered.

The Consul-General of Venezuela at New York announces that during the month of June, 1900, there were exported from that port to Venezuela 43,877 packages, weighing 2,423,535 kilograms, valued at $433,840.95. These figures show an increase in the value of exportations, as compared with the same month of the previous year, of $168,722.22.

Advices from the Consul of Nicaragua at San Francisco show that during the month of June, 1900, the total exports of American merchandise from that port to the Republic of Nicaragua consisted of 4,824 bundles, valued at $25,483.44. The principal articles exported were machinery, flour, rice, provisions, and liquors.

The Mexican Consul at San Diego, Cal., reports the exports to Mexico through his consulate during the month of June, 1900, to have been 6,964 packages, valued at $10,783.50. The imports into the United States during the same month were valued at $12,818, made up

of the following items: Gold bullion, $9,964; loose rock, $1,383; cattle, $612; beeswax, $152; sundry products, $707.

The Vice-Consul of Haiti at New York reports that the exports through that port to the Republic of Haiti during the months of April, May, and June, 1900, amounted to $929,104.50. The imports from Haiti into the United States during the same period were valued at $369,083.

The Mexican Consul at San Francisco reports that during the month of June, 1900, the total exports of American merchandise from that port to the Republic of Mexico was $99,855. In addition to this there was shipped to Mexico merchandise of foreign origin valued at $4,130. The shipment of Mexican dollars to Hongkong during the month amounted to $242,802, and to Japan, $7,900.

The principal importations, together with their values, were as follows: Argentiferous ores, $81,421; silver bullion, $216,515; Mexican dollars, $7,668; gold coin, $4,580; gold bullion, $11,898; hides, $20,860; coffee, $19,002; sundry articles, $15,147; total, $377,091.

The Consuls of the Republic of Costa Rica at New York, New Orleans, and San Francisco have furnished their legation at Washington the following interesting data, showing the exportations through those ports from the United States to Costa Rica during the first six months of 1900:

Port.	Packages.	Weight.	Net value.	Freight and expenses.	Total value United States gold.
NEW YORK.		*Kilos.*			
January	9,111	452,413	$82,230.67	$21,758.99	$103,989.66
February	10,895	549,419	439,686.42	9,421.40	449,107.82
March	8,009	494,159	72,120.06	6,674.57	78,794.63
April	21,706	930,134	92,391.77	11,016.52	103,408.29
May	9,962	510,088	91,223.69	10,781.21	102,004.90
June	12,901	740,479	131,965.95	14,610.89	146,576.84
Total	72,584	3,676,692	909,618.56	74,263.58	983,882.14
NEW ORLEANS.					
January	13,365	592,937	27,261.54	8,189.32	35,450.86
February	14,974	520,654	23,024.17	7,064.17	30,088.34
March	27,627	453,638	24,284.02	7,572.40	31,856.42
April	20,520	860,097	31,024.68	9,337.86	40,362.54
May	19,128	1,170,151	49,020.81	11,910.87	60,931.68
June	20,043	827,171	29,836.40	8,648.25	38,484.65
Total	115,657	4,424,648	184,451.62	52,722.87	237,174.49
SAN FRANCISCO.					
January	4,008	205,579	10,616.58	1,995.15	12,611.73
February	4,592	191,016	11,858.70	1,971.28	13,829.98
March	4,861	259,650	15,045.46	3,304.12	18,349.58
April	1,523	78,539	5,368.08	1,079.70	6,447.78
May	1,522	60,392	6,469.48	1,227.58	7,697.06
June	2,164	93,660	8,239.65	1,369.28	9,608.93
Total	18,670	888,836	57,597.95	10,947.11	68,545.06
RÉSUMÉ.					
New York	72,584	3,676,692	909,618.56	74,263.58	983,882.14
New Orleans	115,657	4,424,648	184,451.62	52,722.87	237,174.49
San Francisco	18,670	888,836	57,597.95	10,947.11	68,545.06
Total	206,911	8,990,176	1,151,668.13	137,933.56	1,289,601.69

The value of exportations from June to December 31, 1899, was $1,163,887.40, and from January to June 30, 1900, $1,289,601.69, making an increase of $125,714.29 during the last six months.

The Legation of the Republic of Costa Rica in Washington has received from its Consul at New Orleans some interesting data regarding the importations of bananas from Central America and Colombia, through the port of New Orleans, during the first six months of the present year, a recapitulation of which is as follows: Costa Rica, 1,132,522 bunches, valued at $453,009; Belize, 103,800 bunches, valued at $25,950; Guatemala, 100 bunches, valued at $22; Honduras, 1,015,218 bunches, valued at $228,099; Nicaragua, 765,000 bunches, valued at $170,159; Colombia, 59,700 bunches, valued at $14,884; total, 3,076,340 bunches, valued at $892,123.

Reports from the Consul-General of Venezuela at New York show that during the month of July, 1900, there were shipped from that port to Venezuela 40,618 packages, weighing 2,145,838 kilograms, valued at $327,394.85, as against 64,879 packages, weighing 3,752,707 kilograms, valued at $463,701.34, exported in July, 1899.

BOOK NOTICES.

Books and pamphlets sent to the Bureau of the American Republics, and containing subject-matter bearing upon the countries of the International Union of American Republics, will be treated under this caption in the Monthly Bulletin.

"Estudios Americanos" (American Studies) is the title of a book recently published at Buenos Ayres by Señor Don Martín García Merou. The author is the present Minister of Agriculture of the Argentine Republic and late Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of that Republic near the Government of the United States. Notwithstanding the numerous and arduous duties which his political and diplomatic services have imposed upon him, he has always found time to devote to literary pursuits, and is an exceedingly careful and accurate observer. The book contains about 500 pages, treats of some fifty different subjects, and was compiled by the author during his residence in Washington as the representative of his Government. In it are to be found articles upon political economy, politics, literature, commerce, statistics, etc. The larger part of the work refers to the United States, but in it are also embodied articles of an international character. The first part treats of the gradual commercial development between the United States and the Argentine Republic, and contains a large amount of data and useful observations concerning the past, present, and future trade of the two countries. The internal taxes of the United States are treated at length and the system is dealt

with from its inception to the present time. The liquor question is touched upon and thoroughly discussed. The author has long enjoyed the distinction of being a writer of great attainments and merit, and this new work proves that he is entirely worthy of such high honor. The style is admirable, the descriptions vivid and pleasing, and the diction is clear, vigorous, and entertaining. The book is unquestionably the most interesting that has ever been published upon these subjects in the noble language of CERVANTES, and will doubtless be widely read throughout all Latin America. The same author has now in preparation "Brasil Intelectual" and "Sarmiento."

An interesting study of the comparative strength of the seven chief sea powers of the world is contributed to the "Fortnightly Review," by Mr. J. HOLT SCHOOLING. Comparisons of naval strength are obviously far more difficult to make correctly than comparisons of armies on land, because of the number and complexity of the factors which enter into the problem. Account can not simply be taken of the number of the ships, nor yet of their numbers in the first class, but size, speed, armor, armament, coal endurance, and every characteristic of vessels must be duly considered. In his article, Mr. SCHOOLING takes into account only one modifying condition, viz, that of age, and places it as a coefficient to the tonnage of the navies; that is to say, he assumes that the ships of the same class, same size, and the same age are substantially of the same efficiency. While that assumption may not be entirely correct, it nevertheless affords an interesting and instructive basis of comparison. In detail, he values ships built in 1895–1899 at 100 per cent of their nominal fighting weight; those in 1890–1894 at 80 per cent; those in 1885–1889 at 60 per cent, and those in 1880–1884 at 40 per cent; while those built before 1880 are placed at only 20 per cent. The application of this rule materially modifies the standing of the various naval powers as deduced from the tonnage of their navies. The United States, having the newest navy, loses least, according to this arrangement, or only 4 per cent, Japan following closely with a loss of 5 per cent, while Italy, with more old-time ships, loses 42 per cent. The figures of tonnage, revised, according to this handicap, show that Great Britain is first, Russia second, France third, the United States fourth, Germany fifth, Italy sixth, and Japan seventh. Without the handicap of age, France would be second, Italy fourth, and the United States sixth.

"Historia de las Bibliotecas" (History of the Libraries), by Señor Don RAFAEL BERMUDEZ DE CASTRO, of Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Advance sheets of this book show it to be divided into three parts. The first treats of the libraries of ancient times, the second of European and American libraries of modern times, while the third discusses the manner in which the books of modern libraries should be catalogued

and contains important suggestions regarding the duties of librarians. The work is very useful as a book of reference, and, embracing as it does a history of libraries from the remotest times to the present day, presents a unique and instructive view of one of the most interesting of historical subjects. It is written in a correct and pleasing style, and the subject-matter is grouped in such a convenient and accessible form that it will be welcomed as a valuable aid to students of history and lovers of literature in general. A large quantity of useful data has been collected regarding the libraries of the present time, and the author has spared neither labor nor expense in preparing the work. A careful examination of the book shows it to have been compiled with the greatest care and with the especial object of awakening an interest in historical subjects and helping in every way possible the easy acquisition of historical knowledge. The volume has met with considerable favor in Latin-America, and has been largely and favorably commented upon by the Central American press.

"El Petermann's Mitteilungen," No. VII, 1900, contains observations upon several of the volcanoes of Guatemala and Salvador by Dr. Carl Sapper. The paper is accompanied by the following sketches: (1) Volcano of Pecaya, 1:4,000; (2) Plan of the Sumasate, 1:7,000; (3) The "Azufra" of Tecuamburro, 1:7,000; (4) The Sulphur Lake of Ixpaco, 1:7,000; (5) Volcano of Buena Vista, 1:10,000; (6) Volcano of Suchitán, 1:20,000; (7) The Crater of the Volcano of San Vincente, 1:10,000; (8) The Crater of the Volcano of San Miguel, 1:10,000; (9) Volcano of El Teconal, 1:10,000; (10) Volcano de la Hoya, 1:10,000; (11) Volcano of the Víboras, 1:10,000. Dr. Sapper gives a description of the various ascents which he made, and also a running account of the results obtained. In referring to the several authorities who have heretofore written upon the subject, the author speaks of the reports embodying the investigations of the Intercontinental Railway Commission in 1892, and regrets that they had not been published. It would seem proper to say, therefore, that these reports appeared in 1899. Only a small number, however, were issued and distributed. The work is one of 7 volumes, and a few copies yet remain in the possession of the Bureau of the American Republics.

A small pamphlet entitled "What's the Time?" prepared by Mr. James R. Wilson, of Chicago, has just been issued by the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway. This publication is full of curious information as to the system by which time is estimated throughout the world, and notes many of the odd facts due to the differences in time between widely separated places. The pamphlet includes tables showing the time in any part of the world at any given hour in the standard time of the United States. Maps, tables, and documents are presented to show why a day is lost circumnavigating the globe in one direction and gained in going the other way, and in what parts of the

world it is "yesterday" or "to-morrow" when it is "to-day" in the United States. With this pamphlet any person in the United States can determine at a glance the current hour in the City of Mexico, Valparaiso, Buenos Ayres, Rio de Janeiro, or any other part of America, as well as at any point in Europe, Asia, Africa, or Australia. The differences in time between some points in Europe and the United States is such that an event occurring in Europe, say early on Sunday morning, may be published in the press of the United States on Saturday.

An important pamphlet has recently been printed at La Paz entitled "El Estaño en Bolivia" (Tin in Bolivia.) The authors of this interesting publication are Messrs. Manuel V. Ballivián and Bautista Saavedra, the former being an honorary corresponding member of the Royal Geographic Society of Great Britain, honorary corresponding member of the International Union of American Republics, and well known in Europe and America as a scientist and writer. Tin has long been known to exist in paying quantities in Bolivia, having been mined to a considerable extent in the vicinity of Potosi and Oruro, where it is found incidentally with silver. Reliable and definite information has hitherto been difficult to obtain respecting tin mining in Bolivia, and the pamphlet in question by supplying this information and furnishing valuable statistics in regard to this growing industry will supply data which has heretofore been unavailable. In addition to being mining experts of large knowledge and experience the authors are men of the highest standing, and the work is to be commended to miners and others interested in the production of tin in the Republic.

There has recently come from the press in Paris a book entitled "Idioma Nacional de los Argentinos" (National Language of the Argentine), the author and publisher of which is Señor Dr. Luciano Abeille. The preface to the book is written by the celebrated educator and scientist, Dr. Luis Duvan. A careful examination shows it to be a work of merit of great interest to the inhabitants of the Argentine Republic. The growth of the Argentine Republic within the last decade has been wonderful. To her shores have flocked people speaking almost every language and from every nation and every clime, all adding to the material progress and intellectual development of their adopted land. It was natural that this influx of population, these remarkable improvements and progress in every branch of industry, should have left their stamp upon the language of the nation, tending to modify it in many ways. The author shows all this, and a careful reading of his book appeals with singular force to the necessity of giving the strictest attention to the preservation in as pure a form as possible of the national language of the Republic.

"La Nueva Tendencia en el Estudio del Derecho Civil" (The New Tendency in the Study of Civil Law) is the title of an important brochure just issued from the Valparaisan press. The author of this essay is Señor Don ALEJANDRO ÁLVAREZ. He analyzes the modern methods adopted in the presentation and teaching of law and the political and social sciences, discusses their workings in a clear, intelligent, and forcible manner, and enters into the subject in detail. The style is admirable and the language is vigorous and convincing. He impresses the reader with his earnestness and logical reasoning, and his thoughts are clothed in language that is truly fascinating. He possesses the enviable ability of making an ordinarily dry subject exceedingly attractive and entertaining. The pamphlet is certainly worthy of a careful study and perusal on the part of the reading public, and is especially interesting to the legal profession, and to all who are occupied in the investigation of these important subjects.

The Minister of Agriculture of the Argentine Republic has had reproduced in pamphlet form an article published in "La Agricultura" in 1897, with the title "The Argentine Horse." In this the writer points out that in spite of the Argentine Republic possessing over 7 per cent of the total number of horses in the world, its exports of horses in 1896 did not aggregate 10,000. The article directs the attention of the *estancieros* to the good results likely to accrue from the breeding of fine horses. During the past year the shipments of horses increased greatly, there being an especial demand from South Africa. "Sport and Pastime," of Buenos Ayres, in its issue for July 4, states that from November, 1899, to July, 1900, the Argentine Republic shipped 20,854 horses to South Africa. These were carried in 27 vessels, which had an average length of voyage of 16 days. It is remarkable that out of the total number exported only 88 animals died en route.

"Constituciones de las Provincias" (Constitutions of the Provinces). The work, of which the foregoing is the title, is an historical study of constitutional law, taking the Federal Constitution and the constitutions of the Provinces of the Argentine Republic together. The author is Señor BENJAMIN E. DEL CASTILLO, of Córdoba, in which city the book has just been published. Señor CASTILLO discusses his subject with great thoroughness, traces the history and growth of the constitutions from the time of the movement for independence, examines in detail the most important articles of the present constitution, makes an exhaustive review of the whole subject and compares the Federal Constitution with those of the Provinces. The work is very complete, is exceedingly interesting and instructive, and will doubtless be well received by the public.

"Derecho Diplomático y Consular" (Diplomatic and Consular Law); just published by Señor ALEJANDRO GUESALGA, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Argentine Republic near the Government of Bolivia. The author has long been an acknowledged South American authority on international law, and is one of the most distinguished diplomats and jurists of the Argentine Republic. The work discusses at great length, and in a clear and intelligent manner, the duties of diplomatic and consular agents, and is a valuable addition to this class of literature. It makes many practical suggestions, and is exceedingly useful to anyone interested in or connected with the diplomatic service. It is written along the same lines as the author's former work, entitled "Diplomatic Agents, etc.," and is in reality a continuation of that valuable contribution to international law.

"Historia de la Provincia de Entre Rios" (History of the Province of Entre Rios); just published at Asunción, Paraguay. This is a historical work by the distinguished writer, Señor BENIGNO T. MARTÍNEZ, and contains a large number of notes and illustrations taken from the best and most reliable sources obtainable. In perusing this book one can not fail to admire the correct and entertaining style of the author, his clearness of expression, and the earnestness with which he treats the subject. The descriptions are exceedingly vivid and interesting and completely absorb the attention of the reader. The book is undoubtedly the best that has been written regarding this important Province and, aside from being full of valuable information of importance to the historian and statesman, is a work of literary merit.

"Jurisprudencia, Criminal, Correccional y Commercial" (Jurisprudence, Criminal, Correctional and Commercial.) There have just been published at Buenos Ayres the first and second volumes of this work corresponding to the letters A to L and M to V of the General Index of the opinions and decisions of the Court of Appeals of the Capital by Señor ADOLFO GRAU. The book contains an index to the articles of the Civil and Commercial Code discussed and applied in the decisions, and is especially useful and convenient as a book of reference to lawyers, bankers, and merchants. The classifications are made in an orderly and intelligent manner, the printing is plain and neat, and the work is artistically gotten up and is attractive in every respect.

The Navy Department of the United States has recently issued a work prepared by Chief Constructor PHILIP HICHBORN, U. S. N., entitled "Standard Designs for Boats of the United States Navy." The types of vessels belonging to the United States Government have been evolved from experience and careful study of the special conditions to be met in the naval service, and this book is a complete record of the present system of construction, even the speed trials of the various

steam launches being included. Each vessel is represented by working drawings, sheer, half-breadth, and body plans, specifications, bills of material, weights, and actual costs. The half-tone engravings of the completed boats are unusually fine.

A Post-Office Guide of the Republic of Bolivia has just been published in pamphlet form at La Paz. The book consists of 102 pages, is neatly printed, and conveniently arranged as a book of reference. It contains a list of all the post-offices of the Republic, the rules governing the receiving, dispatching, and forwarding of mails, as well as the latest itineraries adopted by the Government. Information is given in detail regarding the operation of every department of this important branch of the public service, and the book will be found exceedingly useful to merchants, bankers, commission men, and every one interested in the trade and commerce of Bolivia.

Incorporated in a recent report of the British Vice-Consul at Manãos, Brazil, were some statistics with reference to rubber production and consumption, as follows: Producing districts—Amazon (Brazil, Peru, and Bolivia), 25,000 tons; other South America, 3,500 tons; Central America and Mexico, 2,500 tons; Java, Borneo, and Eastern Archipelago, 1,000 tons; East and West Africa, 24,000 tons; Madagascar and Mauritius, 1,000 tons, and Ceylon, 500 tons. Total, 57,000 tons. Consuming countries—United States and Canada, 21,000 tons; Great Britain, 21,000 tons, and Europe (excepting Great Britain), 15,500 tons. Total, 57,500.

The Mexican Consul at Naples, Italy, has sent to the Department of Foreign Relations of his Government in Mexico an important publication, written by Professor Gomes, on the subject of tobacco. The book contains a vast amount of useful information, and is of especial interest to tobacco planters, exporters, and dealers. The author discusses the subject in an entertaining and instructive manner, and with a thoroughness and zeal that is worthy of commendation. The work embraces a detailed history of the tobacco plant; contains the names and a description of the species most appreciated in the commercial world, and treats of everything of importance concerning tobacco.

There has recently been issued from the press of F. Herbiz, Berlin, a "Neues Spanisch und Deutsch-Spanisch Wörterbuch" (New Spanish-German Dictionary), compiled by Th. Ströner. The compiler is a well-known German linguist and corresponding member of the Royal Spanish Academy of Fine Arts of San Fernando. This dictionary is based upon that of the Spanish Academy and upon special investigation with the idea of making it practical for commercial uses.

Richard E. Chism, Ph. D., of the City of Mexico, has recently issued an Encyclopedia of Mexican Mining Laws. This volume of 201

pages should be one of great value to all who are interested in the laws relating to mines in the Republic of Mexico. The subject-matter has been rendered easily available by a comprehensive index of 32 pages. As an appendix it also contains a glossary of Mexican mining terms.

The "Promtuario Alphabetico" (Alphabetic Ready Reference Book), issued by the Directorio Geral de Estatistica of Brazil, is the title of a useful work, giving statistics of all the municipal districts of the Republic, grouping them under their respective States. São Paulo has the greatest number of these subdivisions—167; Bahia is next, with 126, while Minas Geraes has 124. The State of Matto Grosso, although of enormous area, contains only 12 districts.

"El Tiempo," of the City of Mexico, states that the Mexican Government has authorized the publication in Paris of 3,000 copies of a pamphlet entitled "Organización del Consejo Superior de la Salubridad de México" (Organization of the Board of Health of Mexico). These will be given to scientists who visit the Exposition, and will make known the workings of the Board of Health of the Republic. The pamphlets will be printed in French.

Mr. Carlos Larrain Claro, the chief of the International Postal Service in the Chilean general post-office, is the author of a work entitled "Nociones Jenerales y Tarifa Relativas al Servicio de Valores Declarado Internacionales" (General Information Respecting the Services of the Declared International Values). This book, published in Valparaiso, made its initial appearance in that city in May, 1900.

The publishers of the "Dry Goods Economist" (New York City) are now issuing a journal under the title of "El Economista." This is quite a handsome publication, printed in the Spanish language, designed for circulation in Mexico, the West Indies, and in Central and South America.

The issue of the "Jornal do Commercio" of the 8th of June, 1900, contains a lengthy report on agriculture in the United States by the Brazilian Minister, Dr. J. F. De Assis-Brasil.

LIBRARY ACCESSIONS DURING JULY.

Bulletin of Boston Public Library. Autumn of 1886–87. 2 vols. 1–416 pp. 4°.

Cincinnati Enquirer: Leading industries of Cincinnati, Ohio. Cincinnati Enquirer Company, 1900. 87 pp. 8°.

Construction du port de Montévidéo. Projet. Paris: Imprimerie Chaix, 1900. 104 pp. 7 profiles. 4°.

Die Veröffentlichungen des kaiserlichen statistisches Amt. Berlin, Puttkammer und Muhlbrecht, 1900. 32 pp. 8°.

Garraux, A. L.: Bibliographie Brésilienne. Paris: Ch. Chadenat, 1898. 400 pp. 8°.
Jahresbericht der Deutschen Kolonialgesellschaft. Berlin: Deutsche Kolonialgesellschaft, 1900. 76 pp. 8°.
John Crerar Library. List of books in reading room, January, 1900. Chicago, 1900. 251 pp. 4°.
Moreno, D. Alejo Garcia: Complemento de las instituciones políticas y jurídicas de los pueblos modernos. Nuevas leyes y códigos de los Estados Americanos, 1895–1899. Madrid, 1895–1899. 5 vols. 4°.
New England Cotton Manufacturer's Association. Transactions. Waltham, Mass., C. L. Barry, 1899. 352 pp. 4°.
Springfield Board of Trade: Eleventh Annual report. Springfield, 1900. 69 pp. 8°.
Statistisches Jahrbuch für das Deutsche Reich. Berlin, Pultkammer und Mühlbrecht, 1900. 248 pp. 8°.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS.

Belgium.

Annuaire statistique de la Belgique. Bruxelles, J. B. Stevens, 1900. 425 pp. 8°.
Recueil consulaire de Belgique. Tome 106. Bruxelles, P. Weissenbruch, 1900. 498 pp. 4°.

Bolivia.

Ministerio de Gobierno y Fomento. Censo general de la población de Bolivia. Decreto supremo de 10 de Abril, 1900. La Paz: Imprenta del Estado, 1900. 8 pp. 8°.

Costa Rica.

Iglesias, Francisco M.: Documentos relativos á la independencia. San José, Tip. Nacional, 1899–1900. 2 vols. 415 pp. 8°.
Memoria de gobernación y policía. San José, Tip. Nacional, 1900. 175 pp. 4°.
Memoria de relaciones exteriores. San José, Tip. Nacional, 1900. 95–14 pp. 4°.
Memoria de instrucción pública. San José, Tip. Nacional, 1900. 130–1 pp. 4°.

Ecuador.

Actas de las sesiones del consejo municipal de Guayaquil. Guayaquil, Tipografía "Guayaquil," 1899. 4 vols. 8°.

Honduras.

Constitución política de Honduras. MSS. 24 pp.

Mexico.

Boletín demográfico de la República Mexicana. México, Tip. de la Secretaría de Fomento, 1899. 420 pp. 4°.
Informe del Secretario de Hacienda y Crédito Público. México, Oficina Imp. del Timbre, 1900. 92 pp. 4°.
Ministerio de Fomento. Censo general de la República. México, Tip. de la Secretaría de Fomento, 1900. 502 pp. 4°.
Secretario de Fomento. Colección de leyes, decretos, disposiciones, resoluciones y documentos importantes sobre caminos de hierro. México, Oficina Tip. de la Secretaría de Fomento, 1882–1888. 6 vols. 4°.
Secretaría de Hacienda y Credíto Público. Boletín de estadística fiscal. México, Imp. del Timbre, 1900. 575 pp. 4°.
Sociedad Mexicana de Geografía y Estadística. Boletín especial para el Cuadragésimo noveno aniversario de la fundación de la Sociedad. Abril 20 de 1900. México, Tip. de Trinidad Sanchez.

PARAGUAY.

Escuelas primarias. Programas. Asunción, Talleres de H. Kraus, 1898. 81 pp. 4°.
Reglamento general de instrucción primaria. Asunción, Talleres de H. Kraus, 1898. 16 pp. 8°.
Reglamento orgánico de las escuelas graduadas. Asunción, Talleres de H. Kraus, 1896. 171, 11 pp. 8°.
República del Paraguay. Consejo nacional de educación. Asunción, Imp. de "La Democracía," 1900. 11 pp. 8°.

UNITED STATES.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

Commercial Relations of the United States with Foreign Countries. Washington. Government Printing Office, 1900. 937 pp. 8°.
Consular Reports. July, 1900. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 403 pp. 8°.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

Amendments to Navigation Laws. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 8°.
Foreign Commerce and Navigation of the United States. Vol. 2. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 1182 pp. 8°.
Monthly Summary of Commerce and Finance. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. sq. 8°.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

Organized Militia of the United States in 1898. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 357 pp. 8°.
Translation of Mining Code Applied to Cuba. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 95 pp. 8°.
Translation of Penal Code in Cuba and Porto Rico. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 175 pp. 8°.
Translation of Penal Code in the Philippines. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 153 pp.
Translation of the Law of Waters in Force in Cuba. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 53 pp. 8°.

VENEZUELA.

Discursos leidos en la Academia nacional de la historia. Caracas, Imp. Bolivar, 1900. 48 pp. 8°.

PERMANENT LIBRARY FILES.

Persons interested in the commercial and general news of foreign countries will find the following among the official and periodical publications on the permanent files in the Library of the Bureau of the American Republics:

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Argentinisches Wochenblatt. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.
Boletín de la Unión Industrial Argentina. Buenos Ayres. Monthly.
Boletín Demográfico Argentino. Buenos Ayres. Monthly.
Bollettino Mensile. Rosairo. Monthly.
La Industria Molinera. Buenos Ayres. Semimonthly.
La Nación. Buenos Ayres. Daily.
La Plata Post. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.

La Plata Zeitung. Buenos Ayres.
La Producción Nacional. Buenos Ayres. Semimonthly.
Le Commerce Extérieur Argentin. Buenos Ayres.
Review of the River Plate. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.

BOLIVIA.

El Comercio. La Paz. Daily.
Revista Económica y Financiera. La Paz. Monthly.

BELGIUM.

Bulletin of the Commercial Museum. Brussels. Weekly.

BRAZIL.

Jornal do Commercio. Rio de Janeiro. Daily.
Lavoura (A). Rio de Janeiro. Monthly.
Revista Agricola. Rio de Janeiro. Monthly.
Revista Brazileira. Rio de Janeiro. Monthly.
Revista Industrial e Mercantil. Pernambuco. Monthly.
Revista Maritima Brazileira. Rio de Janeiro. Monthly.

CHILE.

Chilian Times. Santiago de Chile. Semiweekly.
Diario Oficial de la República de Chile. Santiago. Daily.
Revista Comercial e Industrial de Minas. Santiago. Monthly.

COLOMBIA.

Diario Oficial. Bogotá. Daily.
El Correo Nacional. Bogotá.
Revista de la Instrucción Pública de Colombia. Bogotá. Monthly.

COSTA RICA.

Boletin de la Biblioteca Nacional. San José.
La Gaceta. (Oficial.) San José. Daily.

CUBA.

La Escuela Cubana. Havana. Weekly.
Revista del Foro. Havana. Quarterly.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

El Mensajero. Santo Domingo. Three times a month.
Gaceta Oficial. Santo Domingo. Weekly.

ECUADOR.

Gaceta Municipal. Guayaquil. Weekly.
Registro Oficial de la República del Ecuador. Quito. Daily.

ENGLAND.

Board of Trade Journal. London. Weekly.
British Trade Journal. London. Monthly.
Commercial Intelligence. London. Weekly.
Diplomatic and Consular Reports. London.
Feilden's Magazine. London. Monthly.
Freir's Colonial and Foreign Register. London. Quarterly.
Geographical Journal. London. Monthly.
Journal of the Board of Agriculture. London. Quarterly.
Mining (The) Journal. London. Weekly.

South American Journal. London. Weekly.
Tenders and Contracts. London.
Times (The). London. Daily.
Trade and Navigation Reports. London. Monthly.

GERMANY.

Deutsche Kolonialzeitung. Berlin. Weekly.
Handels-Kammer zu Hannover. Hannover.
Petermann's Mitteilungen. Gotha. Monthly.
Südamerikanische Rundschau. Berlin. Monthly.
Thonindustrie Zeitung. Berlin.

GUATEMALA.

Diario de Centro-America. Guatemala. Daily.
El Guatemalteco. Guatemala. Weekly.
La República. Guatemala. Daily.

FRANCE.

Le Nouveau Monde. Paris. Weekly.
Moniteur Officiel. Paris. Weekly.
Revue du Commercè Extérieur. Paris. Semimonthly.
Revue Générale des Sciences. Paris. Semimonthly.
Revue Politique et Parlementaire. Paris. Monthly.
Tableaux Mensuels de Statistique Municipale de la Ville de Paris. Paris. Monthly.

HONDURAS.

Boletín Legislativo. Tegucigalpa.
Gaceta Judicial. Tegucigalpa.
La Gaceta. Tegucigalpa.

JAPAN.

Japan-American Commercial Journal. Tokyo. Monthly.

MARTINIQUE.

Les Colonies. St. Pierre. Daily.

MEXICO.

American (The) Evolution. Mexico.
Boletín de Agricultura, Minería é Industrias. Mexico. Monthly.
Boletín de Estadística. Mérida. Semimonthly.
Boletín de la Red Meteorológica y Revista Científica. Toluca.
Boletín del Instituto Científico y Literario. Toluca.
Boletín Postal de la Administración General de Correos de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos. Mexico. Monthly.
Boletín Telegráfico. Mexico. Daily.
Diario Oficial. Mexico. Daily.
El Agricultor Mexicano. Ciudad Juárez. Monthly.
El Economista Mexicano. Mexico. Weekly.
El Estado de Colima. Colima. Weekly.
El Progreso de Mexico. Mexico. Weekly.
El Republicano. Aguascalientes. Weekly.
La Gaceta Comercial. Mexico. Daily.
Le Mexique. Mexico. Bimonthly.
Mexican Trade Review. Mexico. Monthly.
Resumen de la Importación y de la Exportación. Mexico. Monthly.
Semana Mercantil. Mexico. Weekly.

NICARAGUA.

Diario Oficial. Managua. Daily.
El Comercio. Managua. Daily.
La Patria. León.

PARAGUAY.

La Enseñanza. Asunción. Semimonthly.
Revista del Instituto Paraguayo. Asunción. Monthly.

PERU.

Boletín de la Sociedad Geográfica de Lima. Lima. Monthly.
El Comercio. Lima. Daily.
El Economista. Lima. Weekly.
El Peruano. Lima. Daily.
Padrón General de Minas. Lima.
Revista de Ciencias. Lima. Monthly.

PORTO RICO.

La Correspondencia. San Juan. Daily.

SALVADOR.

Diario del Salvador. San Salvador. Daily.

UNITED STATES.

American Review of Reviews. New York. Monthly.
Anglo-American Magazine. New York. Monthly.
Bulletin of the American Geographical Society. New York.
Bulletin of the Free Museum of Science and Arts. Philadelphia. Quarterly.
Century Magazine. New York. Monthly.
Chicago Record. Chicago. Daily.
Coal Trade Journal. New York. Weekly.
Cram's Magazine. Chicago. Monthly.
Export Implement Age. Philadelphia. Monthly.
Field Columbian Museum Publications. Chicago.
India Rubber World. New York. Monthly.
Modern Machinery. Chicago. Monthly.
Modern Mexico. St. Louis. Monthly.
National Geographic Magazine. Washington. Monthly.
New-Yorker Handels-Zeitung. New York City.
Novedades (Las). New York. Weekly.
Pan-American Magazine. Buffalo. Monthly.
Publications of the New England Free Trade League. Boston.
Scientific American. New York. Weekly.
Scientific American. Export Edition. New York. Monthly.
United States Consular Reports. Washington. Daily and Monthly.

URUGUAY.

Anales del Departamento de Ganadería y Agricultura. Montevideo. Monthly.
El Siglo. Montevideo. Daily.
La Nación. Montevideo. Daily.

VENEZUELA.

Gaceta Oficial. Caracas. Daily.
Venezuela. Caracas. Monthly.
Venezuelan Herald. Caracas.

BOLETÍN MENSUAL

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REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA.

COMERCIO CON EL AFRICA AUSTRAL.

El número correspondiente al 7 de julio de 1900 del "Commercial Intelligence," de Londres, publica una carta de su corresponsal en Sidney, Australia, en la que dicho señor manifiesta que los exportadores australianos comienzan á alarmarse por el constante desarrollo del comercio de la República Argentina con el África austral, lo cual parece infundirles serios temores de que su propio comercio sea detenido en su marcha progresiva por la rivalidad argentina. Los exportadores australianos creyeron que con la diminución que esperaban de los precios de fletes podrían hacer grandes exportaciones de ganado á la Colonia del Cabo, pero se han encontrado con que sus competidores de Sud América se les han adelantado colocando en los mercados de África cincuenta mil cabezas de ganado á precios relativamente bajos, considerando los muy exhorbitantes que predominan en los mercados australianos. Además del ganado de referencia, se sabe que se ha embarcado de la Argentina para Durbán y otros estados africanos un número considerable de caballos. Según la opinión del aludido corresponsal, la causa de inquietud de los exportadores de la Australia estriba en que éstos ven que, una vez extinguidos los efectos de la sequía porque actualmente atraviesa Australia, la producción volverá á ser, como de costumbre, muy superior á la demanda, viéndose entonces en la necesidad de mejorar su actual mercado y de buscar otros nuevos donde poder colocar sus productos, cosas que por la rivalidad argentina se les va á hacer difícil.

VENTAJAS VA Á HACER DEL ANUNCIO.

"Los grandes progresos realizados durante los últimos años," dice el "Handels Museum," de Viena, en la importación de artículos de fabricación americana en la República Argentina, son debidos en gran parte, sin menoscabo de la buena calidad de sus productos, al sistema tan eficaz de anuncios establecido por las casas de comercio norteamericanas. En 1899 las importaciones de los Estados Unidos en la República Argentina aumentaron en comparación con lo que habían sido el año anterior, no solamente en cuanto á productos especiales, tales como aceite de semilla de algodón y petróleo, sino también en lo tocante á efectos que se importan también de Europa. Mientras que los fabricantes europeos se limitan á publicar cortos anuncios en lenguas extranjeras, los norteamericanos envían á la República Argentina mensualmente, y aun dos veces al mes, informes en español que se distribuyen gratis y en los cuales se describen, acompañados de grabados, los productos de las fábricas de los Estados Unidos, y se hace una reseña de los progresos que han alcanzado.

BOLIVIA.

CENSO GENERAL DE LA REPÚBLICA.

El Gobierno boliviano ha emitido un decreto mandando levantar el censo general de la república y ordenando que esto mismo se repita cada diez años.

El decreto prescribe que en cada capital de departamento se constituya una Comisión Central, encargada de dirigir y recibir las operaciones del censo en todo territorio departamental.

Se establecerán subcomisiones en las capitales de provincias.

El censo se levantará el día 1° de septiembre próximo.

En las ciudades, villas, cantones, y vicecantones, el censo de la población urbana se levantará en un solo día, señalándose el término de treinta días para el levantamiento del de la población rural.

Tres días antes del 1° de septiembre se publicará un bando, anunciando que á las seis de la mañana del día designado debe empezarse la formación del censo nacional.

Se distribuirá, con la debida anticipación, el número suficiente de cédulas entre todas las comisiones centrales, que á su vez las distribuirán entre las subcomisiones de su circunscripción.

Las cédulas del censo de la población urbana serán entregadas por los comisionados centrales cuando más dentro de los 8 días después de verificado el censo. Cumplido el plazo de treinta días, señalado para la verificación del censo de la población rural, las subcomisionales cantonales remitirán á la comisión de la capital de provincia las cédulas respectivas, con un resumen de la población del territorio cantonal.

El cuadro general del censo de la república será finalmente formado en la Oficina Nacional de Inmigración, Estadística y Propaganda Geográfica, de la cual es director el Señor Don Manuel B. Ballivián, miembro correspondiente honorario de la Unión Internacional de Repúblicas Americanas en Bolivia.

BRAZIL.

EXTENSIÓN DE LOS FERROCARRILES.

En una comunicación dirigida al Departamento de Estado de los Estados Unidos por el Secretario de la Legación en Río Janeiro, dicho diplomático proporciona multitud de datos interesantes relativos á la red ferroviaria brasilera.

Informa que el número de ferrocarriles en operación sube á sesenta y tres, completamente independientes unos de otros. La longitud de los caminos de hierro es de 14,801 kilómetros, repartidos, según el ancho de la vía, de la siguiente manera: 1,462 kilómetros de vías de un metro, 6 centímetros de ancho; 12,459 kilómetros de vías de un metro, y 88 kilómetros de vías de 75 centímetros.

COMERCIO CON LA GRAN BRETAÑA EN SEIS MESES.

Los informes que el Gobierno inglés publica relativos al comercio y navegación sostenidos con el Brasil durante los seis primeros meses del año en curso, comparados con los correspondientes á igual período de 1899, contienen las tablas que á continuación se publican, por las que podrá medirse la importancia relativa del comercio de ambos países en los dos períodos mencionados.

IMPORTACIONES HECHAS DEL BRASIL.

	1900.	1899.
Azúcar	£28,640	£28,490
Café	28,716	74,755
Algodón	539,785	3,640
Cueros	14,706	11,856
Total	£611,847	£118,741

EXPORTACIONES AL BRASIL.

Carbón de piedra	£404,702	£331,134
Géneros de algodón	451,945	569,401
Fibras de cáñamo	134,284	84,577
Manufacturas de cáñamo	5,138	11,746
Géneros de hilo	26,825	24,953
Géneros de lana	31,346	37,993
Paños ó casimires	46,772	56,118
Manufacturas de cobre	28,368	22,462
Efectos de ferretería	30,410	32,766
Hierro en todos estados	212,250	252,869
Hoja de lata	38,204	35,840
Artículos de peletería	17,747	23,809
Cemento	11,231	17,926
Artículos de barro y porcelana	27,186	27,760
Aceite de semillas	23,669	18,484
Total	£1,490,077	£1,547,888

Se observará, pues, en la tabla de importaciones, que las de algodón han sido mucho mayor este año que el passado, debido al alza en los precios en los mercados de los Estados Unidos. También aumentaron las importaciones de cueros; las de azúcar apenas variaron, pero en cambio las de café disminuyeron considerablemente.

TRATADO COMERCIAL CON ITALIA.

Dice el "South American Journal," que los Gobiernos del Brasil y de Italia han celebrado un tratado de comercio, de conformidad con el cual el café del Brasil entrará en Italia con los derechos de importación reducidos en 20 liras. Asimismo los productos procedentes de Italia podrán importarse en el Brasil satisfaciendo los derechos de la tarifa mínima de aduanas.

IMPOSICIÓN DE CONTRIBUCIÓN Á LOS AGENTES COMERCIALES EN PORTO ALEGRE.

Los agentes comerciales que vayan á Porto Alegre á hacer sus negocios están sugetos al pago de una contribución municipal. El pago de ésta se les exige aun cuando exhiban sus muestrarios en casas permanentemente establecidas en la ciudad, siendo en este caso responsables del pago de la contribución referida las casas que se presten para ese objeto. Á los agentes de casas extranjeras se les imponen 500 milreis al año; á los de casas de otros estados de la república 250, y á los de otras partes del mismo estado 100.

CULTIVO DEL ALGODÓN.

El cultivo del algodón en el estado de Sao Pulo se está desarrollando de un modo notable. Las fábricas de tejidos de algodón de Piracicaba están cultivando esta planta en grande escala, pues se proponen fabricar la cantidad de sacos que se ha de necesitar para la próxima cosecha de café. En Itú y en Villa do Pilar se trabaja también con gran actividad en las plantaciones de algodón.

Se ve, pues, que los altos precios del algodón han animado á los agricultores del Brasil para dedicarse al cultivo de esa planta tan productiva.

MEJORAMIENTO DE LOS CAMINOS Y CARRETERAS.

El Secretario de Agricultura del estado de Sao Paulo ha dirigido una comunicación al Director de Obras Públicas, recomedándole dé instrucciones á los ingenieros de su Departamento para que en sus viajes por el interior fijen su atención en el estado de los caminos que comunican los distritos agrícolas con los centros industriales y estaciones de ferrocarriles. El objeto que se propone el Señor Secretario de Agricultura es facilitar los medios de comunicación á los agricultores para que sus productos puedan ser trasportados de sus fincas á los mercados con toda prontitud y comodidad.

CHILE.

DATOS ESTADÍSTICOS SOBRE LA EXPORTACIÓN DE MINERALES EN 1899.

En el número quinto de la "Revista Comercial é Industrial de Minas," de Santiago de Chile, que es una de las publicaciones más importantes que se reciben en esta oficina, se lee el artículo que á continuación se reproduce.

"Es verdaderamente interesante estudiar el cuadro estadístico que damos á continuación sobre la exportación de minerales, habida por las aduanas de la república durante el año de 1899.

"En primer término figura el *salitre*, con 1,380,718,323 kilogramos, cuyo valor, calculado por los agentes aduaneros, asciende á $96,650,282; en segundo lugar el *cobre en barra*, con 17,311,133 kilogramos, con un valor de $14,928,273; después sigue el yodo, la plata *piña* y en barra, los minerales de cobre, el oro en barra y en pasta, el borato de cal, el manganeso, etc.

"Todos los productos de la minería que figuran en este cuadro estadístico arrojan una suma total de $132,796,660 (pesos), valor calculado por las aduanas, sin tomar en consideración las cotizaciones comerciales ó valores de plaza. Si tomáramos éstos para avaluar los minerales exportados, tendríamos una suma mucho mayor á la fijada por las aduanas, que se acercaría á 150 millones de pesos.

Cuadro que manifiesta la exportación de minerales en el año 1899.

Mercaderías.	Unidad.	Cantidad.	Valor.
Borato de cal	Kilogramos	14,950,788	$2,242,618
Bórax	id	14,428	7,214
Cobre en barra	id	17,311,133	14,928,273
Cobre aurífero en barra	id	20,300	20,300
Ejes de cobre	id	1,710,459	984,965
Ejes de cobre y oro	id	32,978	24,771
Ejes de cobre y plata	id	1,093,762	546,880
Ejes de cobre, plata y oro	id	92,905	37,162
Estaño	id	8,298	4,979
Guano	id	23,482,000	939,280
Minerales de cobre	id	35,854,439	3,585,443
Minerales de cobre y oro	id	58,141	8,720
Minerales de cobre y plata	id	183,996	36,799
Minerales de cobre, plata y oro	id	11,970	2,633
Minerales de plata	id	302,417	247,597
Minerales de plata y oro	id	369,759	129,416
Minerales de manganeso	id	40,930,738	1,227,922
Minerales de cobalto	id	54,542	8,181
Minerales de oro	id	12,102	6,051
Minerales de plata y plomo	id	32,292	4,844
Minerales sulfuro-platosos	id	338,501	1,017,110
Minerales para colección	Bultos	23	26,250
Oro en barra y pasta	Gramos	1,625,329	2,461,234
Plata piña y en barra	id	75,563,518	3,778,175
Plata chafalonia	id	335,348	13,414
Plomo argentífero en barra	Kilogramos	171,103	34,221
Salitre	id	1,380,718,323	96,650,282
Yodo	id	304,328	4,108,427
Zinc aurífero y argentífero	id	423	13,500
Total			132,796,661

EXPLORACIONES EN EL SUR.

Refiere "El Mercurio," de Valparaíso, que el ingeniero Don ARTURO BARRIOS ha descubierto un antiguo camino que pone en comunicación por tierra el lago Nahuel-Huapí con el oceano Pacífico, acontecimiento notable si se toman en consideración los esfuerzos hechos por muchos ilustres exploradores para encontrarlo.

Por crónicas que datan del siglo XVII se sabe que los padres jesuitas fundaron una misión á orillas del lago Nahuel-Huapí con el objeto de catetizar á los indios que allí moraban. Esta misión se comunicaba con Chiloé por un camino, parte fluvial y parte terrestre, que partiendo del lado sur del lago, pasaba por puerto Blest, en la parte occidental, tomaba el río Peulla, y, después de cruzar el lago de Todos los Santos, y el Cayutúe, llegaba á Ralun, en la extremidad norte del estero de Reloncaví. Ofrecía este camino varios inconvenientes: era demasiado largo y costoso; exigía á los viajeros el uso de embarcaciones, y las corrientes y bajos de los ríos ponían constantemente en peligro sus vidas. Por estas razónes un padre jesuita que había oido decir que además de aquel camino existía otro antiguamente frecuentado por los españoles de la conquista, se empeñó, en descubrirlo, en repetidas ocasiones, y consiguió su objeto en el año de 1715; desde entonces los misioneros pudieron hacer el viaje desde Nahuel-Huapí hasta Ralun en tres días. Poco después el padre jesuita que había descubierto el camino murió á manos de los indios; la misión fué destruída; la vegetación exhuberante de aquellas tierras borró en breve tiempo hasta los últimos rastros de la vía recien descubierta, y durante cerca de dos siglos fué imposible dar con ella de nuevo. No menos de trece expediciones dirigidas á este fin han fracasado entre el año de 1766 y nuestros días. Desde el año de 1880 se han internado en aquellas regiones varios exploradores notables. Sus esfuerzos no han sido estériles para la ciencia, pues por ellos ha llegado á conocerse casi por completo la topografía de Llanquihue, al sur del paralelo 41, y por ellos ha sido fácil para el Sr. BARRIOS el descubrimiento del famoso camino.

Las exploraciones que se han hecho de la provincia de Llanquihue ponen de manifiesto la riqueza inmensa que allí existe en maderas, particularmente en alerce, y que el desmonte y apertura del camino de Vuriloche, ya descubierto, es el primer paso que debe darse para poner todos esos bosques al alcance y servicio de la industria. Hoy son un tesoro escondido.

CONTRATO DE NAVEGACIÓN.

"El Diario Oficial de la República" publica los términos de un contrato celebrado entre el Gobierno y la Compañía de Navegación á Vapor en el Pacífico.

La Compañía se obliga por dicho contrato á conducir toda la correspondencia que la Dirección General de Correos disponga se entregue para los puertos de la costa del Pacífico en que en la actualidad tocan los vapores y en los que, en lo sucesivo, hagan escala.

El menor número de viajes que habrán de hacer los vapores será el siguiente: entre Valparaíso y Ocós, dos al mes; entre Valparaíso y Melipulli, dos al mes; entre Valparaíso y Liverpool, uno al mes.

La permanencia de los vapores en cada uno de los puertos de Chile será, por lo menos, de dos horas, á menos que las valijas de la correspondencia se hayan entregado antes de que dicho período haya transcurrido.

Salvo caso fortuíto, fuerza mayor ú otra circunstancia imprevista, los vapores no deben emplear en cada viaje mayor número de días del fijado en su itinerario. Tampoco podrá la Compañía retardar la salida de un barco del puerto de Valparaíso más de veinticuatro horas, á no ser que el retardo esté justificado por cualquiera de las causas antedichas.

Si la Compañía dejare de hacer un viaje, ya sea al norte, al sur ó á Europa, pagará una multa de $3,000. Si en el transcurso de un año hubiere dejado de hacer dos viajes, el Gobierno podrá rescindir el presente contrato.

Queda terminantemente prohibido llevar á bordo pólvora, dinamita, nitroglicerina ó cualquier otro artículo inflamable ó peligroso.

El Gobierno fijará en el proyecto de ley de presupuestos para 1901 la cantidad de £6,720 como subvención anual á la Compañía.

La Compañía se obliga á hacer al Gobierno varias rebajas en las tarifas de pasajes y fletes.

Queda entendido que durante el tiempo que exista guerra entre cualquiera de las repúblicas de la costa, la Compañía no tiene la obligación de llevar á bordo de sus barcos ni tropas ni municiones, debiendo dichos barcos observar la más estricta neutralidad.

El contrato durará cinco años, si el Congreso Nacional concede los fondos para el pago de la subvención acordada, y podrá prolongarse indefinidamente por acuerdo de las partes contratantes bajo iguales condiciones.

SOCIEDAD DE SEGUROS "LA CONTINENTAL."

Se ha establecido bajo la denominación de "La Continental," con domicilio en la ciudad de Valparaíso, una sociedad anónima, con el objeto de asegurar valores contra incendios y riesgos de mar y ejecutar los contratos necesarios para la más segura y ventajosa inversión de los fondos sociales. También podrá extenderse á verificar seguros de cualquier otra naturaleza, si así lo decidiere la Asamblea General de Accionistas.

SOCIEDAD COOPERATIVA PARA LA FABRICACIÓN DE CERVEZA.

Se ha fundado en Santiago de Chile una sociedad anónima con el nombre que encabeza estas líneas. Su duración será de treinta años, contados desde la fecha de la aprobación legal de sus estatutos, pudiendo prorrogarse el plazo por mayor tiempo, si así lo acordare la Junta General de Accionistas.

Como su nombre lo indica, el objeto de la sociedad es la fabricación de cerveza. Su capital social será de $300,000, representado por treinta mil acciones con un valor nominal de $10 cada una.

COSTA RICA.

MENSAJE DEL PRESIDENTE.

Mensaje dirigido por el Presidente de la República al Congreso Constitucional con motivo de haberse firmado la última acta por las Comisiones encargadas de la demarcación y amojonamiento de las fronteras de Costa Rica y Nicaragua:

Señores Diputados:

"En la ciudad Capital de la hermana República de Nicaragua se verifica hoy el fausto acontecimiento de firmarse por las Comisiones encargadas del trazado y amojonamiento de la frontera de ésta y aquella república, la última acta de las operaciones de demarcación que les fueron encomendadas en virtud del Tratado Pacheco-Matus de 27 de marzo de 1896, dando con ello por terminado su importante cometido.

"Nuestra frontera del Norte queda, en consecuencia, definitivamente demarcada de conformidad con las prescripciones del Tratado de 15 de abril de 1858, y del Laudo arbitral dictado por el Señor Presidente de los Estados Unidos de América, Mr. Grover Cleveland. Con ello desaparecen desde luego las controversias de jurisdicción á que desde los primeros tiempos de la vida independiente de ambos estados dió lugar lo indeterminado de su línea fronteriza, lo cual, de otra parte, hubo de resentir los vínculos de confraternidad que unen á ambos pueblos.

"El hecho que hoy se celebra es de altísima significación para la familia centro-americana; es el resultado de la gestión amigable y fraternal de los Gobiernos del Salvador y de Guatemala, como intermediario que fué el primero en la celebración del Tratado Cañas-Jerez y del de Pacheco-Matus que estableció el procedimiento para la efectividad de aquél, y como mediador el segundo en el Tratado de arbitraje Esquivel-Román, celebrado en la capital de aquella República el 24 de diciembre de 1886.

"Asimismo ha intervenido de manera eficaz, y animado del deseo de contribuir á poner término á sensibles diferencias entre los pueblos del Continente americano, el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos de

América, quién aceptó el cargo de Alto Árbitro en 1887, y designó, posteriormente, en 1897, á solicitud de ambas partes contendientes, el ingeniero Árbitro convenido en el Tratado Pacheco-Matus, á cuya laboriosidad en el cumplimiento de su cometido deben Costa Rica y Nicaragua la pronta terminación del deslinde de sus fronteras, y á su recto criterio la perfecta conformidad de cada una de ellas.

"Con tan plausible motivo mi Gobierno se ha apresurado á comunicar á aquellos Gobiernos amigos la feliz y definitiva terminación del deslinde y amojonamiento de nuestra frontera con Nicaragua, expresándoles al propio tiempo, una vez más, la gratitud del pueblo y del Gobierno costarricenses.

"También es del caso recordar en este día los esfuerzos hechos dentro de la órbita de la paz y de la diplomacia, obligadas en este caso, más que en ningún otro, por tratarse de la disputo de límites entre pueblos hermanos, por las administraciones que se han sucedido desde 1857, y especialmente por la de Don Juan Rafael Mora y la de Don Bernado Soto, la primera con la celebración del Tratado de 15 de abril de 1858, y la segunda con la del Tratado de arbitraje de 24 de diciembre de 1886.

"Dirimida la contienda de límites de modo pacífico y por el medio más propio de la civilización, el de arbitraje, que deja siempre á salvo la dignidad de las altas partes contendientes, las Repúblicas de Costa Rica y Nicaragua quedan desde hoy en aptitud de ejercer su respectiva soberanía, sin temor á recíprocas violaciones de sus territorios; y no hay motivo alguno para dudar de que, inspirados ambos pueblos en el deseo de alcanzar su común destino, estrechen en lo sucesivo los vínculos que los unen, relegando al olvido diferencias que de modo sensible hubieron de afectar en más de una ocasión la armonía entre ellos. Más aun; dichosamente para ambos países se ha llegado á la terminación del enojoso asunto que aparentemente los dividía, sin dejar rastro de sangre en su común historia, ni ofensa alguna comprometedora de su recíproca dignidad.

"Bajo tales auspicios, el hecho que hoy celebramos viene á ser prenda segura de conciliación entre ambos pueblos por lo que á hechos pasados se refiere, y de paz y tranquilidad para lo futuro.

"La República está de plácemes, y vosotros, como sus dignos Representantes en esa Augusta Asamblea, habeis de congratularos con el Poder Ejecutivo por el feliz éxito que las gestiones de la presente Administración han alcanzado en el importantísimo asunto á que este Mensaje se contrae: resultado éste obtenido con vuestro concurso, por el eficaz apoyo que le habeis prestado para definir de modo práctico, pacífico y honroso la trascendente cuestión jurisdiccional con la República de Nicaragua. La obra está terminada y con ella se abren nuevos horizontes al porvenir de dos pueblos hermanos."

Rafael Iglesias.

DECRETO RELATIVO Á LA MONEDA.

En el número 12 de "La Gaceta," diario oficial, se publicó con fecha 14 de julio de 1900 el decreto que se leerá en seguida:

"El Congreso Constitucional de la República de Costa Rica,

"Considerando: que el rescate de la antigua moneda de oro nacional ordenado por el Artículo XIX de la Ley de Moneda de 24 de octubre de 1896, debe hacerse justamente por la relación de valor intrínseco de aquella moneda con la nueva que se da en cambio,

"Y en uso de la atribución que le confiere la fracción 13ª del artículo 73 de la Constitución, decreta:

"Artículo único. Modifícase el Artículo XIX de la Ley de Moneda de 24 de octubre de 1896 en los términos siguientes: Las monedas nacionales de oro de anterior acuñación se rescatarán por la relación de su valor intrínseco respecto del colón, con las reducciones que procedan, según el caso previsto en el Artículo X.

"Esta ley surtirá sus efectos desde la fecha de su publicación."

INFORMES CONSULARES.

Exportaciones á Costa Rica de Nueva York, Nueva Orleans, y San Francisco, Cal., según los informes de los Consulados respectivos á la Legación de Costa Rica en Wáshington, durante el primer semestre del año corriente de 1900.

Mes.	Número de bultos.	Peso.	Valor neto.	Flete y gastos.	Valor total, oro Estados Unidos.
NUEVA YORK		*Kilos.*			
Enero	9,111	452,413	$82,230.67	$21,758.99	$103,989.66
Febrero	10,895	549,419	439,686.42	9,421.40	449,107.82
Marzo	8,009	494,159	72,120.06	6,674.57	78,794.63
Abril	21,706	930,134	92,391.77	11,016.52	103,408.29
Mayo	9,962	510,088	91,223.69	10,781.21	102,004.90
Junio	12,901	740,479	131,965.95	14,610.89	146,576.84
Total	72,584	3,676,692	909,618.56	74,263.58	983,882.14
NUEVA ORLEANS.					
Enero	13,365	592,937	27,261.54	8,189.32	35,450.86
Febrero	14,974	520,654	23,024.17	7,064.17	30,088.34
Marzo	27,627	453,638	24,284.02	7,572.40	31,856.42
Abril	20,520	860,097	31,024.68	9,337.86	40,362.54
Mayo	19,128	1,170,151	49,020.81	11,910.87	60,931.68
Junio	20,043	827,171	29,836.40	8,648.25	38,484.65
Total	115,657	4,424,648	184,451.62	52,722.87	237,174.49
SAN FRANCISCO.					
Enero	4,008	205,579	10,616.58	1,995.15	12,611.73
Febrero	4,592	191,016	11,858.70	1,971.28	13,829.98
Marzo	4,861	259,650	15,045.46	3,304.12	18,349.58
Abril	1,523	78,539	5,368.08	1,079.70	6,447.78
Mayo	1,522	60,392	6,469.48	1,227.58	7,697.06
Junio	2,164	93,660	8,239.65	1,369.28	9,608.93
Total	18,670	888,836	57,597.95	10,947.11	68,545.06
RESUMEN.					
Nueva York	72,584	3,676,692	909,618.56	74,263.58	983,882.14
Nueva Orleans	115,657	4,424,648	184,451.62	52,722.87	237,174.49
San Francisco	18,670	888,836	57,597.95	10,947.11	68,545.06
Total	206,911	8,990,176	1,151,668.13	137,933.56	1,289,601.69

Valor de las exportaciones de junio á diciembre 31 de 1899	$1,163,887.40
Valor de las exportaciones de enero á junio 30 de 1900	1,289,601.69
	2,453,489.09
Aumento en el último semestre	125,714.29

ARBITRIOS PARA EL SOSTENIMIENTO DE HOSPITALES.

"La Gaceta," diario oficial de la República de Costa Rica, publica en su edición del 21 de julio próximo pasado, un decreto creando un impuesto sobre los billetes de pasaje de los ferrocarriles, el producto del cual se destinará al sostenimiento de varios hospitales de la República. Sólo dejarán de pagar dicho impuesto los trenes oficiales, quedando asimismo exentos del impuesto los billetes emitidos á personas que viajen en comisión de algún servico oficial. Tan pronto se abra al público el ferrocarril al Pacífico, se aplicará este impuesto á sus billetes de pasajes, y el producto obtenido se depositará en las arcas públicas hasta que se haya reunido la suma de ₡20,000, que se destinará á la construcción de un hospital en el puerto en que remata dicho ferrocarril.

GRANJA NACIONAL DE AGRICULTURA.

Á continuación se publica, en síntesis, el decreto emitido por el Gobierno de Costa Rica con fecha 14 de julio de 1900, relativo á la creación de un centro científico-experimental de agricultura, con estaciones regionales correspondientes, situadas en diversas zonas y altitudes del país. La institución se denominará *Granja Nacional de Agricultura*, y tendrá varios objetos, á saber:

El estudio y cultivo en pequeña escala, con aplicación de métodos y procedimientos modernos, de los principales cultivos del país;

El ensayo y aclimatación de todos aquellos cultivos de porvenir en la República, no explotados aun formalmente ó desconocidos hasta ahora;

La formación de almácigas y la venta á los agricultores del país, á precio de costo, de semillas y renuevos para la propagación de los cultivos;

El ensayo y preparación de abonos económicos;

El estudio de las enfermedades de las plantas, y en particular, del cafeto;

El análisis de tierras y de todas las condiciones climatológicas del país;

El empleo de máquinas, herramientas y útiles de labranza perfeccionados;

La corrección de prácticas viciosas y rutinarias inveteradas en el país;

Y, en general, la propaganda y generalización de todo lo que pueda contribuir á aumentar la producción agrícola del país.

La Granja Nacional de Agricultura tendrá un departamento anexo destinado á la manutención de sementales de las mejores razas que se hayan importado, y á la crianza de animales domésticos de las mejores castas aclimatables en Costa Rica.

Las semillas cosechadas en la Granja serán repartidas gratuitamente, y los almácigos serán vendidos á precio de costo. Los animales de cría se venderán á precios moderados. El apareamiento será gratuito, siem-

pre que se haga en condiciones que garanticen la mejora de las razas del país.

El establecimiento tendrá por órgano una revista mensual ilustrada, que llevará el nombre de "El Agricultor Costarricense". En sus columnas tendrán cabida: una síntesis de los trabajos realizados durante el mes anterior; instrucciones sobre el cultivo perfeccionado, y crianza de animales domésticos; estudios de aclimatación; estudios sobre enfermedades de animales y plantas; estudios sobre pequeñas industrias rurales; consejos encaminados á la corrección de prácticas viciosas y á la propaganda de la colonización en regiones incultas; una revista sobre el movimiento agrícola universal; estudios de economía rural; estudios meteorológicos con aplicacion á la agricultura, y datos misceláneos agrícolas.

También publicará la Granja cada 1° de enero un almanaque rural, ameno, enciclopédico é instructivo, que pueda servir de guía al agricultor costarricense.

Toda publicación de la Granja Nacional será repartida gratuitamente entre los agricultores.

La Granja responderá á toda consulta técnica, verbal ó escrita, que se le dirija; cultivará relaciones activas con institutos agrícolas, jardines de aclimatación y establecimientos similares del extranjero, para mantener al país al tanto del movimiento agrícola universal. Con este mismo intento se procurará el canje con publicaciones de igual índole del extranjero.

Con el fin de estimular en el país el perfeccionamiento de la agricultura en todos sus ramos, por la selección y otros medios que aconseja la ciencia, despertando la emulación entre los agricultores, la Granja abrirá periódicamente *exposiciones y concursos de agricultura*, y señalará recompensas para premiar los ejemplares más perfectos y acabados. Estos certámenes pueden ser nacionales ó regionales.

La Granja dependerá directamente de la Secretaría de Fomento, y se establecerá en el lugar que al efecto designe el Poder Ejecutivo, en la Provincia de San José, y estará á cargo de un Director General y del número de auxiliares técnicos y administrativos que fueren indispensables.

Autorízase al Poder Ejecutivo para invertir por ahora la suma de cincuenta mil colones en el establecimiento y desarrollo progresivo de la Granja Nacional de Agricultura y sus estaciones anexas.

FERROCARRIL AL PACÍFICO.

En la Memoria de Fomento presentada al Congreso Constitucional de 1900, al tratar de ferrocarriles, se dice lo siguiente:

"La obra de construcción del ferrocarril al Pacífico ha seguido adelantando de manera regular. La localización definitiva de la línea fué terminada el 22 del año precedente, pudiéndose ya, en consecuen-

cia, fijar con exactitud su extensión, que será de 94 kilómetros 601 metros desde el empalme del ferrocarril al Atlántico hasta el arranque del proyectado muelle.

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"Hoy los trenes de construcción recorren por entero el trayecto desde su origen hasta San Antonio de Belén, y el trabajo de tender rieles hasta el Río Grande, término de la 1ª sección, se emprenderá en seguida, calculando á dar comienzo á la construcción del puente en ese río durante el mes de noviembre próximo.

"De las 59 millas que desde ese punto á su terminación comprende el trayecto, en 35 están construídos los trabajos de nivelación y mampostería, y en las 24 restantes, las cinco en que el trabajo es más difícil, está ya ejecutado en gran parte, quedando sólo 19, que son las menos dificultosas en toda la vía.

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"Asciende lo pagado en efectivo al contratista durante el año por valor de las obras ejecutadas y del saldo de 15 mil pesos, moneda de Costa Rica, correspondiente al año anterior que quedó á deberse, á la suma de $633,187.56, moneda de Costa Rica; y montan los intereses, también pagados, por los bonos emitidos á su favor, á la suma de $49,589.50."

CUBA.

ELECCIÓN DE DELEGADOS Á LA CONVENCIÓN CONSTITUCIONAL.

El Departamento de la Guerra de los Estados Unidos promulgó el 31 de julio de 1900 un decreto, señalando la fecha en que se habrán de verificar en Cuba las elecciones para delegados á la Convención Constitucional.

La proclama de referencia, después de reiterar la declaración hecha por el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos de que "el pueblo de Cuba es de hecho y de derecho libre é independiente," y de que los Estados Unidos no abrigan la menor disposición ni tienen voluntad de ejercer soberanía, jurisdicción ó dominio sobre la referida Isla, una vez verificada su pacificación, y después de citar el hecho de que el pueblo de Cuba ha establecido satisfactoriamente un gobierno municipal, dice:

"Por tanto, queda dispuesto se celebre una elección general en la Isla de Cuba en el tercer sábado del mes de setiembre de 1900, para designar los delegados que han de asistir á la Convención que habrá de reunirse en la ciudad de la Habana á las 12 del dia del primer lunes de noviembre de 1900, con el fin de redactar y adoptar una constitución para el pueblo de Cuba, y como parte de la misma determinar, de acuerdo con el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos, las relaciones que han de existir entre éste y el de Cuba, y establecer la elección, por voto

popular, de los funcionarios creados en virtud de dicha Constitución, decretando asimismo el traspaso del Gobierno de la Isla á los referidos funcionarios. Las elecciones se verificarán en los varios distritos electorales, de conformidad con lo que dispone la ley electoral de 18 de abril de 1900 y sus enmiendas."

Los electores en cada una de las diferentes provincias eligirán un número de delegados proporcional al de habitantes de la misma, según el censo tomado per el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos, á saber: Habana, 8; Matanzas, 4; Pinar del Río, 3; Puerto Príncipe, 2; Santa Clara, 7; y Santiago, 7; total, 31 delegados.

IMPORTACIONES EN LA HABANA.

La División de Aduanas y Negocios Insulares del Departamento de la Guerra de los Estados Unidos informa que se han importado en la Habana durante el mes de junio de este año mercancías y moneda acuñada por valor de $4,420,088. De esta cantidad $4,439 fueron en moneda de plata importada de España. Los artículos que entraron sin pagar derechos representaron un valor de $185,079.

El valor total de las mercancías, del oro y la plata que entraron en la Habana durante los seis primeros meses de 1900, fué de $28,109,646, contra $27,396,972 en el mismo período de 1899, lo cual muestra un aumento de $712,684.

CONDUCTORES SUBTERRÁNEOS PARA LA HABANA.

La " Potomac Terra Cotta Conduit Company," establecida en Wáshington, ha remitido á Cuba últimamente 16,000 pies de conductores subterráneos de dos secciones, destinados á la Compañía de Tranvías Eléctricos de la Habana. El pedido se hizo por conducto de la casa Morris Electric Company, que hasta ahora se ha venido ocupando en comprar el material necesario para dichos tranvías.

REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA.

RECAUDACIÓN DE DERECHOS DE ADUANA.

El Señor Don José G. García, miembro correspondiente honorario de la Unión Internacional de Repúblicas Americanas en Santo Domingo, avisa que la recaudación de derechos aduaneros en la República durante el primer trimestre de 1900, fué como sigue:

Santo Domingo	$123,067.72	Sánchez	51,288,15
Puerto Plata	108,118.34	Macorís	$189,517.10
Montecristi	12,914.10	Azua	10,252.10
Samaná	7,349.92	Barahona	1,119.40
			503,626.83

EL SALVADOR.

EXPLOTACIÓN DE PLANTAS TEXTILES.

Este importante asunto es motivo de un artículo interesante que aparece en el "Diario del Salvador," y del cual se toman los siguientes párrafos:

"Una riqueza sin explotar es la de las plantas fibrosas que tanto abundan en Centro América. Ninguno, que sepamos hasta ahora, se ha dedicado al cultivo y beneficio de ellas, y, sin embargo, serían una verdadera mina que enriquecería á los que las explotaran y al país en general. Prueba de ello es México, que anualmente exporta millones de toneladas á los mercados extranjeros en donde tienen fuerte demanda, alcanzando precios ventajosos.

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"Grandes mejoras se han introducido últimamente en la construcción de maquinaria aplicable al tratamiento de plantas fibrosas, reemplazando por completo los anticuados y dispendiosos métodos que se usan en algunos países.

"Por falta de conocimientos, se desperdician y pierden en Centro-América millares de toneladas de hojas de fibras, que de saberse preparar, se convertirían en una verdadera mina de oro para estos países. Cuerdas, sacos, alfombras, redes y multitud de telas y tejidos aplicables á infinidad de objetos pueden fabricarse de las fibras que tanto abundan, y esto con poco costo, relativamente, ahorrándose así la diferencia con los altos precios á que hoy se compran en el extranjero y el elevado flete del transporte."

IMPORTANTE DECRETO.

El "Diario del Salvador" publica el decreto que á continuación se leerá, tomado de "El Diario Oficial" de la República.

"Considerando: Que la creciente exportación de ganado vacuno ha dado por resultado que la especie disminuya de manera alarmante en el país y se produzca la consiguiente carestía y el aumento de los precios;

"Que es un deber de la Representacion Nacional prever las necesidades de los pueblos y anticiparse á los males que puedan sobrevenir; y

"Que la creación de un impuesto por cada cabeza traerá consigo la diminución en la exportación y á la vez un beneficio para el erario; por tanto, en uso de sus facultades, decreta:

"Artículo 1. Por la exportación de cada cabeza de ganado vacuno se pagarán cinco pesos, si fuere macho, y diez, si fuere hembra.

"Art. 2. Á efecto de asegurar el cumplimiento de esta disposición, las autoridades del tránsito, tanto civiles como militares, y especial-

mente las fronterizas, exigirán del conductor la boleta ó guía en que conste el pago de este impuesto, el cual deberá percibirse por la Administración de Rentas más inmediata al lugar de donde se extraiga el ganado.

"ART. 3. La falta de este requisito dará lugar al decomiso y á una multa equivalente al doble del impuesto fijado.

"ART. 4. Las multas que se impongan á este respecto se dividirán por mitad entre el fisco y el empleado que haga el decomiso, ó el particular que hiciera la denuncia."

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

COMERCIO CON LA AMÉRICA LATINA.

IMPORTACIONES Y EXPORTACIONES.

En la página 337 aparece la última relación del comercio entre los Estados Unidos y la América latina, tomada de la compilación hecha por la Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Hacienda de los Estados Unidos. Estos datos se refieren al valor del comercio arriba mencionado. La estadística corresponde al mes de junio de 1900, comparada con la del mes correspondiente del año anterior, y también comprende los datos referentes á los once meses que terminaron en mayo de 1900, comparados con igual período de 1899. Debe explicarse que las estadísticas de las importaciones y exportaciones de las diversas aduanas referentes á un mes cualquiera no se reciben en el Departamento de Hacienda hasta el 20 del próximo mes, necesitándose algún tiempo para su compilación é impresión; de suerte que los datos estadísticos correspondientes al mes de junio, por ejemplo, no se publican hasta agosto.

EL COMERCIO EXTERIOR EN AGOSTO DE 1900.

El comercio exterior de los Estados Unidos durante el año económico que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900, excede en un quince por ciento al realizado en uno cualquiera de los años anteriores. Excedió en $320,000,000 al del año económico que terminó en 30 de junio de 1899, el cual se consideró el mayor de que se tenía noticia.

El total del comercio durante el año fué por valor de $2,244,193,543, en cuya cantidad entra á formar parte la exportación con un total de $1,394,479,214. Esta cifra excede á la del año económico que terminó el 30 de junio de 1898 en $162,000,000. El aumento se nota en todos los principales artículos de exportación, habiendo sido el exceso en las manufacturas sobre 1899 por valor de $100,000,000, apróximadamente, y los productos agrícolas cerca de $50,000,000. En cuanto á los pro-

ductos de las minas y los bosques, el aumento fué de unos $10,000,000, y en las pesquerías de $1,000,000.

También las importaciones representaron un aumento considerable, habiendo ascendido en el último año económico á $849,714,329. El balance á favor de los Estados Unidos fué durante el año de $544,764,885.

La importación de oro fué de $2,829,457, y la exportación de $48,266,229.

La importación de plata ascendió á $35,236,697, y la exportación á $56,712,275.

DEUDA PÚBLICA.

El informe sobre la Deuda Pública de los Estados Unidos durante el mes de julio próximo pasado, muestra que la deuda que paga intereses ascendía entonces á $1,021,125,160, habiendo disminuido durante el mes en la suma de $2,353,700.

La deuda que ha cesado de pagar intereses desde su vencimiento ascendía á $1,176,310, y su diminución durante el mes, comparada con la del anterior, fué de diez *dollars* menos.

La deuda que no paga intereses montaba á $386,904,604, habiendo disminuído durante el mes en $1,851,127.

La deuda total ascendía al terminar dicho mes á $149,206,075, habiendo disminuído en $4,210,837.

El valor de los certificados y billetes del Tesoro en circulación ascendía á $724,371,179, habiendo aumentado $827,000, lo cual hacía subir el pasivo á $2,133,577,254, ó sea una diminución total de la deuda de $3,383,837.

El dinero existente en las arcas nacionales era el siguiente:

Oro acuñado y en barras	$150,000,000
Depósitos para diversos fines	724,371,179
Fondos generales en Bancos Nacionales	230,643,005
El fondo de reserva se mantenía á	150,000,000
El balance en dinero disponible era	149,859,365

DESENVOLVIMIENTO DE LA INDUSTRIA ELÉCTRICA.

Es realmente asombroso el grado de adelanto que ha alcanzado en los Estados Unidos la industria eléctrica, siendo asimismo maravilloso el gran número de descubrimientos y de nuevas y útiles aplicaciones de este agente poderoso que han brotado del ingenio é inventiva admirables del pueblo americano.

Se calcula en tres mil millones de *dollars* el capital de las cuatro más poderosas compañías eléctricas de los Estados Unidos, y el de las dos famosas compañías de telégrafos y cables, la *Western Union* y la *Postal*, se sabe llega á unos 125 millones de *dollars*. Si se uniese al capital de estas dos vastas empresas el de cada una de las líneas telegráficas y telefónicas pertenecientes á las extensas líneas de ferrocarri-

ies de la República, y el de las líneas telegráficas tendidas en infinidad de poblaciones, quizás no bajaría de doscientos cincuenta millones de *dollars* el capital invertido en estas empresas.

Á pesar de que la mayor parte de los cables submarinos no pertenece á los Estados Unidos, téngase en cuenta que éstos contribuyen en sumo grado á sostenerlos y que de ellos también partió la iniciativa de su construcción. Los del Pacífico, por ejemplo, aunque no son americanos, deben su éxito y desarrollo á los Estados Unidos. El valor de las ciento ochenta mil millas (180,000 millas) de cable tendidas se calcula en unos doscientos cincuenta millones de dollars ($250,000,000).

Si bien es cierto que los progresos hechos en el ramo de telégrafos son notables, todavía mayores son los realizados en empresas telefónicas, en las que se han invertido más de ciento sesenta millones ($160,000,000) de dollars.

Sin embargo, de todas las industrias en que la electricidad figura como factor principal, la del alumbrado eléctrico es la que mayor grado de prosperidad ha alcanzado. El capital en ella invertido monta á la suma de $600,000,000.

Los tranvías eléctricos van también haciendo progresos notables. Á fines de 1899 representaban un capital de $1,621,820,000, cuya suma excede en ciento cincuenta millones á la correspondiente, por igual concepto, al año anterior, circunstancia que deja bien patentizado el progreso notable que se ha hecho en este ramo de la industria eléctrica.

Fabulosas son también las sumas de dinero invertidas en la fabricación de aparatos empleados en numerosas industrias y artes. En la industria minera y en la trasmisión de fuerza motriz se han gastado en los últimos siete años mil millones de dollars.

Podrían citarse otros casos por los cuales se probaría aun más el grado de adelanto que las numerosas industrias eléctricas han alcanzado en los Estados Unidos, pero lo consignado ya es prueba suficiente de ello, así como de lo que puede esperarse en el porvenir de un país tan eminentemente industrioso y activo como los Estados Unidos.

EDUCACIÓN AGRÍCOLA.

Con el título de "Agricultural Education in the United States," el Doctor A. C. True, Director de la Sección de Fincas Modelos, ha escrito un capítulo para el "Year Book" (Anuario) del Departamento de Agricultura á solicitud del Secretario del ramo.

Las investigaciones del Doctor True ponen de manifiesto que la organización de Sociedades agrícolas comenzó en Filadelfia á principios de 1785; continuó en la Capital de la nación, y entre sus miembros se contaron hombres como Jorge Wáshington y Benjamín Franklin. El movimiento se extendió rápidamente á lo largo de la costa del Atlántico. Estas sociedades continuaron como instituciones locales independientes hasta 1809, época en que se fundó en la ciudad de

Wáshington una organización conocida con el nombre de "Columbian Agricultural Society," que fué la base de la organización nacional formada en 1852. Por primera vez el Congreso se interesó en el desarrollo de la agricultura el año de 1839, cuando, por recomendación del Comisionado de Patentes, se votó un crédito de $1,000 para fomentar de diversos modos el desarrollo agrícola. Más tarde se estableció el Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos.

Debido á los esfuerzos del finado JUSTIN L. MORRILL, Senador por Vermont, el Congreso emitió una ley en la que se dispone que, mediante ciertas estipulaciones, se otorguen tierras nacionales á los Colegios de Agricultura. La extensión de estas tierras que obtuvieron varios de los Estados que se aprovecharon de las disposiciones contenidas en la citada ley, varió desde 24 mil acres, que se le otorgaron á Alabama, hasta 900,000 á Nueva York.

Sin tomar en consideración los diversos establecimientos existentes en el país para la educación agrícola, puede decirse que el sistema observado en los Estados Unidos comprende un número de ramas importantes, cuyas atribuciones varían más ó menos. Funcionan hoy 64 colegios en los Estados y Territorios. En 14 de ellos hay instituciones separadas para estudiantes blancos y de color. Se han establecido Colegios de Agricultura y Mecánica en 25 Estados y 2 Territorios. Se ha hablado mucho de introducir los estudios agrícolas en las escuelas públicas, pero hasta ahora no se han hecho esfuerzos muy serios en ese sentido, porque opinan personas versadas en la materia que aun faltan por hacer muchos trabajos preliminares antes de llegar á ese fin.

CONDICIÓN DE LA AGRICULTURA.

Según el informe de la Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Agricultura, la condición de la agricultura era el 1° de este mes como sigue:

Maíz, 87.5; trigo de primavera, 56.4; avena, 85; cebada, 71.6; centeno de primavera, 76; trigo sarraceno, 87.9; patatas, 88.2; heno, conocido por el nombre de *timothy*, 79.9.

El promedio en la condición del maíz bajó dos puntos en julio, y el 1° de agosto estaba 2.4 puntos más bajo que en la misma fecha de 1899, pero estaba á 1.3 puntos más alto que el promedio obtenido en el mes de agosto durante diez años.

El promedio en la condición del trigo de primavera subió en julio 1.2 puntos; pero el 1° de agosto estaba 27.2 puntos más bajo que el día 1° del mismo mes de 1899, y 27.8 puntos más bajo que el término medio durante diez años.

La condición de la avena el 1° de agosto era 5.8 puntos más bajo que lo había sido en el mismo período de 1899, pero estaba 2.7 puntos sobre el promedio durante diez años.

La condición de la cebada bajó 4 puntos en julio, y el 1° de agosto estaba 22 puntos más baja que el 1° del mismo mes en 1899, y 13.7 puntos bajo el promedio durante diez años.

Los informes preliminares que se han recibido indican que la extension de terreno sembrada de trigo sarraceno es como de unos 32,000 acres menos que en 1899. El promedio en la condición de este grano es 5.3 puntos más bajo que el 1° de agosto de 1899, y 2.9 puntos menos que el promedio en el mes de agosto durante los últimos diez años.

La condición de las patatas bajó 3.1 puntos, y era 4.8 puntos menor que el 1° de agosto de 1899. La condición de las batatas no sufrió alteración alguna.

La extensión sembrada de heno muestra una reducción de 5.3 por ciento.

La condición del heno llamado *timothy* era 6.8 puntos más baja que el 1° de agosto de 1899, y 7.5 puntos más baja que el promedio durante diez años.

Los informes relativos al trébol son, en general, desfavorables.

Los informes relativos al tabaco no son favorables, pero se cree, sin embargo, que la cosecha será de las proporciones ordinarias.

La condición de la caña de azúcar en el Estado de Louisiana es casi normal. Es 22 puntos más alta que en el 1° de agosto de 1899, y 5 puntos más alta que el promedio durante diez años.

La condición de la zahina ó sorgo es favorable.

La condición del algodón el 1° de agosto de 1900 era 76.0 contra 84.0 el 1° de agosto de 1899, y contra 85.3 que ha sido el promedio durante diez años en el mes de agosto.

LAS FRUTAS DE CALIFORNIA.

La cosecha de naranjas de California que está para terminar, ha sido la mayor que se ha obtenido en mucho tiempo. La estación de la naranja en California está en todo su apogeo en los meses de diciembre á mayo, aunque, prácticamente, empieza en noviembre y termina en 1° de julio. Como en el interregno de tiempo entre estas dos fechas se utilizan los refrigeradores, para la conservación de la naranja. resulta que esta fruta puede decirse se da en todo el año. Aunque se importan algunas de Jamaica y México, el 85 por ciento de las naranjas que se consumen en los Estados Unidos procede de las plantaciones del país, viniendo el mayor número de ellas de California.

Muchos de los limones que se producen en California se envian á Nueva York, pero la mayor parte de la cosecha anual se reparte por la sección oeste del país, hasta Chicago. Una gran cantidad de los limones que se consumen en los Estados Unidos procede de los puertos del Mediterráneo, de donde se importan en grandes cargamentos. En las subastas de frutas de Nueva York se venden, mensualmente, de 100

á 200 mil cajas de limones, tanto para el consumo local como para el de las poblaciones circunvecinas.

El 90 por ciento de las ciruelas consumidas en los Estados Unidos procede de California. La actual cosecha se calcula habrá de llegar á 120,000,000 ó quizás á 125,000,000 de libras. La del año pasado fué solo de 65,000,000. Antiguamente las ciruelas se importaban de Turquía y de otros países de Europa á los Estados Unidos, pero hoy no sólo no se importan de esos países, sino que, por el contrario, los Estados Unidos exportan á Francia y Alemania, compitiendo con el producto de ambos países tanto en la calidad como en el precio de la fruta.

Cuéntanse entre las frutas de California, de importancia comercial, los melones y los albaricoques, que se preparan secos, bien sea en latas, en cajas ó en sacos. De ambas frutas se venden grandes cantidades todos los años.

También se dan, y entran á formar parte de las frutas de importancia comercial, las almendras y las nueces. El 99 por ciento de las pasas que se consumen en los Estados Unidos procede de California.

También produce California grandes cantidades de legumbres, que envía á diversas partes del país, tanto frescas como secas ó conservadas en latas.

DRAGADO DEL MISSISSIPPI.

Según el "Scientific American", en ningún río del mundo existe un sistema de dragado tan perfecto como el que hay en el Mississippi, y debido á esto es que la navegación en él no presenta obstáculos, pues la naturaleza de su corriente hace que con frecuencia se formen en él grandes bancos de arena. Todos los trabajos que se hacen en el Mississippi están bajo la dirección de una Comisión especial que depende del Departamento de la Guerra. Hay constantemente en servicio, durante la mayor parte del año, media docena de dragas hidráulicas de acero que valen más de $100,000 cada una. Casi todas estas máquinas pueden extraer de 700 á 1,000 pies de arena por hora de una profundidad de 15 pies. Las dragas arrastran un tubo flotante que mide como 1,000 pies de longitud, por medio del cual se deposita la arena en parajes donde no pueda obstruir la navegación.

Una de las dragas más dignas de llamar la atención es la que lleva el nombre de *Beta*, que fué construída hace ya algunos años, y tiene dos máquinas de dragar completas é independiente una de otra. Costó $172,000. En el contrato se especificó que la *Beta* debería extraer por lo menos 1,600 yardas cúbicas por hora, y cuando se la sometió á prueba, extrajo por término medio, 4,920 yardas cúbicas por hora. Las bombas para extraer la arena son del sistema centrífugo, y son movidas por máquinas de vapor que tienen una velocidad de 130 revoluciones, y desarrollan una fuerza de 1,250 caballos. Otra de las dragas es la *Gamma*, que tiene 138 pies de largo, 38 de ancho y 8 de profundidad. Las máquinas de esta draga desarrollan una fuerza de

700 caballos, y cada draga puede abrir un canal de unos 20 pies de ancho. Aunque estas máquinas parecen casi perfectas, se trata de hacer otras superiores, y ya un ingeniero del ejército de los Estados Unidos ha hecho los diseños para dos poderosísimas dragas de succión, que costarán $150,000 cada una, y medirán 150 pies de largo. Llevarán dos bombas provistas de tubos de succión de 15 á 18 pulgadas de diámetro. Estas nuevas dragas serán de tal modo arregladas que podrán depositar la arena sobre las riberas del río.

LA CIUDAD Y MERCADO DE KANSAS CITY.

En un informe que el Cónsul de México en aquella ciudad ha dirigido á su Gobierno, y que aparece inserto en el tomo X del Boletín de la Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores, se dice que el año de 1899 ha sido para Kansas City de extraordinaria prosperidad, tanto por las cuantiosas y excepcionales transacciones mercantiles que se han llevado á cabo, como por el establecimiento de nuevas fábricas é industrias que darán trabajo á millares de obreros. Contribuyen también á esta prosperidad las grandes y ricas cosechas de trigo y maíz, que merecen ocupar un lugar prominente en la producción nacional.

La situación geográfica de la ciudad ha sido también causa de su gran desarrollo, pues está ventajosamente situada sobre la margen derecha del río Missouri, en la confluencia de éste con el río Kansas.

Durante los primeros años después de su fundación, el crecimiento de la ciudad fué muy lento. Todavía en 1861 el número de sus habitantes era de 8,000; en la actualidad asciende á 200,000, aproximadamente, según los datos más recientes.

Existen en la ciudad 12 bancos que combinados representan un capital de $72,000,000. La ciudad posee grandes ventajas y facilidades ferroviarias, como que á su estación central llegan, ya como líneas troncales, ya como ramales que la ponen en rápida y fácil comunicación con todo el resto de la Unión, 61 vías, que constituyen un vasto sistema de comunicación.

Como centro industrial, Kansas City ha progresado mucho, pues en sus fábricas hay invertidos más de $100,000,000, y hay empleadas más de 25,000 personas de ambos sexos. Dichas fábricas abrazan casi todos los ramos de la industria.

La ciudad se levanta sobre varias colinas, que le dan un aspecto muy pintoresco. Sus edificios son de muy bella arquitectura, y sus calles, alumbradas por luz eléctrica, son muy hermosas. Entre las cosas que más atención llaman al viajero es el paseo público, que, sin duda alguna, es de los más notables de los Estados Unidos.

LA FABRICACIÓN DE LLANTAS NEUMÁTICAS.

Al tratar de este asunto, dice el "Scientific American" lo que sigue: "El notable progreso de la bicicleta y del automóvil se debe, en gran

parte, á las llantas neumáticas, pues esos vehículos serían insoportables por sus trepidaciones si no las llevasen cuando tratan de recorrer hasta 30 kilómetros por hora. La llanta neumática se compone de tres partes: una circular de caucho, llamada cámara, donde se comprime aire por medio de una bomba; el forro ó banda, formado de caucho pegado en lona, que se opone á las dilataciones anormales de la cámara y á que estalle; y, finalmente, la pina ó arco de acero de garganta, sobre el cual descansan las otras partes que componen la llanta.

"La tela es de algodón y se le escoge con muchísimo cuidado. Antes de utilizarse se somete á la operacion de la engomadura. Al efecto, pasa lentamente por un cilindro por debajo de una regla que sirve de barrera á una disolución espesa de caucho; después se le extiende en una mesa caliente, donde evaporándose la bencina, se seca y retiene el caucho. Algunas veces la operación se hace en ambas caras de la tela.

"La pina se hace de acero delgado, resistente, que se lamina y se le da forma. Después de preparado ese arco, se le calibra, pues la menor variación de su diámetro, ó impediría el montaje del forro, si fuese demasiado grande, ó lo haría imperfecto, si fuese muy pequeño.

"El caucho es la única substancia de que realmente consiste la llanta, puesto que las otras dos partes sólo le sirven de apoyo. Las buenas fábricas abandonan cada vez más los métodos empíricos, para hacerlas hoy según procedimientos científicos. Así es que en toda fábrica bien montada hay un laboratorio químico, pistas y vehículos especiales para las pruebas que se hacen.

"Se empieza por cortar el caucho en pedazos que se arrojan en unas tinas de agua tibia donde se ablanda el material. Pasan después los pedazos por una serie de trituradoras formadas por dos cilindros que ruedan uno contra el otro con velocidades distintas, de donde salen en pedacitos cada vez más delgados. Esta primera operación, que se hace siempre bajo una corriente de agua, le quita al caucho los restos de madera, granos de arena y otras substancias que tal vez se le pusieron á drede.

"Terminada esa operación, pasa el caucho á otras tinas de agua tibia donde acaba de ablandarse. En seguida pasan los pedacitos por los laminadores, compuestos de dos cilindros lisos que los aplastan y extienden en tiras largas. Éstas, laminadas de nuevo, acaban por pegarse y constituir una especie de cinta de grano y grueso de uno ó dos milímetros de espesor con un largo de unos 20 metros. En toda la operación ha continuado el lavado con agua.

"Como en ese estado el caucho cede á los cambios atmosféricos, ablandándose ó endureciéndose temporalmente por el calor ó el frío, se le somete en seguida al procedimiento conocido de la vulcanización, ó sea la incorporación del azufre. Esa incorporación de 4 á 10 por ciento conserva al caucho sus propiedades naturales de elasticidad, y le permite resistir los cambios atmosféricos sin ablandarse ni endurecerse."

EXPORTACIÓN DE ARTÍCULOS DE CUERO.

Los fabricantes de artículos de cuero de los Estados Unidos están haciendo sentir señaladamente la competencia que con sus productos hacen en los mercados extranjeros. Diez años atrás la introducción de calzado americano en el extranjero hubiera parecido una idea peregrina; hoy se hace y con tan feliz resultado, que la industria norteamericana tiene bien sentada su reputación, pudiendo competir favorablemente con las extranjeras. El progreso industrial en la manufactura de calzado realizado en los Estados Unidos ha sido de tal magnitud que hoy la producción de las fábricas excede en mucho á la demanda. Es preciso volver los ojos al extranjero para colocar los productos excedentes de las fábricas.

El valor de las exportaciones en 1898 fué de $1,900,000, y en 1899 de $3,800,000; creyéndose que para el año en curso la cifra total de la exportación anual excederá notablemente á la consignada para 1899.

TRATADO DE RECIPROCIDAD CON ALEMANIA.

El 14 de julio de 1900 se promulgó en Wáshington un tratado de reciprocidad entre los Estados Unidos y Alemania, por el cual esta última nación goza de una reducción en los derechos de importación del vino, tártaro, etc., en pago de lo cual los Estados Unidos reciben los privilegios aduaneros de "nación más favorecida," es decir, la imposición del mínimum de los derechos de importación á los artículos exportados á Alemania.

INFORME POSTAL ANUAL.

El Administrador General de Correos ha dado publicidad á su informe anual correspondiente al año económico que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900, en el cual consigna las ventas verificadas en ese lapso de tiempo de sellos, libros de sellos, sobres sellados, fajas para impresos y tarjetas postales. El número total vendido de estos efectos postales fué de 5,283,687,010, valorados en $907,687,772. La mayor parte de esta suma corresponde á la venta de sellos ordinarios, sin incluir los libritos que contienen de 12 á 24 estampillas y que se venden por el precio de 25 ó 50 centavos cada uno. De estos se vendieron $830,648.

PRODUCCIÓN DE PACANAS.

Texas es el Estado de la Unión que produce la mayor cantidad de pacana, y el primer mercado de estas frutas es la ciudad de Austin. El valor de estas nueces ha aumentado mucho durante los últimos años debido á que se están usando en la confitería.

La extracción y exportación de las almendras de dichas nueces, que comenzó en pequeña escala hace seis años, ha tomado enormes proporciones. De las almendras puede sacarse una harina muy buena, de

la cual se hace excelente pan. Según informe recibido últimamente, se espera que la cosecha de pacanas en el Estado ds Texas será la mayor de que hay recuerdo.

AUMENTO EN LOS FLETES.

El hecho de haber fletado varios vapores los Estados Unidos y la Gran Bretaña para usarlos como transportes ha dado por resultado una alza en el precio de los fletes, no solamente á Europa sino también á la América del Sur y á otras partes del mundo. La exportación de granos, algodón y provisiones será probablemente enorme en este año, y dada la escaséz de buques para la transportación, es de temerse que los fletes se eleven más todavía.

LÍNEA DE VAPORES ENTRE SAN FRANCISCO Y TAITÍ.

En una sesión extraordinaria del Consejo General de Taití (Samoa) se otorgó una concesión á la "Oceanic Steamship Company" de los Estados Unidos para el establecimiento de una línea de vapores entre Taití y San Francisco. Estos vapores llevarán carga, correspondencia y pasajeros.

TRATADO DE RECIPROCIDAD CON ITALIA.

El 18 de julio próximo pasado se celebró en Wáshington un tratado de reciprocidad entre los Estados Unidos é Italia, de conformidad con la Sección tercera del Arancel de Aduanas de los Estados Unidos, promulgadas el 24 de julio de 1897.

Por este tratado el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos hace ciertas concesiones al de Italia en los derechos arancelarios sobre el tártaro, brandy, vinos y vermouths, pinturas al oleo, acuarelas, pasteles, dibujos á pluma y estatuaria. En justa reciprocidad Italia rebaja los derechos al algodón en rama, aceite de semillas, salazones, maquinaria agrícola y sus partes, instrumentos científicos de cobre, bronce, latón, acero y hierro, máquinas electro-dinámicas y sus partes, máquinas de coser y varnices, procedentes de los Estados Unidos. Además admite libres de derechos la trementina, fertilizadores naturales, cueros y pieles importadas de la misma República.

EXPORTACIÓN DE ALAMBRE Á LA AMÉRICA DEL SUR.

Durante las cuatro semanas que terminaron el 12 de julio de este año se exportaron de los Estados Unidos á la América del Sur 2,278 toneladas de alambre, de las cuales Buenos Aires tomó 1,347; Valparaíso 601; Santos, 501; Rosario, 203; Bahía, 56, y Pernambuco, 30.

COMERCIO DE LAS FILIPINAS.

La sección de Aduanas y Negocios Insulares del Departamento de la Guerra de los Estados Unidos ha publicado un folleto que trata exclu-

sivamente del comercio de las Filipinas durantes los seis meses que terminaron en 31 de diciembre de 1899.

Según el citado folleto, el valor de las mercancías importadas en aquel período fué de $11,456,670, de cuya suma $572,346 corresponden á los artículos importados libres de derechos. La recaudación total de derechos de importación ascendió á $2,071,706. La cantidad de monedas importadas representa los siguientes valores: oro, $109,965; plata, $1,141,292.

Las exportaciones de las Filipinas durante el período mencionado se elevaron á $7,645,026, y los derechos recaudados sobre dichas exportaciones fueron de $237,856. La exportación de oro y plata fué como sigue: oro en barras, $79,755; oro acuñado, $604,350; plata en barras, $6,039; plata acuñada, $607,322. De los varios artículos exportados, los productos agrícolas representaron un valor de $6,550,331, ó sea el 85 por ciento del total; los artefactos tuvieron un valor de $750,380, y los productos de las minas, de $49,285. Los artículos no clasificados fueron valorados en $294,040.

Durante el lapso de tiempo mencionado entraron á los puertos de las islas, 770 buques de vela, con un porte total de 40,027 toneladas, y 708 barcos de vapor con un arqueo neto de 458,479 toneladas, y fueron despachados por las aduanas 821 buques de vela, con un tonelaje neto de 50,545 toneladas, y 710 vapores, representando un porte total de 439,880 toneladas.

GRANJAS PARA EXPERIMENTOS AGRÍCOLAS EN HAWAI Y PUERTO RICO.

En el presupuesto votado por el Congreso para el Departamento de Agricultura durante el presente año económico, se incluyó una suma para los gastos que han de ocasionar las granjas de experimentos agrícolas en Hawai y en Puerto Rico.

El Departamento ha tomado las medidas necesarias par llevar á cabo los experimentos en ambas islas, y el trabajo será dirigido por la Oficina Experimental del Departamento. Se ha comisionado al Profesor S. A. Knapp, de Louisiana, para que investigue las condiciones agrícolas de Puerto Rico. El Doctor W. C. Stubbs, director de la Estación Agronómica Experimental de Louisiana, hará un estudio preliminar de la condición agrícola de Hawai, y pasará en aquellas islas todo el mes de agosto.

PATENTES EXPEDIDAS EN 1899-1900.

Según el informe del Comisionado de Patentes de los Estados Unidos, se expidieron durante el año económico que terminó el 30 de junio último, 25,540 patentes. Se dieron, además, 1,660 marcas de fábrica. El número de patentes que expiró durante el año fué de 19,989, y el de solicitudes que caducaron por no haberse pagado los derechos, fué de

4,052. Los ingresos en la Oficina de Patentes durante el año ascendieron á $1,358,228; los egresos á $1,247,828, dejando un sobrante de $100,401 que deben ingresar en la Tesorería de los Estados Unidos.

ESTADÍSTICA DE INMIGRACIÓN.

La inmigración en los Estados Unidos durante el último año económico fué mayor que lo ha sido en los últimos ocho años. El número total de inmigrantes en los doce meses mencionados fué de 448,551. Los países de donde vino la mayor parte de dichos inmigrantes fueron los siguientes: Austria-Hungría, Italia, Rusia, Suecia, Alemania, Inglaterra, Japón y Noruega.

Durante los últimos veinte años han llegado á los puertos de los Estados Unidos 9,375,257 inmigrantes.

EXTENSIÓN DE LOS FERROCARRILES.

El informe de la Comisión del Comercio entre los Estados, correspondiente al año que terminó en 30 de junio de 1899, y que acaba de ser publicado, dice que hay en los Estados Unidos 189,294 millas de vías férreas, 36,703 locomotoras y 1,375,916 carros de todas clases. El número de empleados en los ferrocarriles era en dicho año de 928,824, y el capital invertido en los mismos ascendía á $11,033,954,898. El número de pasajeros llevados durante el año por las distintas líneas fué de 523,176,508, y las toneladas de carga fueron 959,763,583. Las ganancias totales ó brutas montaron á $1,313,310,818. Los gastos ascendieron á $858,968,999, dejando como dividendo durante los doce meses $111,089,936.

PREPARACIONES DEL CACAO.

La manufactura de artículos de cacao en los Estados Unidos ha tomado inmensas proporciones. El conocimiento que se tiene ya de las propiedades nutritivas de dicho fruto lo coloca en una posición muy importante entre los artículos de consumo doméstico. Según los datos estadísticos obtenidos por periódicos mercantiles, la producción total de cacao asciende á 45,000,000 de libras cada año. En 1865 el consumo total en los Estados Unidos no pasó de 2,000,000 de libras, pero en 1896 subió á 26,319,275, de libras. Un año más tarde ascendió á 27,000,000 de libras, y en 1899 aumentó en 2,000,000 más de libras. Como la mayor parte del cacao se produce en la América del Sur, sería ventajoso para los países de aquella sección del continente exportar el producto directamente á los Estados Unidos en vez de enviarlo, como se hace ahora, en gran escala por la vía de Europa.

PALMERAS EN ARIZONA.

El Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos ha enviado últimamente á Arizona un número considerable de palmeras, á fin de

ver si es posible introducir la industria de dátiles en aquel estado. Las palmeras fueron compradas por un agente especial del Departamento en las posesiones francesas del norte de África. Durante algunos años el Departamento de Agricultura ha estado tratando de cultivar la palmera en Arizona, pero los experimentos hechos no han dado hasta ahora buenos resultados. Se cree, sin embargo, que el suelo y el clima del citado territorio son muy adecuados para dicho cultivo. Las palmeras traídas de Argelia son de la mejor calidad y fueron escogidas con especial cuidado. Las autoridades de Arizona están prestando su cooperación al Gobierno federal para el establecimiento de la nueva industria, y se ha dedicado á ella una gran extensión de terreno. Las palmeras tienen de cuatro á cinco años y miden como 5 pies de altura. Se espera que comenzarán á fructificar dentro de cinco años.

CONSTRUCCIÓN DE UN GRAN DIQUE FLOTANTE.

Se está dando gran impulso á los trabajos del hermoso dique flotante que se construye en las fundiciones de la "Maryland Steel Company." Dicho dique es de la propiedad del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos. Se cree habrá de costar $810,000 y tendrá suficiente potencia para levantar 2 pies sobre el nivel del mar á buques de 15,000 toneladas.

EL COMERCIO DE PUERTO RICO.

El informe mensual relativo al comercio de la Isla de Puerto Rico dado á la luz pública por la sección de Aduanas y Negocios Insulares muestra el aumento del tráfico durante la ocupación militar de la isla desde el 20 de julio de 1898 hasta el 30 de abril de 1900. El valor total de las mercancías importadas durante ese período fué de $15,905,893. El valor total de las exportaciones fué de $13,828,274. Fueron admitidas libres de derechos mercancías por valor de $3,154,198. Se importó más de los Estados Unidos que de ningún otro país, y España ocupó el segundo lugar. Los principales artículos de exportación fueron productos agrícolas. En cuanto á las exportaciones la mayor cantidad fué enviada á los Estados Unidos.

RENTA INTERIOR.

El producto de la renta interior de los Estados Unidos en el año que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900 asciende á $295,316,107, lo cual prueba que ha habido un aumento de $21,831,534 sobre lo producido en el precedente año económico. Para la recaudación de la renta se gastaron $4,531,788.

AUMENTO EN EL VALOR DEL NÍQUEL.

Entre los metales cuya importancia ha aumentado con motivo de la actividad general en los negocios, el níquel ocupa hoy un puesto prominente. Desde principios del año el precio de este metal viene

elevándose considerablemente, y el primero de este mes había aumentado en un 40 por ciento. Parece que se hace difícil hacer frente á la demanda, que es debida casi enteramente al uso de dicho metal en las construcciones navales. El gran número de barcos de guerra actualmente en construcción asegura al níquel un buen porvenir. Los Estados Unidos y el Canadá son los países de América donde este metal se produce, aunque se han descubierto algunas minas en Chile y en la República Argentina.

TURQUESAS EN NUEVO MÉXICO.

Avisan de Cerrillo, en Nuevo México, que se han descubierto ricas minas de turquesas pertenecientes á la "American Turquoise Company." Se dice que los peritos han declarado que estas turquesas son las más grandes que jamás se han visto, de una pureza y hermosura incomparables. El depósito se encuentra á una profundidad de 300 pies.

DESCUBRIMIENTO DE MINAS DE YESO.

Asegura el "Savannah Times" que hay yacimientos de yeso en Twiggs County, Georgia, como á 20 millas de la ciudad de Macon, y que están ya en explotación. El yeso se está usando principalmente en la industria de papel. Se dice que el artículo obtenido de estos depósitos es muy blanco y de la mejor calidad.

EMBLEMA DE LA EXPOSICIÓN PAN-AMERICANA.

El emblema oficial de la Exposición Pan-Americana, que fué dibujado por el Sr. Rafael Beck, artista de Lockport, estado de Nueva York, y que fué aceptado como el más adecuado entre los centenares de diseños que se presentaron, tiene el mérito especial de simbolizar uno de los principales objetos de la exposición, cual es el de establecer más estrechas relaciones sociales y comerciales entre las naciones de la América del Norte y del Sur. Aparece en el emblema la figura de una joven rubia, que representa al norte, extendiendo amistosa mano á una joven morena, que representa al sur, formando así un lazo de fraternidad continental, patentizando el espíritu de unidad, tanto en sentimientos como en intereses, que reina entre los pueblos del Hemisferio Occidental.

VENTAS DE CAFÉ.

Las ventas de café durante el mes de julio de este año en el mercado de Nueva York fueron cuatro veces mayores que las del mismo mes del año pasado, porque en julio de 1900 ascendieron á 1,024,500 sacos, contra 225,750 en julio de 1899. Las ventas en el año económico que terminó en 30 de junio de 1900, fueron 50 por ciento mayores que en el año económico precedente.

El aumento en el primer mes del corriente año económico es notable,

debiendo tenerse en cuenta que las ventas totales en el año que terminó el 30 de junio pasado fueron de 6,000,000 de sacos, y que en el año anterior ascendieron solamente á 4,000,000 de sacos, mientras que en julio de 1900 representaron la sexta parte del total vendido en los doce meses anteriores. Según los últimos datos obtenidos, la cantidad de café que existía en almacén en todo el mundo el 1° de este mes ascendía á 5,917,759 sacos.

CERTIFICACIÓN DE FACTURAS CONSULARES.

El Ministerio de Hacienda de los Estados Unidos ha reiterado últimamente una de sus resoluciones relativa á facturas consulares. La resolución dice que dichas facturas "deben ser certificadas ante el Cónsul del Distrito en que las mercancías fueron compradas, ó de donde partieron primitivamente para los Estados Unidos."

EL SERVICIO ADUANERO DE HAWAI.

Un agente especial del Ministerio de Hacienda de los Estados Unidos ha organizado últimamente el servicio aduanero de Hawai. El número de empleados ha sido reducido de 100 á 50, porque ya no hay necesidad de recaudar derechos sobre mercancías importadas de los Estados Unidos, de donde se hace el mayor número de importaciones. Se cree, sin embargo, que las rentas de aduana ascenderán á $500,000 al año.

EXTENSIÓN DE LOS GRANDES FERROCARRILES.

El periódico "Railway Age" ha publicado una tabla en que se muestra la extensión de los principales ferrocarriles de los Estados Unidos, la cual es como sigue:

	Millas.		Millas.
New York Central	10,411	Chicago, Burlington and Quincy	8,001
Pennsylvania	10,392	Southern	7,887
Canadian Pacific	10,018	Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe	7,880
Southern Pacific	9,362	Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul	6,437
Chicago and Northwestern	8,463	Union Pacific	5,584

El ferrocarril de Pennsylvania constituye el sistema ferroviario más grande del país bajo un solo nombre. El periódico mencionado dice que 28 compañías de los Estados Unidos poseen 147,061 millas de vía férrea.

LA MELAZA COMO ALIMENTO.

En el curso de un artículo publicado en el "Louisiana Planter" sobre los productos de la caña de azúcar, se dice que la exigua cosecha de 1899 trajo como consecuencia una demanda crecida en las melazas de calidad inferior. El bajo precio á que se ha vendido este artículo en los Estados Unidos durante muchos años y el hecho de que grandes cantidades de él se perdían por falta de mercado, llamó la atención de los ganaderos de Inglaterra, que conocedores de las propiedades de la

melaza como substancia alimenticia para el ganado, compraron grandes cantidades de ella.

Esta aplicación de la melaza, hasta ahora ignorado por los hacendados americanos, ha sido extensamente discutida por los agricultores de la Louisiana, quienes en vez de exportarla á los bajos precios á que estaban acostumbrado á venderla, han resuelto utilizarla en la alimentación del ganado, seguros de que por este medio no solo realizan grandes economías, sino que mejoran la condición de su ganado notablemente. Por los experimentos que han hecho han visto que la melaza engorda el ganado, poniéndole la piel tersa y brillante.

Se cree que en la próxima cosecha de caña no habrá tanta abundancia de melazas inferiores y que quizás sea hasta insuficiente para surtir la demanda. Así pues, los hacendados solamente la venderán en el caso de que los precios que les ofrezcan justificaran su venta, para con su producto comprar otro alimento para el ganado. Pero aun encontrando buenos precios, la melaza, como alimento, es tan superior, que de ningún modo debiera sustituirse por granos, á no ser por la avena, cuyas propiedades nutritivas son iguales, si no superiores, á las de la melaza.

UNA NUEVA LOCOMOTORA AMERICANA.

Es muy curioso ver las monstruosas locomotoras que los americanos construyen actualmente y lanzan por sus vías férreas.

Eran ya verdaderamente prodigiosas las enormes máquinas francesas que andan con una velocidad de noventa kilómetros y aun más por hora, que con el agua y el carbón que llevan en sus ténders representan un peso de ochenta y un mil kilos, de los cuales cincuenta y nueve mil corresponden á la locomotora solamente.

Una de estas locomotoras es un verdadero huracán que pasa sobre la vía. Los movimientos del mecanismo y la oscilación de los émbolos sacuden los rieles mejor colocados. Sin embargo, nada son estas máquinas comparadas con las que los Americanos ponen actualmente en circulación.

En 1898, por primera vez, anunciaron, no sin orgullo, que habían construido la máquina más grande del mundo para el Great Northern Railway. El peso de esta locomotora, sin contar el de su ténder, es aproximádamente de 96,900 kilogramos, casi el doble de lo que pesan las locomotoras francesas. Y si en el peso se comprende también el del ténder, resultaría ser algo más de 140,000 kilogramos, es decir, el peso de 2,300 hombres.

Todo es extraordinario en esta gran máquina: el número de sus ruedas y su aspecto tan distinto de aquél á que estamos acostumbrados. El gran cilindro que forma el cuerpo de la locomotora se encuentra á una altura relativamente enorme de los rieles. Los cilindros donde se mueven los pistones en contrarias direcciones tienen más de 50 centí-

metros de diámetro por 86 de largo, y los troncos de estos pistones tienen más ó menos 11 centímetros de diámetro. Este monstruo puede arrastrar un peso de 7,000,000 de kilogramos. Sin embargo, los constructores americanos no se dieron por satisfechos, y han hecho algo mejor.

El nuevo gigante, la locomotora "Mammoth," ha sido construída en los talleres de Pittsburg por cuenta de la Compañía "Union Railroad." Solamente la caldera pesa 24 toneladas; tiene más de 2 metros de diámetro en la parte cilíndrica, y sus paredes son de más de 2 centímetros de espesor.

Los cilindros tienen 60 centímetros de diámetro, y en los talleres de construcción, para hacer ver la enormidad de sus proporciones, cuando estuvieron juntos sobre la pieza que los une al resto de la máquina, les hicieron soportar el peso de una pequeña locomotora que colocaron encima por medio de una grua. El peso total de la máquina es de 150,000 kilogramos.

Los americanos no tienen más que preocupaciones prácticas, y si quieren locomotoras de esa potencia es porque las creen necesarias para la explotación de sus ferrocarriles; pues, en efecto, hacen circular trenes cada día de mayor número de carros, y para éstos se necesitan máquinas de gran potencia. En algunos casos se pueden poner dos máquinas, si una no es suficiente, pero esto tiene graves inconvenientes. Los trenes monstruos se imponen, porque gracias á ellos hay menos estorbos en las líneas, y los gastos de transporte son proporcionalmente bajos.

GUATEMALA.

CIRCULACIÓN DE NUEVOS SELLOS POSTALES.

El Gobierno ha expedido el siguiente decreto:

"Artículo 1°. Que entren en inmediata circulación los nuevos sellos postales de 1 y 6 centavos, cuyos colores son, respectivamente, verde obscuro y verde claro.

"Art. 2°. Que desde el día 30 del mes en curso entren también en circulación los nuevos sellos de 2, 5, 10, 20 y 25 centavos, cuyos colores son, respectivamente, rojo, azul, terroso, violeta y amarillo claro; y

"Art. 3. Con excepción de los sellos de 50, 75, 100, 150 y 200 centavos, quedan canceladas desde el mismo día 30 del corriente, y fuera de uso y cambio postal, la anterior emisión y las remarcaciones supletorias hechas sobre la misma."

CONTRATO PARA EL CORTE DE MADERAS.

El Gobierno ha celebrado un contrato para el corte de maderas con la Compañía denominada: "The Guatemalan and Mexican Mahogany

and Export Company," mediante el cual el Gobierno concede á la Compañía permiso para cortar maderas de caoba y cedro hasta la cantidad de quince mil árboles, ó sean 45,000 toneladas, en los terrenos baldíos del Departamento del Petén.

HAITÍ.

CONTRIBUCIÓN QUE DEBEN PAGAR BANQUEROS É IMPORTADORES.

El Ministro de los Estados Unidos en Port-au-Prince, ha informado al Departamento de Estado en Wáshington que el Gobierno de Haití ha promulgado una nueva ley por la cual tanto los comerciantes del país como los extranjeros dedicados al negocio de banco é importaciones en pequeña escala, están obligados á pagar una cuota anual de $500 los primeros y $200 los segundos. La cuota que antes tenían que pagar los banqueros no era más que de $200.

LOS FERROCARRILES Y EL DESARROLLO MINERAL.

Refiriéndose á las riquezas minerales de Haití y á lo que contribuirán los ferrocarriles á su desarrollo, el Señor William M. Powell, Ministro de los Estados Unidos, dice que lo que más necesita la República son medios fáciles de comunicación. Agrega que el Gobierno ha otorgado últimamente concesiones para la construcción de vías férreas, incluyendo una que pondrá en comunicación las capitales de Haití y de Santo Domingo, al mismo tiempo que abrirá al comercio una rica región mineral y agrícola. Entre los que han obtenido concesiones para la explotación de minas figuran algunos ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos.

MÉXICO.

TRATADO DE AMISTAD, COMERCIO Y NAVEGACIÓN CON CHINA.

Por considerarlo de interés general se publica íntegro á continuación el tratado que últimamente fué celebrado entre el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos y el de China. La promulgación de dicho tratado se verificó en México el 30 de junio próximo pasado:

"El Presidente de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos y Su Majestad el Emperador de China, estando igualmente animados del deseo de establecer relaciones amistosas entre los dos países y sus ciudadanos y súbditos, han resuelto concluir un tratado de amistad, comercio y navegación y han nombrado con este objeto sus respectivos plenipotenciarios, á saber:

"El Presidente de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos á MANUEL DE AZPÍROZ, Embajador Extraordinario y Plenipotenciario de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos en Wáshington, y

"Su Majestad el Emperador de China á WU TING FANG, Funcionario de Segundo Grado, Ministro de Estado de Cuarta Clase por patente y Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario en los Estados Unidos de América, España y el Perú;

"Y nosotros, los dichos Plenipotenciarios, después de habernos exhibido nuestros respectivos plenos poderes y de encontrarlos en buena y debida forma, hemos convenido en los artículos siguientes:

"ARTÍCULO I. Habrá perpetua, firme y sincera amistad entre los Estados Unidos Mexicanos y el Imperio de China, así como entre sus respectivos ciudadanos y súbditos. Unos y otros podrán ir libremente á los respectivos países de las Altas Partes Contratantes y residir en ellos. Tendrán allí mismo completa protección en sus personas, familias y propiedades, y gozarán de todos los derechos y franquicias que se concedan á los súbditos de la nación más favorecida.

"ART. II. A fin de facilitar las amistosas relaciones entre los dos países, el Presidente de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos podrá nombrar un agente diplomático cerca de la Corte de Pekín, y Su Majestad el Emperador de China podrá nombrar también un agente diplomático cerca del Gobierno Mexicano.

"Los agentes diplomáticos de cada una de las Altas Partes Contratantes podrán residir permanente ó temporalmente en la capital de la otra, con sus familias y miembros de su séquito, y gozarán en los países de su respectiva residencia, de las mismas prerrogativas, exenciones, inmunidades y privilegios que se concedan á los agentes de la misma clase de la nación más favorecida.

"ART. III. Cada una de las Altas Partes Contratantes podrá nombrar en los puertos ó ciudades de la otra abiertos al comercio extranjero, Cónsules Generales, Cónsules, Vicecónsules y Agentes Consulares. Los nombrados no entrarán en el ejercicio de sus funciones sino después de haber recibido el exequátur del gobierno del país donde hayan de risidir. El exequátur será otorgado gratuitamente. En los puertos ó ciudades donde no se hubiere nombrado Cónsul, podrá ejercer sus funciones el Cónsul de una nación amiga. Donde no hubiere Cónsul alguno, las autoridades locales cuidarán de que los ciudadanos ó súbditos de la otra Parte Contratante disfruten de los beneficios del presente Tratado.

"Los empleados consulares de las Altas Partes Contratantes desempeñarán sus funciones y gozarán de todas las inmunidades y privilegios que en cada uno de los dos países se concedan á los empleados consulares de la nación más favorecida.

"Los empleados consulares no apoyarán las demandas de sus ciudadanos ó súbditos cuando fueren provocativas ú ofensivas para las autoridades ó habitantes del lugar de su residencia.

"Si un empleado consular se condujere de una manera ofensiva á las leyes del país de su residencia, podrá retirársele el exequátur.

"ART. IV. Se permitirá á los ciudadanos mexicanos ir al interior de China y viajar allí, siempre que estén provistos de un pasaporte expedido á petición del Consúl Mexicano por el Taotai de la Aduana. Este pasaporte, escrito en los dos idiomas, español y chino, deberá exhibirse cuando lo pidan las autoridades del lugar de tránsito y será devuelto al terminar el viaje. No se opondrá obstáculo alguno á que los viajeros ocupen hombres, vehículos ó embarcaciones para el transporte de su equipaje.

"En caso de que el viajero no estuviere provisto del respectivo pasaporte, ó cometiere un acto ilegal, será entregado para que se le juzgue, al Cónsul de México más cercano ó al de una nación amiga, previamente designado por el Gobierno Mexicano. En este caso, las autoridades locales sólo podrán arrestar al viajero sin insultarle ni permitir violencia alguna contra él.

"Los ciudadanos Mexicanos estarán en libertad para hacer excursiones en las cercanías de los puertos abiertos, dentro de una distancia que no exceda de cien *li*, y por un tiempo que no exceda de cinco dias, sin necesidad de proveerse de pasaporte.

"Estas estipulaciones no serán aplicables á las tripulaciones de los buques, las cuales estarán sujetas, durante su estancia en tierra, á los reglamentos establecidos por los Cónsules y las autoridades.

"Los súbditos chinos podrán viajar libremente en todo el territorio de México, siempre que observen una conducta pacífica y no infrinjan las leyes y reglamentos del país.

"ART. V. Las dos Altas Partes Contratantes convienen en que será libre y voluntaria en lo futuro la emigración de sus respectivos súbditos, solos ó acompañados de sus familias; en consecuencia, reprueban cualquier acto de violencia ó de engaño que pueda cometerse en los puertos ó en cualquier otro lugar de China, con el propósito de expatriar súbditos chinos contra la voluntad de éstos.

"Los dos Gobiernos se comprometen á perseguir con todo el rigor de las leyes cualquiera contravención de la estipulación precedente, y á imponer las penas establecidas por sus legislaciones respectivas á las personas ó barcos que violen esta estipulación.

"ART. VI. Los ciudadanos Mexicanos podrán viajar libremente con sus mercancías y dedicarse á negocios comerciales en todos los puertos de China donde los súbditos de otras naciones tengan permiso para hacer negocios de comercio.

"Asimismo tendrán los súbditos chinos libertad para viajar y hacer negocios de comercio en todos los lugares de la República Mexicana, bajo las mismas condiciones que los súbditos de todas las demás naciones. Deberá entenderse que, en caso de que cualquiera de las Altas Partes Contratantes espontáneamente conceda en lo sucesivo á cualquiera otra nación vantajas sujetas á condiciones especiales, la otra Parte Contra-

tante gozará de dichas ventajas, solo en caso de que cumpla las condiciones impuestas en dicha concesión, ó sus equivalentes, según mutuo convenio.

"ART. VII. Los ciudadanos ó súbditos y los barcos mercantes de cada una de las Altas Partes Contratantes, estarán sujetos, en los puertos de la otra abiertos al comercio extranjero, á las disposiciones legales que actualmente rigen el comercio con todas las demás naciones ó que en lo futuro se dictaren.

"ART. VIII. Los derechos de importación impuestos en los Estados Unidos Mexicanos sobre los productos naturales é industriales de China, y en el Imperio de China sobre los productos naturales é industriales de México, no serán otros ni más altos que aquellos á que estén sujetos los productos iguales de la nación más favorecida.

"El mismo principio se observará con respecto á la exportación.

"No habrá prohibición ni restricción para la importación ó exportación en el comercio recíproco de ambos paises, á menos que se aplique de la misma manera á todas las otras naciones, excepto por motivos sanitarios ó para prevenir la propagación de epizootías, ó por pérdida de cosechas, ó bien en vista de acontecimientos de guerra.

"ART. IX. Los buques de guerra de cada una de las Partes Contratantes serán admitidos en los puertos de la otra en donde todos los de las demás naciones tuvieren permiso de entrar, y serán tratados como los de la nación más favorecida.

"Tendrán entera libertad para comprar provisiones, carbón y los artículos necesarios para un viaje, así como para hacer aguada y todas las reparaciones necesarias.

"Los buques de guerra estarán exentos del pago de todo impuesto, tanto á su llegada como á su partida.

"Los comandantes de buques mexicanos de guerra en China y las autoridades superiores locales se tratarán mutuamente sobre la base de igualdad.

ART. X. Los ciudadanos ó súbditos de cada una de las Partes Contratantes en los dominios ó posesiones de la otra estarán exentos de todo servicio militar forzoso, ya sea en el Ejército, la Marina ó la Guardia ó Milicia Nacional. También estarán exentos de toda contribución, en dinero ó efectos, que se imponga en sustitución de servicio personal, y, finalmente, de préstamos forzosos y de cargas, exacciones y contribuciones de guerra, á menos que sean impuestos sobre la propiedad inmueble, en cuyo caso los pagarán lo mismo que los nacionales.

"Los barcos, cargamentos, mercancías ó efectos de ciudadanos ó súbditos de cada una de las Partes Contratantes no podrán ser detenidos por alguna expedición militar, ni para otro objeto de servicio público, cualquiera que sea, sin que se ajuste y satisfaga previamente la compensación debida.

"ART. XI. Los barcos mercantes de cada una de las Partes Contra-

tantes tendrán libertad de frecuentar los puertos de la otra abiertos ó que en lo sucesivo se abrieren al comercio extranjero.

"Se conviene, sin embargo, en que esta concesión no se extiende al tráfico de cabotaje, concedido solamente á los barcos nacionales en el territorio de cada una de las Partes Contratantes. Pero si una de ellas lo permitiere, total ó parcialmente, á cualquiera nación ó naciones, la otra parte tendrá derecho á exigir las mismas concesiones ó favores para sus ciudadanos ó súbditos, con tal que dicha Parte Contratante convenga á la vez en conceder entera reciprocidad sobre este punto.

"Los barcos de cada una de las Partes Contratantes no estarán sujetos, en el territorio ó puertos de la otra, á su entrada, salida ó durante su permanencia, al pago de otros ó más altos derechos, gravámenes ó emolumentos de empleados públicos, por tonelada, faro, puerto, practicaje, cuarentena, salvamento, auxilio en caso de avería o naufragio, ni á otros impuestos ó derechos locales ó federales, de cualquiera clase ó denominación, que los que se pagan ó se paguen en lo sucesivo por los barcos de cuaquiera otra nación.

"Para la aplicación de éste y otros artículos del presente Tratado, serán considerados como puertos de cada una de las Partes Contratantes los que estan abiertos ó en lo sucesivo se abrieren por los Gobiernos respectivos para el tráfico de importación y exportación.

"Las dos Partes Contratantes convienen en considerar la distancia de tres leguas marinas, medidas desde la baja marea, como límite de sus aguas territoriales para todo lo que se relaciona con la vigilancia y ejecución de las Ordenanzas de Aduanas y con las disposiciones necesarias para impedir el contrabando.

"Los barcos de cada una de las Altas Partes Contratantes que hubieren sido desparejados cerca de las costas de la otra y tuvieren que refugiarse en un puerto, recibirán de las autoridades locales todo el auxilio que éstas puedan prestarles.

"Las mercancías salvadas no estarán sujetas al pago de derechos, á menos que fueren desembarcadas para su venta.

"Estos barcos serán tratados de la misma manera que, en circunstancias semejantes, lo sean los de otros países.

"ART. XII. El servicio por contrato de ciudadanos ó súbditos de un país como trabajadores, criados ú otro semejante, en plantaciones, fábricas, talleres, establecimientos mercantiles ó familias particulares en el otro país, se sujetará á las reglas que de común acuerdo establezcan ambas Altas Partes Contratantes.

"ART. XIII. Los mexicanos en China que tengan motivos de queja contra chinos, presentarán su querella ante el Cónsul mexicano, quien averiguará los hechos del caso y procurará que se llegue á un arreglo amistoso.

"Si un chino tuviere de la misma manera motivos de queja contra un mexicano en China, el Cónsul de México oirá su querella y pro-

curará un arreglo amistoso. Si el Cónsul no pudiere conciliar á las partes, se someterá el caso, con toda equidad, ya sea el quejoso mexicano ó chino, únicamente ante el tribunal de que el acusado sea súbdito.

"ART. XIV. Los ciudadanos mexicanos en China que cometan cualquier delito contra súbditos chinos, serán arrestados por las autoridades consulares mexicanas y castigados conforme á las leyes de México.

"Los súbditos chinos culpables de actos criminales contra ciudadanos mexicanos en China, serán arrestados y castigados por las autoridades chinas, de conformidad con las leyes de China.

"Por regla general, todo juicio civil ó criminal seguido en China entre ciudadanos ó súbditos de las dos Partes Contratantes será resuelto sólo de acuerdo con las leyes y por las autoridades del país á que pertenezca el demandado.

"Las Altas Partes Contratantes no estarán obligadas á reembolsar cualquiera cantidad de dinero que haya robado ó defraudado, ó deba un ciudadano ó súbdito de uno de los dos países á un súbdito ó ciudadano del otro país. En caso de robo ó fraude se entablarán los procedimientos de acuerdo con las leyes del país al cual pertenezca el acusado, y en caso de deuda, las autoridades del país del deudor harán todo lo posible para que éste cumpla con su obligación.

"Si súbditos chinos, que sean autores ó cómplices de un delito, se refugiaren en las casas, almacenes ó á bordo de barcos mercantes de ciudadanos mexicanos en China, las autoridades chinas pondrán los hechos en este caso en conocimiento de los empleados consulares mexicanos y conjuntamente nombrarán agentes para la aprehensión de los criminales, que no serán protegidos ni ocultados.

"ART. XV. Todas las cuestiones legales que se presenten en China entre ciudadanos mexicanos, concernientes á sus personas ó propiedades, se someterán á la exclusiva jurisdicción de las autoridades mexicanas. Los juicios promovidos en China entre ciudadanos mexicanos y extranjeros serán resueltos solamente por las autoridades de sus respectivos países.

"Cuando algún chino estuviere interesado en los juicios, los procedimientos serán de acuerdo con las prevenciones de los dos artículos precedentes.

"Si el Gobierno chino juzgare conveniente en lo futuro establecer, de acuerdo con las Potencias extranjeras, un Código que tenga por objeto arreglar el asunto de jurisdicción sobre súbditos extranjeros en China, México tomará parte en dicho Convenio al igual de las demás Potencias extranjeras.

"ART. XVI. Las personas, de cualquiera condición que sean, que desembarquen de buques de una de las Altas Partes Contratantes en un puerto abierto de la otra y causen cualquier desorden en tierra dentro de las veinticuatro horas de su desembarco, serán castigadas por las

autoridades locales competentes, pero solamente con multa ó prisión, conforme á los usos establecidos en dicho puerto.

"Las cuestiones que provengan de colisiones en aguas chinas entre barcos de los dos países, serán resueltas por las autoridades del acusado conforme á las disposiciones vigentes en todos los países respecto de colisiones.

"Si el quejoso no quedare conforme con la resolución, los agentes del país á que pertenezca quedan autorizados para ocurrir oficialmente á las autoridades que juzgaron al ofensor, y éstas revisarán el caso, dando una equitativa y final resolución.

"ART. XVII. Los súbditos chinos en México tendrán libre acceso á los tribunales de justicia del país para la defensa de sus derechos legítimos. Gozarán á este respecto de los mismos derechos y concesiones de que gozan los mexicanos ó los súbditos de la nación más favorecida.

"ART. XVIII. Este Tratado se escribirá en las tres lenguas, española, china é inglesa; el texto español se observará en México, el texto chino en China y, en caso de discrepancia, la versión inglesa será decisiva.

"ART. XIX. Este Tratado permanecerá en vigor por diez años, contados desde el día del canje de sus ratificaciones. Las Altas Partes Contratantes pueden, á la expiración de este término, proponer modificaciones mediante aviso que se dará con seis meses de anticipación; y si ninguna de ellas lo hiciere el Tratado continuará vigente en todas sus estipulaciones hasta la expiración de un año, contado desde que una de las Partes haya expresado á la otra su intención de ponerle término.

"ART. XX. Este Tratado será ratificado por las dos Altas Partes Contratantes y las ratificaciones serán canjeadas en Wáshington tan pronto como sea posible."

APUNTES GEOGRÁFICOS SOBRE EL ESTADO DE YUCATÁN.

Del "Boletín de Estadística" del estado de Yucatán se ha tomado lo siguiente:

"Como algunos, si no muchos y acaso todos los datos que aquí consignamos suscintamente, ya de nuestro propio dictamen ó ya tomados de autores nacionales y extranjeros, pudieran ser útiles al que desee conocer esta parte integrante de la Confederación mexicana, cuya reciente prosperidad la ha hecho salir del olvido en que yacía, les damos publicidad en nuestro Boletín, reseñándolos en forma de apuntes, á fin de facilitar mejor su conocimiento.

"*Su situación geográfica.*—El estado de Yucatán, actualmente, es decir, con exclusión del antíguo Distrito de Campeche, que se erigió en entidad federativa el 3 de mayo de 1858, confina al norte con el Golfo Mexicano; al este con el mar de las Antillas y la colonia inglesa de Belice; al sur con la República de Guatemala y el Estado de Cam-

peche, y al oeste con el referido Golfo Mexicano y el mencionado Estado de Campeche.

"La península en que están comprendidos Yucatán y Campeche se haya situada entre los 18° y 21° de latitud norte y entre los 6° 37′ y 12° 5′ de longitud oriental de México.

Población.—El censo general, según el movimiento de población registrado hasta el mes de diciembre de 1899, ascendió á 308,816 habitantes, radicados en 182 poblaciones, como se ve por su división política actual, sin tomar en cuenta multitud de haciendas, ingenios, ranchos y parajes; pero merced á la extensión de su territorio y á su natural riqueza, podría sustentar cómodamente cuádruple número de moradores.

"*Su aspecto físico y configuración.*—Aunque carece de comarcas pluviales, con excepción de las partes del norte y oeste, harto calcáreas y pedregosas, es fértil y de lozana vegetación, mantenida por las lluvias periódicas y por los vapores mismos de la tierra, que, condensándose en la atmósfera, caen como agua sutilísima en forma de rocío durante las estaciones del verano y del otoño.

" *Hidrografía.*—Son tan bajas sus costas que según opinión de personas autorizadas, sus tierras fueron una vez cubiertas por el mar, especialmente en el norte y en el oeste, y nada confirma más esta opinión que las conchas marinas y los fósiles que se encuentran en las rocas y en las profundidades del terreno.

"El agua potable que se encuentra proviene de pozos más ó menos hondos, según la elevación ó depresión del suelo, pues carece de ríos, porque el conocido con el nombre de río Lagartos no es sino una entrada del mar hacia tierra.

"Tiene sí, y son notables, los manantiales de agua dulce llamados Bocas de Conil, que saltan en medio de aguas saladas á 400 metros de la playa y que el Barón de Humboldt atribuye á una fuerte presión hidrostática que hace saltar esas aguas dulces. Existen también algunos de esos ojos de agua dulce en otros puntos de la costa de barlovento.

"Se encuentran asimismo, en toda la extensión del país, muchos depósitos utilísimos conocidos, respectivamente, con los nombres de sartenejas, aguadas y cenotes.

" Las sartenejas son unas cavidades naturales formadas en las peñas en las que el agua de lluvias se deposita. Son innumerables, porque á ello se presta el terreno pedregoso, y sirven de auxilio á los transeuntes y á las poblaciones circunvecinas que carecen de pozos.

"Las aguadas son de grandes proporciones, y se cree que algunas fueron construídas por los primitivos pobladores de este suelo, cuyo origen se oculta á las investigaciones de lo sabios, obras, en verdad, notables, que llaman la atención de los viajeros por su estructura y los beneficios que proporcionan.

"Los cenotes son unas grandiosas cavernas en las que se encuentra una cantidad inmensa de agua cristalina y de tal frescura que sólo su presencia convida á beber de ella con delicia.

"La existencia de estas cavidades, que también existen en Inglaterra, según hemos leído en una obra cuyo autor no recordamos, 'se concibe sin dificultad; unos gases procedentes del seno de la tierra han podido levantar una de sus capas y dejar un espacio vacío después de haberse escapado por algunas hendiduras. Los espacios vacíos que se encuentran en la miga del pan son debidos á una causa semejante, pues las moléculas de agua dilatadas y convertidas en vapor por el calor del horno separan la masa en todos sentidos, formando de este modo la cavidad. Asimismo las aguas han podido también formar cavernas. Suponiendo que una capa de arcilla esté cubierta por una capa dura y compacta, y que filtre un arroyo á través de la arcilla, su corriente se iría llevando poco á poco las materias que la componen y se formaría una cavidad debajo de la capa de la roca.'

"Por lo general, estas cisternas están cubiertas de un domo de piedra, semejante á la cúpola de los templos, revestido de estalactitas que cuelgan de él en formas caprichosas.

"*Orografía.*—Existen dos cordilleras ó cerranías muy notables. La primera, llamada Puc en el idioma de los mayas, es de tan poca y casi uniforme elevación, que sólo puede considerarse como una loma ó ceja que hace la tierra, según dice el historiador Cogolludo. Destácase á 10 kilómetros de la cabecera del partido de Maxcanú; dirígese primero al este, toma luego alguna inclinación al sur, y corriendo en seguida al sudsudeste por el espacio de 120 kilometros, va insensiblemente deprimiéndose hasta perderse en las inmediaciones de una sabana en el partido de Peto, al sur de esta misma capital.

"La segunda cordillera es una serie de colinas que se desprenden á poca distancia de la costa, más abajo del pueblo de Ceybaplaya, perteneciente al vecino estado de Campeche. Corre desde allí á lo largo de la ribera del mar; ábrese luego, formando una especie de anfiteatro, para dar asiento á la Capital de dicho estado; continúa después su curso al norte en la misma ribera, hasta que á una distancia de 2 millas, aproximadamente, se desvía de la costa, tomando rumbo al noroeste y penetra en el partido de Hecelchakan del mismo estado; vuelve al este y se aproxima al lago de Chichankanab, de que ya hablamos antes, y desde este punto, dirigiéndose al sur, va á reunirse con la magnífica cordillera que atraviesa nuestro Continente, y, dejando por un lado esta península, entra por Guatemala y Chiapas en el interior de la República.

"*Temperatura.* El máximum de la temperatura circunscribiéndose á Mérida durante el año transcurrido del 1° de setiembre de 1841 al 30 de agosto de 1842, fué de 80° Fahrenheit, equivalente á 26.6° centígrados. El máximum durante el mes de agosto de 1895 fué de 37.1°,

centígrados. El máximum en el mes de junio de 1899 fué de 39° centígrados."

INSTRUCCIONES SOBRE EL CULTIVIO DE LA VID.

El artículo que á continuación se reproduce ha sido tomado del "Diaro Oficial" de México, correspondiente al 7 de julio de 1900.

"La vid, como el olivo, es propia de los climas templados; en los fríos crece y se desarrolla pero no frucifica, ó fructifica mal, y está expuesta á helarse en los inviernos. En los climas calientes, y particularmente en las costas, el exceso de calor aumenta la cantidad de sustancias glutinosas en detrimento del azúcar, resultando una uva desabrida y generalmente ácida, impropia para la mesa ó la vinificación. El clima que más le conviene es el templado y seco del otoño. Se debe evitar el sembrarla cerca de los ríos. La parra prospera en casi todos los terrenos, pero da mejor fruto en los graníticos, calizos, volcánicos y tepetatosos, prefiriendo las faldas de las colinas. En los terrenos pedregosos de cantos rodados (matatenas) se produce bien. En todo caso requiere un subsuelo permeable.

"La multiplicación de la vid se hace por semilla, por sarmientos simples ó enraizados (barbados), por ingerto, por mugrones y por yemas. Se describirán en estas instrucciones las que en la actualidad puedan aplicarse para aprovechar los sarmientos llegados de Europa, omitiendo, intencionalmente, la multiplicación por semilla, por ser muy tardía y porque las variedades que de ellas resultan son muchas veces de pésima calidad.

"Los sarmientos son simples ó enraizados. Los simples deben ser de brotes de un año, notablemente encorvados hacia su extremidad inferior, teniendo en ésta un hinchamiento ó nudos con ojos ó yemas próximos, y deben tener la médula ó corazón del sarmiento abundante; éstos son los que dan mejores resultados. Hay otros sarmientos que se usan para las siembras y que no presentan el nudo que se ha indicado. Los sarmientos enraizados son sarmientos simples que se han cultivado por un año en almáciga para que enraicen, y logrado este fin, se trasplantan de asiento al lugar en que han de permanecer. Es preferible hacer la plantación de asiento con sarmientos simples, porque de esta manera se avanza un año en la fructificación.

"Para preparar el terreno para el plantío, es conveniente, en general, dar una labor profunda (desentrañamiento) de 25 á 30 centímetros de profundidad, dando á principio del invierno el primer hierro[1] (labor de alza); después se tiende estiercol y á los 15 ó 20 días se da otra labor para mezclar éste, prosiguiendo con algunos días de intérvalo las labores que sean necesarias para desmenuzar bien la tierra y hacer el

[1] Impropiamente se llama *barbecho*, palabra que en el tecnicismo agronómico tiene una acepción muy diferente á la que el vulgo le ha impuesto.

desentrañamiento. Sólo deben quitarse las piedras grandes que impidan funcionar al arado.

"La plantación debe hacerse en la segunda quincena de febrero. Para esto se trazan rayas, distantes unas de otras de uno y medio á dos metros, según la fertilidad del terreno, para colocar sobre estas líneas los sarmientos á un metro veinte centímetros de distancia. Cuando en la localidad son frecuentes las heladas de invierno, es mejor para garantizar la vid de los efectos de las heladas, plantarla á dos rayas, distantes un metro en todos sentidos de planta á planta y en tresbolillo, dejando en cada dos rayas un espacio de dos metros."

"Si el terreno es pedregoso y está en pendiente, conviene formar con las piedras grandes cortinas perpendiculares á la pendiente, que sostengan los terraplenes. De esta manera se impide que la capa superior arable sea arrastrada por las lluvias.

"Hay tres métodos que se recomiendan para colocar el sarmiento en el lugar donde debe permancer: el primero es el llamado parpal por los catalanes, que consiste, una vez preparado el terreno, en hacer con una barreta un agujero de veinte á veintidos centímetros de profundidad; se coloca en él el sarmiento, y se acaba de llenar el agujero con tierra bien desmenuzada ó marga, apretándola bien alrededor de la base de la estaca, y cortando el sarmiento á dos yemas fuera de tierra, dejando un chicote. El segundo método cosiste en abrir cepas de cuarenta centímetros por lado y colocar el sarmiento. Por el tercer método se abren zanjas á lo largo de las líneas, de cincuenta centímetros de profundidad y anchura. Cuando se cultivan en pendiente estás zanjas deben ser perpendiculares á la inclinación.

"Hay también otro método puesto en práctica y recomendado por el hábil agricultor Arago, que consiste en dar primero una labor de desentrañamiento á cincuenta centímetros de profundidad, luego se pasa la rastra y el rodillo y se quitan todas las sinuosidades del terreno; en seguida, con un azadón de mango largo (se puede hacer con el arado de vertedera americano No. 17), se trazan en un sentido surcos equidistantes á un metro quince centímetros, ó un metro cincuenta centímetros, según la fertilidad del terreno, y otros perpendiculares á los primeros á la misma distancia. En el punto en que se cortan estos dos surcos (intersección) el plantador debe abrir un hoyo de cuarenta á cincuenta centímetros y colocar allí el sarmiento.

"La plantación por mugrones, aunque más segura, tiene el inconveniente de que sólo sirve en un viñedo para llenar los vacíos que por cualquiera circunstancia pueda haber, y supone la cercanía de una parra en su completo desarrollo. En este caso se deja crecer un sarmiento lo suficiente para que pueda llegar desde la planta madre hasta el lugar de la falla y un poco más; se abre una zanja en todo este trayecto y se entierra dejando dos yemas de tierra fuera. En el año

siguiente se corta de la planta madre (destete). Después de la plantación debe procederse á dar un riego.

"Siempre que las sequías se prolonguen debe regarse. Se cuidará de observar si á diez centímetros de profundidad hay ó no humedad, y en caso que á esa profundidad se encuentre reseco el terreno debe regarse.

"Según ya lo hemos dicho en las instrucciones para el cultivo del olivo, debe evitarse el cultivo simultaneo de otras plantas en el mismo terreno.

"En el primer año del plantío se cuidará mucho el majuelo, separando las piedras ó cualquier otro obstáculo que sujete los brotes, manteniendo el viñedo limpio de plantas inútiles por escardas repetidas. La poda en este año consiste en cortar el sarmiento arriba de dos yemas.

"En la primavera del segundo año deberá descalzarse la cepa á una profundidad de 0.116 m. (cinco pulgadas) hasta el tercer nudo, y con un cuchillo afilado ó unas tijeras de podar, deben cortarse todas las raíces superficiales, así como los brotes del primer año, excepto los tres principales, si ha de ser mediana la vid. Si ha de ser baja, se dejan que se desarrollen dos yemas para que se forme la primera bifurcación de la vid, y se cubre de tierra.

"En el verano deberá procurarse, por medio de repetidas labores superficiales (binajes), mantener el terreno limpio de malas yerbas, y en la época de la florescencia se corta la parte superior de todos los renuevos que tengan más de 0.559 m. (dos pies) de longitud, quitando también los pequeños brotes que partan del centro, repitiendo este desmoche en el mes de julio.

"En marzo del tercer año se descalzará de la misma manera que en el segundo, cortando las raíces superficiales.

"Los renuevos del año anterior, que serán uno, dos ó tres, ya convertidos en ramas madres (pulgares), se reducen á una yema, dejándoles una tercera de reserva. Se cavará de 0.209 m. ó 0.232 m. de profundidad, limpiando el terreno por las escardas, y se plantarán tutores (rodrigones) para las vides altas ó medianas. En el estío se cortarán todos los renuevos que tengan 0.698 m. de largo.

"En el cuarto se cortan los últimos brotes, dejándoles de una á tres yemas según su fuerza; para formar las cepas bajas, se dejan más largos si se han de formar viñas medianas, ó se podan largo si han de ser altas.

"En una memoria especial trataremos del nuevo sistema de cultivo de la vid por el método de *cadenas talares*, preconizado contra los desastres de la filoxera.

"La poda de la vid, teniendo por objeto concentrar la savia en un número limitado de ramos fructíferos para obtener mayor rendimiento, es una operación muy importante de la cual depende no sólo el

aumento de producto sino la buena calidad de los vinos; por lo mismo nos reservamos tratar de este asunto en un trabajo especial.

"La poda de la vid se reduce á evitar la confusión de las ramas para que los racimos de las uvas reciban la luz y el calor, á dejar los tallos fructíferos en relación con la fuerza de la cepa y fertilidad del terreno y á conservar yemas de madera bien agotadas, que sirvan de reserva para la fructificación del año siguiente. En cuanto á la forma que se le ha de dar nada hay determinado, pues la elección depende de circunstancias especiales, tanto económicas como climatológicas.

"Hay otras operaciones que completan la poda y que es bueno que el viñador conozca para aprovechar sus ventajas; tales son el pellizco, el desyeme, el deslechugado, el despampanamiento y el desarcillamiento.

"Debe pellizcarse una yema con el objeto de detener su desarrollo y favorecer el de otra yema colocada en mejores circunstancias. Este se practica sobre las ramas fructíferas que no llevan racimos, y se conoce cuando al lado opuesto á la hoja nace el zarcillo, signo seguro de que no producirá racimos, en cuyo caso el ojo del ángulo (axilar) debe pellizcarse.

"El desyeme debe practicarse con mucha precaución, cortando las yemas mal colocadas é inútiles cuando están tiernas. No deben nunca arrancarse, para evitar hacer grandes lesiones en la planta. Es preciso pellizcar en estas condiciones las yemas.

"El deslechugado ó deshojamiento se practica con el objeto de airear y dar luz y calor á los racimos para acelerar su madurez, y dar color sobre todo á las uvas para la mesa. Debe practicarse esta operación con parsimonia, porque las hojas son órganos que desempeñan importantes funciones fisiológicas, debiendo hacerse el deslechugado en las variedades de abundante follaje.

"El despampanamiento es un desyeme tardío, que se opera sobre los ramos ó majuelos desarrollados. Debe practicarse en el estío, cuando después del desyeme ó pellizco se han desarrollado las yemas que se tenía la intención de suprimir.

"Siendo los zarcillos los órganos de prensión de las parras y creciendo con detrimento de la yema que les está próxima, conviene cortar aquéllos que no sean necesarios para sostener la parra á medida que vayan produciéndose.

"Aunque se ha discutido mucho sobre la conveniencia de abonar ó no las parras, deberán abonarse con estiércol ó lo que es mejor, con cenizas, haciendo esta operación por lo menos cada tres años, para lo cual se descalzará la planta á 0.186 m. de profundidad, y la tierra extraída debe mezclarse bien en un cesto de cenizas, cubriendo después con ella la base de la planta.

"Los abonos vegetales enterrados verdes dan también buenos resultados. Debe abonarse al terminarse el otoño.

"Muchos son los enemigos de las parras: las heladas, el granizo y una serie de insectos, de los cuales el más temible es la filoxera.

"Los humazos, usados por los peruanos desde antes de la conquista, para preservar de las heladas sus plantaciones, se han preconizado recientemente como un medio económico para resguardar las vides. Para esto se sitúan á doce metros de distancia y alrededor del plantío montones de hierbas secas, basuras, etc., húmedas ó, lo que es mejor, impregnadas de alquitrán, con objeto de que produzcan mucho humo cuando se enciendan y formen así una nube artificial que se oponga á la irradiación terrestre, y por consiguiente al enfriamiento. Se conoce la aproximación de una helada porque en las noches el aire está en calma, la cintilación de las estrellas es muy viva por la pureza del cielo, y porque el termómetro marca 4 ó 5 grados sobre cero en las primeras horas de la noche. Si á las 4 de la mañana persiste este estado del tiempo, se prende fuego á los montones del lado de donde el viento sopla con más frecuencia. Resulta luego una humareda muy espesa la que arrastrada por la corriente de aire más débil se extiende horizontalmente sobre la superficie del viñedo. Se recomienda mantener el fuego hasta las nueve de la mañana, para impedir que el deshielo sea violento.

"Otro medio, acaso el más eficaz, para este objeto, consiste en formar con zacate, jarilla y otras hierbas secas, escobas que se abren como abanicos, cada una en un palo ó vara de una longitud en relación á la altura de la parra, y elevarla en una dirección inclinada hacia éstas.

"Para evitar en cuanto sea posible los efectos de las heladas, debe mantenerse el viñedo exento de humedad por medio del drenaje ó por caños de escurrimiento; limpiar el terreno de malas hierbas en esta época que mantienen la humedad del rocío; no establecer los viñedos en lugares bajos ó arenosos y no hacer labores en este tiempo.

"El *oidium* ó lepra existe en la república; aparece bajo la forma de polvo de cenizas (eflorescencia) primero sobre las hojas y las yemas tiernas, suspendiendo su vegetación; después sobre los racimos cuyo crecimiento detiene. El hollejo (epidermis) de la uva se endurece, toma un color amarillo leonado y se parte; adquiere un sabor amargo y se corrompe. Las hojas y las yemas se cubren de manchas morenas; las hojas se secan; se desorganizan las yemas y, por consiguiente, no solo se pierde la cosecha de ese año sino la del siguiente, y si continúa la enfermedad por dos ó tres años, la cepa se pierde. Cuando se sospecha esta enfermedad, debe procederse á esparcir por las plantas atacadas flor de azufre, en un tiempo en que la atmósfera esté en calma. Se recomienda azufrar las vides sospechosas cuando las yemas se han desarrollado y tienen un centímetro de longitud, repitiendo este azufrado por segunda vez cuando comienzan á florecer, y por último, cuando las uvas han llegado á la tercera parte de su desarrollo.

"La filoxera, que tanto destrozos ha causado en Francia, Italia, Inglaterra, Alemania, etc., no ocasiona en las vides de los Estados Unidos, de donde se le cree originaria, los perjuicios que en las euro-

peas. Es un insecto apenas perceptible á la vista, que ataca las hojas, formando agallas piramidales, con preferencia en las raíces de las vides, determinando nudosidades alargadas en las raicillas.

"Las vides atacadas por este insecto no aparecen al principio con señales notables de imperfección. Al segundo año la planta atacada se desarrolla lentamente, la uva madura con dificultad, y pronto las hojas se marchitan y caen; pero al tercer año el desarrollo de la vid es demasiado tardío; da pocos y pequeños racimos, que no llegan á madurar, y los sarmientos del año se quedan á la mitad de su desarrollo. Los síntomas de esta enfermedad son semejantes á los que se notan en las viñas que se han helado. Para tener la seguridad de la existencia de la filoxera debe cavarse á 0 m.559 de profundidad la cepa y examinar atentamente las raíces para ver el gusanillo ó larva, lo cual se consigue examinándolas con una lente de mediano poder amplificador, fijándose en las nudosidades de las raicillas y en las agallas de las hojas.

"Muchos remedios se han preconizado para la exterminación de este insecto, pero hasta ahora no se ha encontrado un medio sencillo y de fácil aplicación para este objeto. La sumersión, el sulfuro de carbono, los sulfo-carbonatos alcalinos y alcalino-terrosos son los que han dado resultados más satisfactorios.

"La cosecha de los racimos (vendimia) se hace generalmente desde principios de octubre, cuando las uvas están maduras. Se conoce que han llegado á la madurez cuando el racimo está colgando y se desprenden con facilidad las uvas; éstas se ponen transparentes, dulces y el pezón del escobajo pierde su color verdoso, empezando á tomar el del sarmiento que precede.

"La vendimia debe hacerse en tiempo seco. Los racimos deben cortarse con tijeras y transportarse en cestos ó cubos al lagar, cuidando que lleguen enteros y que no se magullen. Se tira la uva podrida porque deteriora las maduras, y se deja en la cepa la verde. En los países en donde la vinificación está adelantada se vendimia dos ó tres veces, haciendo el vino en otras tantas, y recogiendo en un día las uvas que han de echarse en un mismo lugar.

"Algunas veces, después de la vendimia, se asolean por algunos días los racimos, hasta reducirlos al cuarto de su peso. Los racimos, deben estar enteros. En otras partes los dejan al pie de la cepa, ó tuercen el pedúnculo sin recogerlos. Se obtienen mejores resultados retardando la vendimia, cuya práctica no ocasiona gasto alguno."

EL CAFÉ DE MÉXICO EN EL HAVRE.

Los siguientes datos acerca de los precios del café de México en el Havre han sido tomados del informe del Cónsul mexicano en dicho puerto:

"El movimiento marítimo y comercial directo entre los puertos

mexicanos y el Havre durante el mes de abril próximo pasado, se hizo por vapores de carga alemanes y por veleros noruegos.

"Por estos barcos se importaron 10,289 toneladas de frutos mexicanos, con un valor de 402,340 francos, y se exportaron 6,491 toneladas, con un valor de 225,812 francos.

"Estas cantidades, comparadas con las del mes de abril del año anterior, arrojan un aumento de 153,749 francos en las importaciones de frutos mexicanos y una diminución de 33,600 francos en las exportaciones de artículos europeos.

"*Café.*—Los cafés de México, muy apreciados por cuantos los han probado, escasean mucho en este mercado. Las entradas de este grano de Centro-América, Antillas y Venezuela han sido muy grandes durante el mes pasado, haciendo subir mucho las existencias. Como consecuencia también de esta abundancia de café ha tenido lugar una baja en los precios, á pesar de que ya se empieza á notar una disposicion favorable al alza, por estar enterados todos de que las existencias que hay en América son sólo suficientes para el consumo local, por cuyo motivo no creen se hagan nuevas entradas.

"Con respecto á los cafés del Brasil es inevitable una baja en los precios, porque, según las últimas noticias, las cosechas son mucho más abundantes de lo que en un principo se creía; sin embargo, es opinión de las personas entendidas, que la producción del café, considerada generalmente como exorbitante, ha ido últimamente nivelándose con el consumo, de suerte que muchos esperan una mejora contínua en los precios.

Cotizaciones de los cafés mexicanos.

[Por cada 50 kilos.]

	Ordinario.	Clasificado.	Lavado.
	Francos.	*Francos.*	*Francos.*
Córdoba, Coatepec, Huatusco	53.00 á 56.00	56.00 á 58.00	60.00 á 80.00
Huastecas, Sierra	53.50 á 55.50	56.00 á 58.00	60.00 á 80.00
Tlapacoyán, Atzatlán, San Rafael	54.00 á 56.00	56.00 á 58.00	60.00 á 80.00
Oaxaca y Mihuatlán	54.00 á 56.00	56.00 á 58.00	60.00 á 80.00
Pluma, Hidalgo y Pacífico	54.50 á 56.00	57.00 á 58.00	60.00 á 80.00
Uruapam y Colima	54.00 á 55.00	58.00 á 60.00	60.00 á 80.00
Soconusco, Tapachula	54.00 á 56.00	58.00 á 60.00	65.00 á 85.00

"Debemos aconsejar á los productores que los cafés esten muy secos y limpios, porque de otra manera se fermentan en el camino, y sucede que debido á esto no pueden alcanzar tan altos precios como cuando llegan en buen estado.

IMPORTANTE FERROCARRIL.

Afirma un periódico de San Juan Bautista, que en San Luis, Estado de Missouri, Estados Unidos, se ha formado un poderoso sindicato americano para la construcción de extensas líneas férreas, y su Presi-

dente, Mr. JOHN W. MIDGLEY, ha presentado á la Secretaría de Comunicaciones y Obras Públicas un proyecto de ferrocarril que habrá de enlazar los estados de Veracruz, Tabasco, Chiapas y Campeche, siendo su punto de partida un lugar dado en el estado de Veracruz y su término la ciudad y puerto de Campeche. El proyecto, aceptado sin objeción ninguno, es de los más importantes que se han propuesto, y será para Tabasco el paso más avanzado en la senda del progreso. La vía férrea en cuestión unirá á esta parte del país con la capital de la República y con la península de Yucatán, haciendo más cómodo y barato el tráfico. Según el trazo de la vía, el ferrocarril atravesará regiones de inmensa riqueza agrícola, sobre todo terrenos cubiertos de maderas preciosas, tintóreas, gomorresinosas, etc., regiones que producirán en abundancia prodigiosa, una vez que el cultivo resulte bien retribuído por las facilidades de comunicación, maíz, arroz, café, cacao, caña de azúcar, tabaco, vainilla y diversidad asombrosa de textiles superiores al henequén.

Otra de las ventajas que reportarán estas comarcas, como consecuencia de la vía férrea descrita, será la fundación de numerosas colonias agrícolas que se compromete á establecer la compañía constructora, con base de población de raza latina sin excluir por ello, se entiende, á las demás razas colonizadoras de origen europeo.

LA CONSOLIDACIÓN DE INSTITUCIONES ECONÓMICAS.

"La Gaceta Comercial," en su número de 7 de julio próximo pasado, dice lo siguiente:

"El 1° de julio se verificó la consolidación de los negocios del Banco Minero y del Banco Comercial, importantes instituciones económicas, y los negocios de ambas estarán ahora á cargo del Banco Minero. El capital de este último es de $1,500,000 y el del Banco Comercial de $600,000. Al formarse la nueva Compañía se han emitido acciones por valor de $1,900,000 con un premio de 10 por ciento.

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"Conforme al nuevo arreglo, el Banco Minero será el único banco local de emisión en Chihuahua.

"Además de las nueve sucursales que la consolidación le trae el Banco Minero, éste ha obtenido una nueva concesión del Gobierno federal, autorizándole para abrir otras sucursales.

"La intención de los directores es hacer extensivos los negocios del banco por todo el norte de México, abriendo sucursales donde sea practicable.

"Según la nueva concesión, el Banco está autorizado para emitir $12,000,000 en billetes, aumento considerable sobre los billetes de esta empresa que están ya en circulación. El Banco Minero tiene grandes relaciones y negocios en la República y en el extranjero, y podrá ocu-

parse especialmente en negocios de cambio y cobro en Europa y los Estados Unidos."

COMERCIO DEL PUERTO DE SAN BLÁS.

"La Democracia," periódico que se publica en la ciudad de Tepic, trae en su edición del 8 de julio próximo pasado un artículo muy importante sobre el comercio del puerto de San Blás. Dice que se ha observado durante los últimos meses inusitado movimiento mercantil debido al considerable almacenamiento de maíz, producto de la última cosecha, y á la gran exportación de este importante cereal, tanto para los puertos del norte como para los del sur. La cantidad de maíz exportada desde el 21 de mayo hasta el 30 de junio próximo pasado fué de 12,324 sacos, ó sea cosa de 50,000 *bushels*.

COLONIZACIÓN EN LA REPÚBLICA.

Dice "El Correo de Sonora," con fecha 17 de junio de 1900, que 380 colonos de nacionalidad rusa han venido al país durante los últimos tres meses, y que se han establecido en terrenos de propiedad particular en el estado de Chiapas, habiéndoles otorgado el Gobierno las franquicias establecidas por la ley, así como una extensión de terrenos nacionales en el mismo estado.

CONTRATO PARA LA EXPLOTACIÓN DE MADERAS, GOMAS Y RESINAS.

El "Diario Oficial" correspondiente al año en curso publica un contrato celebrado entre el Gobierno mexicano y el Señor MAXIMILIANO DOREMBERG para la explotación de maderas, gomas y resinas en una parte de los terrenos baldios en el departamento de Palenque, estado de Chiapas. El concesionario se obliga á no cortar árboles de caoba ó cedro que tengan en la base del tronco menos de dos metros de circunferencia. Pagará como precio del arrendamiento á que este contrato se refiere la cuota de $1.50 en efectivo por cada árbol de caoba ó cedro que corte ó se proponga cortar, cuyo pago se hará por adelantado en la Jefatura de Hacienda del estado de Chiapas. Además, pagará $18 por tonelada de chicle; $24 por tonelada de hule; $1 anual por hectárea de terreno que dedique al cultivo y la cuota de $0.50 anuales por cabeza de ganado que paste en la zona. El concesionario se obliga á no traspasar este contrato á algún particular ó á alguna Compañía sin previo permiso del Ejecutivo Federal. Bajo ningún concepto podrá traspasarse á algún gobierno ó estado extranjero, ni admitirlo como socio, siendo nula y de ningún valor ni efecto cualquier estipulación que se pacte en ese sentido, y caducando, desde luego, por ese solo hecho este contrato.

FÁBRICAS DE TEJIDOS DE ALGODÓN.

La república de México cuenta ya con numerosas fábricas de tejidos de algodón, alcanzando su numero á 133, distribuidas por los diferentes estados. Debido á que los industriales han comenzado desde ahora á hacer sus pedidos, se cree que las importaciones de algodón en el año económico que comienza excederán en mucho á las del semestre de julio á diciembre del año pasado.

MODIFICACIÓN DE UN CONTRATO DE NAVEGACIÓN POR EL PACÍFICO.

El contrato de navegación á vapor por el Pacífico celebrado entre el Gobierno de México y el Sr. Alfonso B. Smith ha sido parcialmente modificado por decreto emitido y publicado en el "Diario Oficial" con fecha 13 de julio de 1900.

Las modificaciones son como sigue:

Los vapores de la empresa deberán hacer el servicio de navegación hasta San Francisco, California, y no hasta San Diego, Alta California.

Los viajes serán redondos, desde San Francisco, California, hasta San Benito, tocando á la ida y al regreso en el puerto de Guaymas. La duración de cada viaje no deberá exceder de dos meses. Los viajes redondos se contarán á partir de Guaymas.

Las demás condiciones estipuladas en el contrata primitivo quedan en todo su vigor.

CADUCIDAD DE UN CONTRATO DE COLONIZACIÓN.

El Presidente de la República, en vista de la falta de cumplimiento de las condiciones estipuladas en un contrato de colonización en el estado de Sinaloa, celebrado con el Señor Albert K. Owen, ha acordado, según decreto promulgado en 10 de julio próximo pasado, la caducidad del mismo, disponiendo se imponga al concesionario la pena en que ha incurrido de confiscación del depósito de $2,000 en bonos de la Deuda Pública, depositados en el Banco Nacional de México como garantía del cumplimiento de las obligaciones estipuladas en la concesión.

PLANTA GENERATRIZ DE GRAN POTENCIA.

En el Estado de Chihuahua, en las márgenes del San Juan, uno de los afluentes del río Concho, se encuentra ya en vía de construcción una planta generatriz que habrá de ser la mayor y más potente de todo México. La compañía dueña de dicha planta fué constituída con personalidad legal, según las leyes de los Estados Unidos, en el estado de Illinois, con un capital de $1,000,000, oro. Su fundador fué en un tiempo cónsul de los Estados Unidos en Chihuahua.

Entre las obras que hay que ejecutar para la construcción de dicha planta, figura una presa, situada en un punto del río mencionado, entre

las poblaciones de Peral y Chihuahua. Dicha presa medirá 250 pies de ancho por 150 de alto, con lo que se calcula habrá de formarse un lago de unas quince millas de extensión, con una anchura máxima de tres millas y media. La fuerza motriz generada por el volumen de las aguas de este lago se trasmitirá por cables á la ciudad de Peral, situada á 40 millas de distancia y á la de Chihuahua, que queda á unas 80 millas del lugar donde se encuentra la planta. El sistema de trasmisión está de tal modo estudiado que se podrán hacer conexiones en el cable trasmisor principal para llevar al punto que se quiera la cantidad de fuerza motriz que se desee, á un precio relativamente moderado. Han sido contratadas ya de 6 á 10 mil caballos de fuerza en las dos poblaciones directamente interesadas.

PISCICULTURA.

Al tratar de este interesante asunto, "El Progreso de México" dice lo siguiente:

"Uno de nuestros suscritores nos pide algunas indicaciones prácticas sobre la manera de establecer un vivero, la elección de los peces, la siembra y conservación.

"Esta cuestión requiere cierto desarrollo, y la trataremos de una manera general, para que pueda servir á todos aquellos de nuestros lectores á quienes el asunto interese.

"En principio general, los viveros deben arreglarse según las especies de pescados que se quieran criar. Para las carpas se necesitan viveros muy profundos, donde puedan vivir en buena salud en invierno y estío. Como superficie es preciso darles 10 metros cuadrados para 120 peces de uno año; 16 de cuatro años, ó 10 de seis años. Desde esta edad en adelante 10 metros cuadrados para cada 10 pescados. Estas cifras, de las que importa no pasar, permiten calcular el número de pescados, según la extensión de que se dispone. Cuando se deben tener carpas en los viveros durante el estío, se ponen tantos animales como se puedan alimentar, pero teniendo en cuenta el número de pescados que se han de sacar para las necesidades del consumo diario.

"En invierno las carpas pierden peso, pera lo vuelven á adquirir en el estío, cuando se tiene cuidado de darles buena alimentación. Desde febrero ó marzo hasta noviembre, se les da, según el consumo, pero nunca en cantidad bastante grande para teñir el agua, excrementos de borrego y de vaca. Durante los otros meses se pasa poco á poco y sucesivamente al régimen que sigue: guisantes, habas, papas, nabos, cebada mojada, ó bien tripas de animales muy bien picadas. Estos alimentos se distribuyen en pequeñas raciones y alternativamente.

"Los viveros de sollos deben llenar casi las mismas condiciones que los destinados á las carpas. Los fondos arenosos convienen especialmente á la trucha, al salmón y al gubio. El sollo prefiere un agua más calcárea y sin ningún depósito fangoso. La población de

estos pescados que ocupe un vivero no puede ser más que la cuarta parte de la de las carpas, aunque los animales que la compongan pueden ser del mismo tamaño.

"Se da á los sollos una alimentación copiosa, formada de pescaditos menudos, para que no se devoren entre sí. En primavera pueden dárseles ranas con su hueva; en estío se agregan al pescadito desechos de carnicería muy bien picados.

"Para las anguilas todas las aguas son buenas; sólo hay que tener presente que este pescado es esencialmente migrador. Se retendrá en el vivero, cubriéndolo con alambrados muy cerrados y rodeándolos con muros de piedra de 0.50 cm. de altura. La población del vivero no debe ser más que las dos terceras partes de la de las carpas. La alimentación consistirá en gusanos, pescaditos y despojos de animales. Hay que advertir que la anguila no debe ser traspasada bruscamente de un agua suave y caliente á otra dura y fría.

"Las truchas y los salmones no están bien sino en viveros alimentados por aguas de manantiales buenas y límpidas. La cifra de la población del vivero es la mitad de la fijada para la carpa. Las truchas deben ser del mismo tamaño. La alimentación consistirá en pescaditos distribuidos todos los días."

EL MIJO AZUCARADO.

Dice "El Progreso," de México, que el mijo azucarado es, según opinión general, el mejor y más ventajoso de los forrajes verdes, y por consiguiente, de grande importancia para el agricultor.

Se han hecho ensayos repetidos, en pequeña y grande escala, del cultivo del mijo azucarado y del mijo americano en terrenos diferentes y en diversas comarcas. El mijo dado al caballo ha demostrado ser superior al maíz.

El mijo azucarado es una planta grande que retoña de nuevo después que se le ha cortado y después que ha sido pastado por el ganado. Crece hasta una altura de tres metros y á veces más. Las espigas sirven para hacer escobas. Otra de sus muchas ventajas es que no teniendo insecto enemigo no hay dificultad ninguna en sembrarlo. Como substancia nutritiva, según análisis químicos verificados, es muy superior al maíz, pudiendo darse verde ó seco. Su tallo no es tan fuerte como el del maíz. El ganado lo come con más voluntad y facilidad, debido á su riqueza en azúcar. Es muy buen alimento para las vacas lecheras. Se puede dar en todos los países, en cualquiera clase de terreno y es digno de que ensayen con él los agricultores.

VENEZUELA.

CONTRATO PARA EL CULTIVO DEL CAUCHO Y GUTAPERCHA.

El Ministro de Fomento de Venezuela ha celebrado con el Señor JUAN DALL' ORSO un contrato para la siembra y explotación del caucho y gutapercha. El Gobierno da en arrendamiento al contratista quince leguas cuadrades de terrenos baldíos. El contratista consignará en el Ministerio de Fomento, dentro del plazo de dos años á contar de la fecha del contrato, el plano ó planos detallados y firmados por un agrimensor público ó por un ingeniero de la república de las citadas quince leguas de terrenos baldíos. El contratista se obliga á pagar, como arrendamiento, al Gobierno nacional la cantidad de 40 bolívares en efectivo por cada cien kilogramos de caucho que se exporten, y asimismo se compromete á importar del Brasil la mejor semilla del árbol denominado Sphonia Elástica, ó Hevea Brasilensis. El contratista podrá efectuar el cultivo y la explotación del caucho por sí ó por medio de una compañía que al efecto constituya, y tendrá derecho á cortar en los bosques del estado la madera que necesite para la construcción de oficinas, depósito y habitaciones, sin tener que pagar nada por esto al Gobierno nacional. El Gobierno permitirá la introducción libre de derechos aduaneros de las máquinas y sus accesorios, vehículos terrestres y fluviales y de útiles y aparatos de agricultura que sean necesarios á la empresa. El contratista se obliga á dar principio á los trabajos un año después de firmado este contrato.

El Gobierno concede al contratista la libre navegación, exenta de todo impuesto nacional creado ó por crearse, de los ríos, caños, lagos y lagunas comprendidos en la concesión ó que conduzcan naturalmente á ella. El contratista podrá introducir por su cuenta inmigrantes para el establecimiento de colonias, sometiéndose en todo á las leyes vigentes sobre la materia. La duración del contrato será de cincuenta años y podrá ser traspasado en todo ó en parte á cualquiera otra persona ó compañía, previa la aprobación del Gobierno; pero en ningún caso á un gobierno extranjero. Terminados los cincuenta años de la duración del contrato, pasará la empresa con todos sus terrenos y accesorios á ser propiedad del Gobierno nacional. El Gobierno no podrá gravar la empresa con ningún impuesto nacional. Las dudas y controversias que puedan suscitarse sobre la inteligencia y ejecución de este contrato serán decididas por los tribunales venezolanos, conforme á las leyes de la república, sin que pueda este contrato ser en ningún caso motivo de reclamaciones internacionales.

CONTRATO IMPORTANTE.

"El Tiempo," diario de la Capital, publica con fecha 3 de julio próximo pasado, lo siguiente:

"Se ha celebrado un contrato entre el Gobierno y el Señor LEÓN

Fusch, por el cual el Gobierno cede al contratista, en enfiteusis, la porción de terrenos baldíos situados á las orillas derecha é izquierda del brazo 'Casiquiare,' cuyos linderos son los señalados en el plano que al efecto ha presentado.

"El Gobierno garantiza á León Fuchs la libre navegación, ya sea á vela, á vapor ó por cualquiera otra fuerza motriz, por los caños que conduzcan naturalmente á los terrenos enfitéuticos.

"El contratista se obliga á pagar anticipadamente al Gobierno Nacional la suma de 750 bolívares en oro, como canon anual.

"Aunque el artículo 1519 del Código Civil prescribe que el enfiteuta puede rescatar siempre el fondo enfitéutico, es pacto convenido entre las partes contratantes que dicho rescate deberá hacerse dentro del lapso de cinco años, á contar de la fecha en que se firme este contrato.

"Este contrato no podrá ser traspasado en todo ni en parte á ningún gobierno extranjero."

LAUDO ARBITRAL EN LA CUESTIÓN DE LÍMITES ENTRE NICARAGUA Y COSTA RICA.

Á continuación se publica la traducción al español del laudo arbitral emitido por el Señor Ingeniero Árbitro Mr. E. P. Alexander, que puso fin á las diferencias existentes entre Nicaragua y Costa Rica en cuanto á fijar el punto céntrico de la Bahía de Salinas, que es el término en el Pacífico de la línea divisoria entre las dos repúblicas. Este documento ha sido tomado de la Memoria de Relaciones Exteriores de Costa Rica correspondiente al año de 1899–1900.

LAUDO NO. 5.

Nueva York, *10 de marzo de 1900.*

Á los Comisionados de Límites de Costa Rica y Nicaragua.

"Señores: En cumplimiento de mi deber, como árbitro en las diferencias que puedan ocurrir durante la tarea de VV., de trazar y demarcar la línea fronteriza de los países que representan, fuí llamado en octubre último, por la Comisión de Nicaragua, á declarar qué punto de la Bahía de Salinas ha de tomarse como su centro, para fijar el rumbo final de la frontera, desde su coincidencia con el río Sapoá hasta su terminación en dicha Bahía. El trabajo de campo en aquella época estaba cerca de San Carlos, y la obra por ejecutar necesitaba algunos meses para llegar al río Sapoá; pero se solicitó la decisión de antemano, para dar tiempo á la discusión, y además evitar demora cuando el trabajo avanzase hasta aquel punto.

"Con la instancia para que yo fijase el punto céntrico de la Bahía, presentó la Comisión nicaragüense una exposición de su modo de pensar

sobre el asunto, y algunos extractos de los trabajos de una Comisión mixta anterior, que en 1890 se ocupó de la materia, y pareció estar no lejos de un arreglo amigable; pero que finalmente se disolvió, sin llegar á resultado alguno.

"Esa exposición del parecer de la Comisión nicaragüense fué trasmitida inmediatamente á la Comisión costarricense, á quien se invitó para que adujese la réplica que tuviese por conveniente.

"Á ambas Comisiones se informó también, que puesto que parecía posible un arreglo amigable, yo postergaría el pronunciamento del laudo en la materia, por el tiempo que tal posibilidad pareciera persistir; y pedí se me informara, de tiempo en tiempo, sobre la marcha del asunto.

"No se llegó á tal arreglo. Tampoco presentó la comisión costarricense exposición ó razonamiento alguno acerca del parecer de la Comisión nicaraguense antes referido.

"Entre tanto, los encargados del trabajo de campo avanzarán pronto hasta el río Sapoá, y tendrán entonces que suspender la obra, hasta que se determine el punto céntrico de la Bahía de Salinas, indispensable para poder fijar la dirección del rumbo final de la línea fronteriza.

"Para evitar esta demora y el consiguiente dispendio á entrambos Gobiernos, no puedo suspender por más tiempo mi laudo en esta materia. Pero es del caso advertir al respecto, que mi laudo no constituye obstáculo para que se llegue, aun todavía, al arreglo amigable.

"En el tratado de 1858 se concede á los comisionados la facultad 'de desviarse de la línea recta astronómica entre Sapoá y Salinas, caso que en ello puedan acordarse para buscar mojones naturales.'

"Esta facultad no queda en manera alguna restringida ó cercenada por mi laudo, que solamente determina por donde habrá de correr una línea astronómica.

"Por lo tanto, habiendo debidamente considerado por completo el asunto, doy mi laudo como sigue:

"Las estipulaciones del tratado de 1858 que tratan de la materia son estas:

"Del Artículo II: 'Del punto en que la frontera coincida con el río Sapoá, el que por lo dicho, debe distar dos millas del Lago, se tirará una recta astrónomica hasta el punto céntrico de la Bahía de Salinas, en el mar del Sur, donde quedará terminada la demarcación del territorio de las Repúblicas contratantes.'

"Del Artículo IV: 'La Bahía de San Juan del Norte, así como la de Salinas, serán comunes á ambas Repúblicas; y de consiguiente lo serán sus ventajas y la obligación de concurrir á su defensa.'

"La interpretación de todos los puntos dudosos de este Tratado fué sometida al Presidente CLEVELAND en 1888; y su laudo sobre la materia se dió en los siguientes muy claros términos:

"2. El punto céntrico de la Bahía de Salinas ha de fijarse, trazando

una línea recta que cierre la boca de la Bahía, y determinando matemáticamente el centro de la figura geométrica que resulte circunscrita por dicha línea recta y la orilla de la Bahía en la baja marea.

"3. Debe entenderse por punto céntrico de la Bahía de Salinas el centro de la figura geométrica formada como queda dicho. El límite de la Bahía hácia el océano es una línea recta tirada desde la extremidad de Punta Arranca Barba, yendo casi directamente hácia el sur, hasta la parte más occidental de la tierra inmediata á Punta Zacate."

"'En el alegato de la Comisión nicaragüense se sostiene que el verdadero límite de la Bahía debiera ser una línea entre Punta Zacate y Punta Mala. Ella quedaría así localizada de una á dos millas tierra adentro de la línea fijada por el laudo del Presidente CLEVELAND. Innecesario es examinar los méritos de esta pretensión. Por el Tratado Matus-Pacheco, celebrado en San Salvador el 27 de marzo de 1896, ese laudo fué adoptado como ley para esta Comisión.'

"El Artículo I de aquel Tratado dice:

"'Los Gobiernos contratantes se obligan á nombrar cada uno una Comisión compuesta de dos ingenieros ó agrimensores, con el objeto de trazar y amojonar debidamente la línea divisoria entre las Repúblicas de Costa Rica y Nicaragua, según lo establece el Tratado de 15 de abril de 1858 y el laudo arbitral del Presidente de los Estados Unidos de América, Mr. GROVER CLEVELAND.

"Las facultades arbitrales que se me confirieron por el Artículo II de ese Tratado, "para decidir cualquiera clase de dificultades que surjan," es claro que han de ejercerse solamente dentro de los límites señalados por el Artículo I. Allí donde la inteligencia del laudo del Presidente CLEVELAND no esté en cuestión, carezco de autoridad para separarme de él.

"En cuanto al trabajo inconcluso y parciales convenios de 1890, por el Tratado de 1895,[1] se prescindió de todos ellos. Es de notarse que mediante la adopción amigable propuesta de la línea de Punta Zacate á Punta Mala como límite de la Bahía, habría resultado acrecido el territorio de Nicaragua en cosa de tres cuartos de milla de frente á la costa.

"Sostiénese, además, en el alegato de Nicaragua que la línea desde Sapoá hasta el centro de la Bahía pierde su carácter de divisoria ó fronteriza, allí donde deja la costa y sigue por sobre las aguas de la Bahía. Esto, en efecto, parece deducirse del artículo IV del Tratado de 1858, ya citado, que declara comunes las aguas de la Bahía, y del hecho de que la línea concluye en el centro de la Bahía y no se extiende al océano.

"Pero, en mi sentir, las funciones de esta Comisión están limitadas á la definición y demarcación de la línea divisoria entre las dos Repú-

[1] Error del original; léase 1896.

blicas. El carácter legal de la parte de línea tirada sobre el agua y quizá algunas cuestiones de jurisdicción que puedan surgir, están cuando menos fuera del objeto de la presente investigación, que es meramente determinar el centro de la Bahía de Salinas, tal como se describe en el laudo del Presidente CLEVELAND.

"La Bahía de Salinas fué cuidadosamente medida y cartografiada por oficiales de la Marina de los Estados Unidos en 1885, y por la Oficina Hidrográfica Naval de los Estados Unidos se publicó un mapa de la misma Bahía, bajo el número 1,025. De acuerdo con entrambas Comisiones he adoptado ese mapa como la representación correcta del contorno de la Bahía. Su figura es la de una embolsada curva que, desviándose del Este, dobla hácia el Sur, como de cinco millas de longitud y como de la mitad de esa medida de anchura, por término medio. Su contorno se asemeja algo al mango redondeado ó culata de una pistola, con algunas proyecciones y entrantes irregulares.

"Deséase hallar el centro matemático de esta figura, cerrada por la línea recta que une las extremidades (headlands) de la Bahia. El centro matemático de una figura irregular es el punto medio de su área. Los centros mecánicos todos, tales como el de gravedad ó de equilibrio, etc., en los cuales actúa una fuerza cualquiera, tienen que ser excluidos de consideración.

"Esto resultará obvio, si consideramos por un momento el caso de una Bahía bajo la forma de media luna.

"El centro de gravedad de su figura no caería de ninguna manera sobre el agua, sino sobre el terreno abrazado por el agua. Claro es que éste no podría considerarse como el centro de la Bahía.

"Ni es aplicable procedimiento general matemático alguno, tal como el método de las mínimas cuadradas (least squares). Este método dará el centro de un grupo de lugares distribuidos al azar, pero á ser estos dispuestos en forma de media luna, el centro quedaría, no entre los mismos, sino dentro del espacio convexo, que ellos parcialmente circunden.

"Á otros métodos hay que ocurrir para hallar el punto medio de áreas irregulares restrictas; y pueden sugerirse muchos, más ó menos aplicables á diferentes figuras. Pero bastará indicar aquí solamente el método que adopté yo, como el más adecuado para la figura de que se trata, la cual afecta algo de la forma curva ó creciente.

"He supuesto un navío que del océano penetra en la Bahía, por un punto situado á igual distancia de las extremidades de la misma (headlands) y que, tan aproximadamente como es posible, sigue un curso equidistante de las orillas opuestas, á derecha é izquierda, hasta que ha penetrado hasta el punto más remoto de la Bahía.

"Este curso, punteado cuidadosamente en el mapa, si bien curvo, puede ser tomado como el eje mayor de la Bahía.

"Á ángulos rectos con él, en diferentes puntos, he trazado líneas

rectas á través de la Bahía, que van de costa á costa, y por medio de un planímetro he determinado la posición de una línea tal, que exactamente divida el área toda de la Bahía en iguales partes. Esta línea puede ser tomado como el correspondiente eje menor de la Bahía y su intersección con el eje mayor será el centro dé la Bahía.

"Situado en aquel punto el supuesto navío, una línea tirada á través de la proa, perpendicular á la de la carrera, dejaría al frente de aquella la mitad de las aguas de la Bahía, y la otra mitad quedaría detrás.

"Habiendo de esta manera localizado cuidadosamente el punto, con la escala del mapa he determinado la distancia á que se halla del punto más elevado de la pequeña isla existente en la Bahía, cuya longitud y latitud se dan en el mapa, como sigue: Latitud, 11° 3′ 10″; longitud, 85° 43′ 38″.

"Resulta estar á treinta y siete segundos norte y catorce segundos este de este punto.

"Por lo tanto fijo la posición del centro de la Bahía de Salinas, así: Latitud, 11° 3′ 47″ norte; longitud, 85° 43′ 52″ oeste.

"Á este punto ha de dirigirse la línea fronteriza, desde su encuentro con el río Sapoá, salvo que las dos Comisiones puedan convenir en una línea de mojones naturales."

PRODUCCIÓN DE CAFÉ EN EL MUNDO.

El Cónsul de los Estados Unidos en Málaga, Mr. Richard M. Bartleman, ha remitido al Departamento de Estado en Wáshington los siguientes informes relativos á la producción de café en el mundo durante los últimos seis años económicos:

Año.	Producción.	Año.	Producción.
1895–96	10,355,000	1898–99	13,723,000
1896–97	13,605,000	1899–1900	14,437,000
1897–98	16,178,000	1900–1901	13,975,000

Las dos últimas cantidades, si bien es cierto que han sido calculadas con gran cuidado, son simplemente aproximadas.

Los datos anteriormente citados demuestran que el consumo de café ha ido aumentando durante los últimos cuatro años, casi á razón de 1,000,000 de sacos por año; y si los cálculos hechos para la próxima cosecha resultan confirmados y el consumo sólo fuere igual al del año precedente, se necesitarán más de un millón de sacos para suplir la demanda en el año venidero, lo que hará disminuir notablemente las grandes cantidades de café que han sido almacenadas durante los últimos años. Esta creencia es el principal factor en el buen aspecto que hoy en día presenta el mercado. Los almacenes de café en Europa han

sufrido una diminución de 3,000 toneladas por mes, y aun quedan 232,550 toneladas. La cantidad de café que se sabe existe en todo el mundo en almacenes asciende á 382,080 toneladas, habiendo disminuido en 7,790 toneladas.

UTILIDAD DEL ANÁLASIS DE LAS TIERRAS.

Con el título que encabeza estas líneas publica el "Scientific American," en su edición del mes de julio, el artículo que á continuación se inserta.

"Hace medio siglo, los agricultores creían que el mantillo era el único elemento de nutrición de las plantas, y no hacían ningún caso de las substancias minerales. La clasificación de las tierras se hacía entonces considerando únicamente las proporciones de arena, arcilla, substancias calcáreas, etc., que contenían, y la ciencia no iba más allá. Estos datos no podían ser de gran utilidad al hombre práctico que no necesitaba analizar ó mandar á analizar sus tierras para ver si contenían en exceso los elementos que acabamos de enumerar, y sólo podían modificar las condiciones físicas de esas tierras por medio de abonos. En resumen, la agronomía estaba todavía en la infancia, sin ideas nuevas, incapaz de dirigir al cultivador por la vía del mejoramiento íntimo del suelo. Más tarde, cuando se conoció mejor el modo de alimentación de los vegetales, el progreso empezó á desarrollarse.

"Todo vegetal contiene carbono, hidrógeno, oxígeno, ázoe, ácido fosfórico, ácido sulfúrico, cloro, sílice, potasa, soda, cal, magnesia, hierro y manganeso. Á excepción del carbono, del hidrógeno y del oxígeno, que son proporcionados por la atmósfera en cantidades casi ilimitadas, todos los otros elementos son extraídos del suelo por las raíces. Se ve, pues, que las tierras arables deben estudiarse más bien desde el punto de vista de su composición química que desde el de su estado físico.

"Entre los diferentes elementos minerales ya citados, los unos, como la sílice, la alúmina, el hierro, el manganeso y la sosa, existen siempre en el suelo en cantidad suficiente para las necesidades limitadas de las cosechas; el ácido sulfúrico, el cloro y la magnesia existen generalmente en cantidades satisfactorias, pero los principios más importantes son: el ácido fosfórico, la potasa y la cal, y si la proporción de uno de ellos es demasiado débil, es imposible obtener rendimientos elevados, á pesar del cultivo más perfecto. Afortunadamente, la agricultura dispone de abonos especiales que permiten corregir la pobreza del suelo y proporcionar á éste los elementos que le hagan falta.

"El abono se aplica más bien al suelo que al vegetal, y CHEVREUL ha dicho con razón: 'El abono es el complemento del suelo.'

"Mientras tanto la agronomía ignoraba esos principios tan sencillos, todo progreso fundamental era imposible. El análisis del suelo, refiriéndose únicamente á los elementos constitutivos: arcilla, arena, mantillo y substancias calcáreas, era incapaz de trazar las reglas generales para el mejoramiento del cultivo.

"Solamente cuando el químico adelantó en el conocimiento de la composición del suelo, se pudieron presenciar esas transformaciones maravillosas, que llevaron la fertilidad á las regiones más desheredadas. Solamente cuando el análisis nos enseñó que el ácido fosfórico hace falta á los terrenos graníticos y la potasa á los terrenos demasiado calcáreos el agricultor logró, por medio de abonos complementarios, transformar en terrenos relativamente fértiles aquellos desprovistos hasta entonces de toda utilidad.

"Hoy el cultivador cuidadoso de sus intereses debe conocer, ante todo, los recursos de la tierra que explota; por esto, en los países progresistas, el análisis de las tierras entró ya en la práctica agrícola. Las investigaciones hechas en el laboratorio dan rápidamente al hombre práctico informes precisos que no podrían proporcionarle ni el aspecto del suelo ni una práctica secular, y sin los cuales es imposible todo mejoramiento fundamental.

"Imaginémonos, por ejemplo, una hacienda cuyos terrenos son escasos en ácido fosfórico; sin embargo, sus proporciones de arena, arcilla, substancias calcáreas y mantillo son suficientes. Si encierra una cantidad regular de estiércol, se cultiva la tierra con esmero, y á pesar de todo, los rendimientos no pasan nunca de cierto límite. Cuando el análisis haya descubierto la causa de esta situación poco halagadora, el hacendado podrá aumentar repentinamente sus cosechas con solo emplear algunos sacos de fosfato ó de superfosfato de cal.

"Consideremos otra hacienda en que el propietario, más audaz, aplica los abonos químicos. Obtiene magníficas cosechas, pero gastando mucho dinero, pues ignorando cuales son los elementos fertilizantes que sus tierras requieren, los aplica todos, ácido fosfórico, potasa, ázoe bajo las formas de abono completo. Á este hacendado el análisis le enseñará que siendo el suelo rico en potasa, por ejemplo, el uso de este elemento constituye un gasto absolutamente inútil y le permitirá realizar una economía no despreciable.

"Estos ejemplos son suficientes para demostrar la enseñanza práctica del análisis químico del suelo. No vacilamos, pues, en considerarlo como la base de toda empresa agrícola, y por lo mismo la agricultura moderna debe estar agradecida á los sabios que, como Casparín y Risler, han sido los primeros en llamar la atención pública sobre tan importante asunto.

"El análisis de las tierras tiene por objeto averiguar si requieren el ázoe, la cal, el ácido fosfórico y la potasa, é indicar al práctico la naturaleza del abono ó de los abonos que tiene que emplear. En ciertos

casos los resultados del análisis no dejan lugar á vacilación alguna; eso sucede cuando las tierras son muy ricas ó muy pobres; cuando este análisis demuestra que un elemento fertilizante abunda en el suelo, es inútil añadirlo, y cuando comprueba que la proporción es débil, puede uno estar seguro de que la adición de ese elemento dará resultados satisfactorios. La cuestión es mucho más fácil de resolver en los casos medios; sin embargo, GASPARÍN y RISLER han podido establecer, después de largas investigaciones, los principos siguientes: cuando el análisis demuestra que el suelo contiene menos de 1 por 100 de ácido fosfórico, de 1 por 100 de ázoe y de 1 á 1.5 poi 100 de potasa, el agricultor debe sacar esta consecuencia: que la tierra requiere una adición de ázoe, ácido fósforico ó potasa; arriba de esta proporción se puede aplicar únicamente el estiércol á la dosis de restitución.

"Después de establecer esta regla, debemos añadir que es siempre prudente comprobar las conclusiones sacadas del análisis, por medio de experiencias hechas directamente en el campo.

"La aplicación del análisis químico de las tierras á la práctica agrícola prestó ya inmensos servicios; sin embargo, es preciso decir que la ciencia no ha llegado todavía á este respecto á un grado de absoluta perfección.

"Si bien este análisis nos indica la cantidad de los diferentes principios minerales contenidos en la tierra, es asimismo importante para averiguar el grado de asimilación y para distinguir las partes inmediatamente utilizables por los vegetales, de la que será utilizada al cabo de un tiempo más ó menos largo."

LA SEMBRADERA.

La sembradera es un instrumento mecánico destinado á esparcir los granos y semillas. Tres clases hay de máquinas sembraderas. Se deben incluir en la primera aquéllas que el sembrador tiene que llevar suspendidas del cuello y que funcionan por medio de un pequeño manubrio. En la segunda se comprenden las sembraderas de carretilla, cualquiera que sea el sistema distribuidor del grano. En la tercera deben incluirse aquéllas cuyo mecanismo descansa sobre una armazón de carro y para cuyo uso se emplea como motor la fuerza animal.

Las sembraderas de mano difieren bastante, según siembren á voleo ó á chorrillo. Una de las mejores para esparcir el grano á voleo es la centrífuga, cuyo mecanismo es muy sencillo. La siembra se hace con mayor rapidez de lo que podría hacerla á mano un buen sembrador, y la tierra queda empanada con admirable igualdad. Se compone dicho aparato de una tolva, de cabida hasta una cuartilla de trigo, con una correa para suspendersela del cuello el operario. En la abertura

por donde se da salida al grano existe un trozo de cono hueco de metal, el cual se une á dicha abertura por su sección de menor diámetro, y gira por la acción del manubrio situado en el lado derecho del mecanismo.

Cuando se permite salir el trigo por la abertura de la tolva, el sembrador empieza á andar, dando al mismo tiempo vueltas al manubrio, y los granos golpeados en cada revolución del trozo de cono por unas paletillas que éste lleva interiormente en toda su longitud, son lanzados con fuerza é igualdad á derecha é izquierda del sembrador. Con la sembradera centrífuga se pueden sembrar cómodamente en el día unas 5 ó 6 hectáreas de terreno, arrojando más ó menos grano, pues esto depende de la abertura de salida mayor ó menor que se deje en la tolva.

Las sembraderas de barrilillo forman otro de los sistemas de mano, y consisten en un cilindro hueco, perforado en toda su superficie, el cual gira dentro de una tolva, también cilíndrica, de la que parten uno ó más tubos de longitud bastante para que puedan llegar á corta distancia del suelo, llevando el sembrador colgado del cuello el mecanismo. Al hacer girar el cilindro interior por medio de un manubrio, el grano sale por los orificios cayendo en la tolva, desde la cual pasa por los tubos conductores hasta caer en el sitio que se desea. Este aparato da muy buenos resultados para sembrar garbanzos, guisantes, judías, habas, maíz, remolachas y, en general, las semillas que hay que dejar bastante esparcidas. El buen manejo de esta máquina estriba primero, en que el tubo ó tubos vayan por los círculos que se desea, á cuyo efecto puede adaptársele á uno de ellos una pequeña rueda; y segundo, en arreglar el movimiento del cilindro distribuidor de modo que verifique una revolución por cada tres, cuatro ó más pasos que dé el sembrador.

El mecanismo de otras sembraderas difiere aun más. Hay dentro de la tolva un eje ó árbol giratorio con discos metálicos, guarnecido de cuchillas para recoger el grano y echarlo en el embudo. Las sembraderas de carretilla no hacen, generalmente, más que esparcir el grano, y pueden emplearse aun en tierras que no se hallen esmeradamente preparadas. Pero es condición necesaria haber surcado el terreno con el arado.

Desde el principio se ha tratado de aplicar la fuerza animal al trabajo de las sembraderas. Para la marcha á nivel en dos ruedas sobre un terreno desigual se han adaptado al instrumento cuchillas ó rejas que abran los surcos, así como tubos conductores que llegan hasta el punto donde debe quedar la semilla; y á fin de dejarla cubierta se han puesto detrás de los tubos peines, rastros ó rodillos. * * *

Una doble tolva permite que desde la superior, donde se echa el grano, caiga la cantidad que se quiera en la parte inferior, dentro de la cual gira un eje que lleva dos, cuatro ó más discos equidistantes;

cada uno de éstos se halla guarnecido por ambos lados en toda su circunferencia, de cierto número de cucharillas que al girar cogen el grano y lo vierten al volver en dos embudos situados cada par á ambos lados de cada disco.

PREPARACIÓN Y APLICACIONES DE LA CELULOIDE.

Se llama celuloide á un producto complejo formado por la mezcla de piroxilina y de alcanfor. Esta mezcla, á la que se le añade alcohol, comprimida fuertemente, se presenta en forma laminada, siendo lentamente fusible. Constituye entonces una materia dura, elástica, transparente, susceptible de tomar un hermoso pulimento, teniendo una densidad de 1.35. Por la adición de materias pulverulentas, diversamente coloreadas, se puede hacer la celuloide opaca ó dársele el aspecto de marfil, ébano, coral, turquesa, etc.

El descubrimiento de la celuloide se debe á Isaiah Smith Hyatt y á John Wesley Hyatt, de Newark, New Jersey, y data de 1869. Se ha fabricado exclusivamente en América desde un principio, y algunos años después en Stains, cerca de París, por una compañía francesa.

La celuloide muy dura y elástica á la temperatura ordinaria, se vuelve blanda cuando se le calienta, hasta tal punto, que á los 80° se la puede hacer tomar cualquier forma por medio de moldes, volviendo á adquirir su dureza primitiva por el enfriamiento. Calentada á los 240° al aire libre, se inflama y arde con una llama muy viva, desprendiendo productos complejos odoríferos y dejando muy poco residuo. Se inflama rápidamente también al contacto con un cuerpo incandescente. Mantenida largo tiempo en 130° á 150° se descompone, desprendiendo vapores nitrosos.

Los ácidos minerales no atacan sensiblemente la celuloide en frío; pero es rápidamente destruida por el ácido nítrico y por el ácido sulfúrico caliente. Se disuelve fácilmente en una mezcla de alcohol y éter, produciendo un líquido espeso que puede servir para reunir en conjunto las diversas partes de la celuloide. Calentándola con éter sin el alcohol, se disuelve todo el alcanfor que contiene, dejando, como residuo, la piroxilina.

La preparación de este curioso producto comprende muchas fases principales:

1ª. La fabricación de la celulosa nítrica ó piroxilina en estado conveniente para poderse mezclar con el alcanfor y con las materias colorantes.

2ª. El amoldamiento en placas de esta mezcla y su laminación.

3ª. La compresión y calefacción del producto laminado para formar trozos.

4ª. El corte de estos trozos en hojas de diversos espesores, según el destino á que se apliquen.

5ª. La fundición de los productos cortados.

Se obtiene la piroxila por medio del papel de cigarillos de buena calidad. Se toma este papel en rollos de 0m. 34 de anchura y de 15 á 25 kilogramos de peso, que se desarrollan mecánicamente y se sumergen rápidamente en una mezcla de ácido sulfúrico á 66° (5 partes) y de ácido nítrico á 42° B. (2 partes), manteniendo la temperatura cerca de 35°. La celulosa del papel, después de doce ó quince minutos de inmersión, se transforma en nitrocelulosa, soluble en una mezcla de alcohol y de éter; se saca entonces el producto del baño ácido, se exprime el líquido y se lava con agua. Después de un primer lavatorio se pone la materia con agua en un lavatorio ó pila de papel, y se tritura durante dos y media ó tres horas, de modo que dé una pasta homogénea formada de fragmentos de dos á tres milímetros por los lados. Se somete entonces la piroxilina al blanqueo. Se practica esta operación por medio de una solución de permanganato de potasio. Cuando se ha prolongado suficientemente el contacto, se elimina el exceso de permanganato, lavándola; se trata después la masa por una disolución de ácido sulfuroso para disolver el óxido de manganeso fijo sobre la piroxina, y se termina la operación por una serie de lavatorios en mucha agua.

Se recoge la piroxilina en cajas filtrantes, y se le somete después á una destilación más perfecta en una máquina de oreo.

Esta substancia, al salir de este aparato, contiene aun cerca de 40 por ciento de agua, y se encuentra en estado conveniente para servir á la preparación de la celuloide. Se le hace pasar por un molino de muelas metálicas, primero sola, después mezclada con una cantidad conveniente de alcanfor, previamente laminado, y de materias colorantes, si se desea obtener una celuloide opaca. Después de una docena de moliendas sucesivas queda la masa suficientemente homogénea; se la amolda con la prensa hidráulica en un batidor metálico para poder obtener placas. Se colocan estas placas entre diez ó doce hojas de papel grueso y sin cola, y se pasa el todo en pilas á la prensa. El agua de la mezcla se va absorviendo así poco á poco por el papel, que se renueva doce ó quince veces.

Las placas de las mezclas, secas de este modo, y reducidas á un espesor de cerca de 3 mm., se confunden entre dos cilindros de bronce armados de dientes. Se ponen á macerar estos trozos durante dos horas con 25 á 35 por 100 de alcohol á 96°.

Cuando se desea obtener la celuloide transparente y coloreada, se añaden á esta mezcla las materias colorantes solubles en el alcohol. Se toma el todo y se pasa al laminador, cuyos cilindros se calientan á cerca de 50°. Se opera sobre 8 á 10 kilogramos de materia á la vez; la

laminación dura de 25 á 35 minutos y se termina cuando la materia está ya perfectamente homogénea.

De este modo se obtiene una hoja de 2 mm. de espesor que se corta en un rectángulo de 0.80 cm. sobre 0.60 cm. Se sobreponen estas hojas sobre las planchas de una prensa hidráulica, en una caja metálica sólidamente armada y de doble pared, que permite una calefacción por la circulación de agua caliente. Se calienta esta caja á 60° mientras dura la compresión. Se retira entonces un trozo de celuloide muy homogéneo de cerca de 0.12 m. de espesor; se colocan estos trozos sobre una tabla y se les extiende sobre una mesa de moldear para cortarlos en hojas que pueden variar de 2/10 de milímetro á 30 milímetros de espesor, según los usos á que se destine el producto. Se colocan las hojas en una estufa ventilada calentada á 53°, permaneciendo allí de 8 días á tres meses, según su naturaleza y espesor. La celuloide, al salir de la estufa, está ya dispuesta para la fabricación de una multitud de objetos.

En la breve descripción que precede no se trata más que de la preparación de los productos de color uniforme que imitan al marfil, al coral, á la turquesa, al ébano, á la concha blanca, etc. La celuloide que imita al ámbar, la piedra dura, la concha jaspeada, la malaquita, etc., se obtiene preparando separadamente cada uno de los productos de color uniforme que componen la materia, mezclándolos por procedimientos que varían según el caso.

Se puede trabajar la celuloide como la madera, el marfil y la concha; se le puede tornear, cortar, aserrar, moldear y pulimentar. Se moldea por presión en matrices metálicas, calentadas según los objetos, ya por agua caliente, ya por vapor; se enfría por inmersión en agua fría ántes de sacarla del molde.

Se puede obtener la celuloide en varillas ó en tubos de todo diámetro, volviéndola á reducir á la prensa hidráulica y en caliente. Se puede del mismo modo y por medio de la presión hidráulica, cubrir la madera ó los metales con una capa de este producto y obtener de este modo los más variados objetos, tales como aparatos de cirugía, de ortopedia, etc. Se coloca el objeto que ha de cubrirse en un molde caliente con la celuloide, y después se coloca el todo dispuesto de esta manera sobre la plancha de una prensa, llevando una placa de vapor arriba y otra abajo. Se le calienta al mismo tiempo que se le comprime, enfriándola después por medio de una corriente de agua; se quita la presión y se saca del molde.

Con la adición de cierta cantidad de aceite craso puede hacerse flexible la celuloide y servir entonces para hacer cuellos, puños, pecheras, imitando la tela y siendo fáciles de limpiar casi instantáneamente. Se obtienen estos productos comprimiendo una tela entre dos hojas delgadas de celuloide blanca; el grano de la tela aparece así por debajo de la materia comprimida. El precio de estos objetos es poco más ó menos el de la tela que imitan.

La celuloide flexible coloreada puede servir para imitar el cuero para arneses y todos los objetos de tafiletería.

Las ya numerosas aplicaciones de la celuloide parece pueden aumentarse aun más. Desde hace tiempo, en efecto, se la empieza á utilizar para hacer el clisado de las planchas de imprenta, planas ó cilíndricas, en reemplazo de la aleación fusible empleada hasta aquí. Las hojas que sirven para este objeto tienen 3 mms. de espesor y dan clichés más resistentes que la aleación y sumamente finos.

La celuloide puede sustituir á las piedras litográficas, empleando una tinta especial.

Recientemente se han empleado en la ebanistería para paños decorativos de un bonito efecto. Se ha aplicado á este uso la celuoide mezclada con bronces en polvos de diversos colores, produciendo una especie de jaspeado que imita al nogal y al arce.

La aplicación más importante de la celuloide ha sido hasta aquí la fabricación de objetos de tornería, ó de lo que se designa bajo el nombre de artículos de París—cajas, portamonedas, cigarreras, puños de baston, carpetas para libros, etc. Recientemente se han llegado á hacer de ella objetos huecos y amoldados, como cabezas de muñecas.

La celuloide es, sin duda, un producto extremadamente curioso, al que puede hacérsele tomar los más distintos aspectos, y que se presta á las más diversas aplicaciones. Sin embargo, no se la puede emplear sino á una temperatura relativamente baja, so pena de verla deformada.

"LA EVOLUCIÓN AMERICANA."

Con este título ha comenzado á publicarse en París, bajo la dirección de la Señora Doña M. Antonia Z. de Blanco, una importante revista cuyo principal objeto es abogar por los intereses de los pueblos latino-americanos. Dignos de encomio son los esfuerzos de la Señora de Blanco, y no es dudoso que encontrarán favorable acogida en todos los países de la América latina.

A continuación se publican algunos párrafos del artículo-programa que aparece en el primer número de la citada revista y que lleva por lema el mismo que encabeza estas líneas.

"La Evolución Americana" inicia hoy su labor en esta ciudad llamada, y con razón, el cerebro del mundo, en pro de los pueblos latinos de América. Todo lo que en beneficio de ellos redunde, todo lo que tienda á llevar hacia ellos corrientes de energía vivificante y civilizadora, merecerá su especialísimo cuidado.

"Desde el Río Grande hasta la Patagonia en el vasto continente Americano, sin solución de continuidad, hállanse establecidas las numerosas repúblicas de origen ibero. Su población es exigua en relación

con el vastísimo territorio que ocupan. Su historia, en el corto período transcurrido desde que cesaron de ser colonias europeas, es accidentada. * * *

"Empero los que consideramos que el período transcurrido es apenas un punto en la página de la historia; los que advertimos la persistencia del esfuerzo luchador en todos esos pueblos y los que comprendemos que toda evolución, como todo alumbramiento, entraña extertores y dolor, lejos de desesperar de la América latina, vemos en ella algo que es una esperanza para el porvenir, algo que es tierra de promisión para las apiñadas muchedumbres europeas que viven en países donde el sol y el aire ya faltan á los ojos y á los pulmones.

"Queremos, pues, trabajar, por cuantos medios estén á nuestro alcance, en pro de esos pueblos latinos. Las riquezas naturales de su suelo, inexplotadas casi hasta el día son inagotables; en los montes se esconden todos los minerales y todas las piedras preciosas, en los bosques abundan las maderas, las resinas y las plantas medicinales; en las inmensas llanuras pacen greyes sin cuento, y al fondo de los continentes penetran los ríos que en muchos casos semejan brazos de mar.

"Aun allí mismo en donde el trópico debiera imperar con todos sus ardores, las rugosidades del suelo modifican la temperatura, cambian los climas y producen, según la altura, las varias estaciones de la zona templada. * * *

"Algunos de esos países ya han salido por completo del período caliginoso de las revoluciones y han entrado en la vía del progreso con paso firme y decisión inquebrantable. Véanse los progresos maravillosos de México durante la administración del General Porfirio Díaz.

"Nuestra labor tenderá, pues, á decir á los extraños todo lo bueno que de nuestros países les podemos decir; á apuntarles las vías que conducen á la riqueza; los veneros de todo género que están por explotar, y á los propios trataremos de llevarles palabras de aliento, y de suministrarles cuantos conocimientos ó avisos útiles y oportunos puedan recogerse en estos centros europeos en donde se siente la pulsasión diaria de la moderna civilización.

"Magna tarea es ésta que emprendemos; magna, sin duda, por encima de nuestras fuerzas. Mas en este caso, como en el de todo esfuerzo humano, lo noble de la meta ennoblece y compensa la humildad del esfuerzo mismo.

"Cuantos piensen como nosotros que la América latina es patria digna de que por ella se trabaje y se luche serán bienvenidos en nuestras columnas. No queremos la colaboración ni de los cínicos ni de los escépticos. Á pueblos jóvenes que tienen gran labor ante sí no creemos que se les deba prodigar la amarga palabra del desengaño ni el acre jugo de la ironía.

"Vamos á tratar de hacer labor fecunda y generosa, y si en algo

logramos contribuir al engrandecimiento de los pueblos de la América latina, por pequeño que ese algo sea, no habrá sido en vano la creación de *La Evolución Americana* en París."

PRODUCCIÓN DE HULE.

Las tablas que á continuación se insertan forman parte del informe enviado á su Gobierno por el Vicecónsul de Inglaterra en Manaos.

PRODUCCIÓN DE HULE.

	Toneladas.
Distrito del Amazonas (Brasil, Perú y Bolivia)	25,000
Otras partes de la América del Sur	3,500
América Central y México	2,500
Java, Borneo y el Archipiélago Oriental	1,000
Regiones al este y oeste de Africa	24,000
Madagascar y Mauricio	1,000
India, Burma y Ceilán	500
Total	57,500

CONSUMO DE HULE.

Estados Unidos y Canadá	21,000
Reino Unido de la Gran Bretaña	21,000
Europa (excepto la Gran Bretaña)	15,500
Total	57,500

APROBACIÓN DEL SISTEMA MÉTRICO.

En el curso de una discusión sobre estadística minera sostenida en una de las sesiones del Congreso Internacional reunido en París, varios miembros expresaron su opinión de que la adopción universal del sistema métrico sería un gran paso en favor de un plan completo de estadísticas. La adopción de un sistema de pesas y medidas homogéneo, se dijo en la discusión, es imperiosamente necesaria si se desea hacer estadísticas comparadas de todos los países, y el sistema métrico decimal es hasta tal punto usado hoy, que pudiera muy fácilmente adoptarse con preferencia á cualquier otro.

El Congreso de las Cámaras de Comercio de la Gran Bretaña, que se celebró durante los últimos días del mes de junio próximo pasado, adoptó la siguiente resolución:

"Este Congreso, de acuerdo con las recomendaciones de la Comisión nombrada por el Parlamento en 1895, es de opinión que el sistema métrico de pesas y medidas sea legal en todo el Imperio británico, con excepción de la India, en toda clase de transacciones, dentro del plazo de dos años, recibiendo el carácter de obligatorio mediante una ley que

al efecto se promulgue y que interín se cumpla el plazo mencionado, dicho sistema debe ser enseñado como parte de la aritmética en todas las escuelas elementales públicas."

BIBLIOGRAFÍA.

En esta sección del Boletín Mensual se tratará de los libros y folletos enviados á la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas, que se refieren á asuntos relacionados con los países de la Unión Internacional de Repúblicas Americanas.

El canje de publicaciones de Centro y Sud América puede efectuarse por conducto de la "Smithsonian Institution," Wáshington, D. C., por medio de las agencias de distribución que tiene en aquellos países, y que son las siguientes:

Argentina: Museo Nacional, Buenos Aires.

Bolivia: Oficina Nacional de Inmigración, Estadística y Propaganda Geográfica, La Paz.

Chile: Universidad de Chile, Santiago.

Colombia: Biblioteca Nacional, Bogotá.

Costa Rica: Oficina de Depósito, Reparto y Canje Internacional, San José.

El Salvador: Museo Nacional, San Salvador.

Guatemala: Instituto Nacional de Guatemala, Guatemala.

Honduras: Biblioteca Nacional, Tegucigalpa.

México: Todos los envíos gozan de la franquicia del correo.

Nicaragua: Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Managua.

Paraguay: Oficina General de Informaciones y Canje y Comisaría General de Inmigración, Asunción.

Perú: Biblioteca Nacional, Lima.

Uruguay: Oficina de Depósito, Reparto y Canje Internacional, Montevideo.

Venezuela: Museo Nacional, Caracas.

Mr. J. Holt Schooling ha publicado en el periódico "Fortnightly Review" un interesante estudio comparativo sobre la fuerza de las siete primeras potencias navales del mundo.

Dice que es más difícil hacer comparaciones entre el poder naval de las naciones que entre su poder militar, porque hay que tener en cuenta muchos factores que complican un tanto el problema. No basta simplemente contar el número de barcos, aun tratándose de los de primera clase, sino que hay que tomar en consideración el tamaño, la velocidad, blindaje, armamento, etc. En su artículo Mr. Schooling da tanta importancia á la edad de los buques como á su tonelaje, y

sostiene que barcos de la misma clase, tamaño y edad son, prácticamente, de la misma fuerza. Aunque esto puede no ser absolutamente correcto, ofrece, sin embargo, una buena base para hacer comparaciones. Las reglas de Mr. SCHOOLING aplicadas á la fuerza naval de las diferentes naciones modifican la posición que éstas han ocupado, calculada de conformidad con el tonelaje de sus flotas, y resultaría que el primer lugar lo ocuparía la Gran Bretaña, el segundo Rusia, el tercero Francia, el cuarto los Estados Unidos, el quinto Alemania, el sexto Italia y el sépimo el Japón.

La revista alemana "Pettermanns Mitteilungen," Número VII, 1900, publica un artículo del Doctor CARL SAPPER sobre los volcanes de Guatemala y el Salvador. El artículo está illustrado con varios cróquis de dichos volcanes, hechos á escala, como sigue:

Volcán de Pacaya, á 1:40,000; volcán de Sumasate, á 1:7,000; el Azufral de Teocamburro, á 1:7,000; el lago de azufre de Axpaco, á 1:7,000; el volcán de Buena Vista, á 1:10,000; el volcán de Suchitán, á 1:20,000; el cráter del volcán de San Vicente, á 1:10,000; el volcán El Teconal, á 1:10,000; el volcán de la Hoya, 1:10,000; el cráter del volcán de San Miguel, á 1:10,000, y el volcán de las Víboras, á 1:10,000.

El Doctor SAPPER relata las ascenciones que realizó y los resultados que durante ellas obtuvo. Al citar varias autoridades que han escrito sobre el mismo asunto, el autor menciona los informes que contienen las investigaciones hechas por la Comisión del Ferrocarril Intercontinental en 1892. Estos informes se publicaron en 1899, pero se distribuyeron muy pocos ejemplares de ellos.

Ha llegado á la Oficina un volúmen titulado "Sociedad Mexicana de Geografía y Estadística," boletín especial para el cuadragésimo noveno aniversario de la fundación de la Sociedad. Contiene, entre otras cosas interesantes, el dictamen de la Comisión nombrada para emitir su juicio respecto á la invitación que recibió la sociedad para concurrir á la Exposición de Búfalo. En el curso del dictamen la Comisión se expresa así: "Interpretando el pensamiento que creó la Exposición de Búfalo, la Comisión cree que la mejor manera que tiene la Sociedad para concurrir al certamen es presentando los siguientes trabajos: 1°, un libro que se titulará 'El Progreso de México en el Siglo XIX;' 2°, un ejemplar del Boletín, como órgano que es de la Sociedad; y 3°, un Cuadro sinóptico, geográfico-estadístico de la República mexicana."

El Señor MARTÍN GARCÍA MÉROU, Ministro Plenipotenciario que fué de la República Argentina en Wáshington, ha dado publicidad á un libro de notable mérito, donde están consignadas, con excelente método y correctísimo estilo, multitud de datos de índole distinta, pro-

ducto de las juiciosas observaciones y concienzudos estudios políticos y económicos que pudo realizar durante el tiempo que estuvo desempeñando el importante cargo de representante diplomático en Wáshington.

La obra, que justifica perfectamente la fama de que goza su autor como hombre erudito y estudioso, es un caudal de preciosos conocimientos, políticos, científicos y sociales, de agradable y provechosa lectura. La referida importante obra lleva por título "Estudios Americanos," y está editada por la casa Lajouane.

Se cree estará terminado para el día 1° de noviembre de 1900 un Directorio completo de la ciudad de México, del cual son autores dos jóvenes periodistas de dicha ciudad. La obra llevará por título "Gringoes in Mexico." Contendrá no sólo los nombres y direcciones de los comerciantes cuyo idioma nativo es el inglés, sino también una lista de las principales casas de comercio de la ciudad, con los nombres y direcciones de todos sus empleados que tengan por idioma nativo el inglés. Contendrá, también, un directorio social, una lista de los empleados municipales y del Gobiero, sitios de interés dentro y fuera de la población, edificios públicos, nombre y situación de las iglesias, hoteles, etc., y un plano de la población.

La Compañía del Ferrocarril de Chicago, Milwaukee y San Luís acaba de publicar un pequeño folleto que lleva por título ¿ Qué hora es? arreglado por Mr. James R. Wilson, de Chicago.

La obrita está llena de curiosos informes respecto á los métodos usados para determinar la hora en cualquier país. Contiene unas tablas por las que puede averiguarse la hora que es en cualquiera parte del mundo, tomando por base la hora oficial de los Estados Unidos. La diferencia de la hora entre algunos puntos de Europa y los Estados Unidos es tal que un suceso acaecido en uno de aquéllos, digamos en la madrugada del domingo, puede ser publicado en la prensa de los Estados Unidos el sábado.

Anuncia "La Nación," de Buenos Aires, que el ex-catedrático de Instrucción Cívica del Colegio Nacional de Córdoba, Don Benjamin E. del Castillo, ha publicado en aquella ciudad un estudio histórico y de Derecho Constitucional con el título de "Constituciones de las Provincias." En dicha obra el Señor Castillo estudia los antecedentes constitucionales de la república desde la independencia, pasando luego á hacer un examen de algunos de los artículos más importantes de la Constitución actual, ocupándose luego de las relaciones entre la nación y las provincias, y de las facultades de una y otras.

El Departamento de Marina de los Estados Unidos ha publicado últimamente un trabajo preparado por Mr. Philip Hichborn, Constructor en Jefe de la Armada de los Estados Unidos.

El título de la obra es el siguiente: "Standard Designs for Boats of the United States Navy." Los tipos de navíos pertenecientes á los Estados Unidos han sufrido una verdadera evolución debido á las condiciones especiales á que se debe hacer frente, y el libro en referencia contiene una relación completa del actual sistema de construcciones navales. Al tratarse de cada barco se dan diseños, planos, presupuestos, etc.

Se ha recibido en esta Oficina el número 3 de "El Boletín de la Sociedad de Geografía y Estadísticia de la República Mexicana." Contiene la primera parte de un tratado muy instructivo é interesante, con el título de "Arte de la Lengua Mexicana," obra del P. Horacio Carochi, de la Compañía de Jesús, compendiada por el P. Ignacio Paredes, de la misma Compañía. El trabajo revela que su autor poseía profundos conocimientos filológicos.

Mr. Richard E. Chism, de la ciudad de México, es el autor de una obra que se titula "Enciclopedia de las Leyes de Minas de México," que consta de 201 páginas y es de gran utilidad para todas aquellas personas que se interesan en la leyes mineras de México. El índice que contiene es tan comprensible que su consulta se hace sumamente fácil. Tiene como apéndice una lista de términos mineros usados en México.

Con el título de "Prontuario Alfabético" ha publicado el Directorio General de Estadísticas del Brasil una obra en la cual se consignan los distritos municipales de la República, agrupados bajo los estados á que corresponden. Sao Paulo tiene el mayor número de ellos, correspondiéndole 167; luego sigue Bahía con 126 y Minas Geraes con 124. El estado de Matto Grosso, á pesar de su enorme área superficial, contiene sólo 12 distritos municipales.

El Secretario de la Legacíon del Japón en Río de Janeiro hizo hace varios meses un viaje de observación por la República Argentina. Las impresiones de dicho viaje, lo mismo que cuantos informes de interés pudo recoger durante el mismo, los ha consignado el ilustrado diplomático japonés en un libro escrito en su propio idioma, incluyendo en esa obra un estudio crítico acerca del estado social y comercial del Brasil, producto también de su vasta inteligencia y espíritu observador.

Don Crisanto Medina ha escrito un libro en francés titulado "Le Nicaragua en 1900." El Señor Medina, al escribir está obra, tenía por objetivo el llamar la atención de los concurrentes á la Exposición de París hacia los productos de Nicaragua, poniendo de manifiesto la importancia comercial de los mismos. Forma parte de tan útil como importante obra una breve reseña de los artículos que se encuentran en exhibición en el Pabellón de la república de Nicaragua.

Se ha recibido en esta Oficina un ejemplar del "Boletín del Instituto Científico y Literario 'Porfirio Díaz.'" Su amena é interesante lectura demuestran el talento con que se lleva su dirección, lo mismo que el buen juicio y criterio de sus fundadores, admitiendo como colaboradores sólo plumas de mérito indiscutibles, según se trasluce por las firmas de los interesantes artículos que aparecen en el número que ha llegado á nuestro poder.

Las lecciones de psicología que ha publicado el ilustrado catedrático del Colegio Nacional de Buenos Aires, Don Martín Deden, son una prueba del talento é ilustración de su autor, que ocupa la cátedra de filosofía de dicho Colegio. Las lecciones están perfectamente adaptadas al programa que se sigue en el Colegio y están explicadas en un estilo á la par que castizo y elegante, sumamente sencillo y comprensible.

Han llegado á esta Oficina dos ediciones de la "Revista del Instituto Paraguayo," colmadas de juiciosos estudios críticos, históricos, científicos y literarios. Su redacción es excelente y su impresión perfecta. Dada la indudable utilidad y méritos de esta Revista, su vida no puede menos de ser larga, y los propósitos que su publicación entraña no hay duda alguna serán coronados por un éxito completo.

Ha comenzado á publicarse en Honduras un importante trabajo de don Rafael Bermúdez de Castro, sobre la historia de las Bibliotecas, que contiene datos muy interesantes relativos á la materia de que trata, y es indudable que el autor ha dedicado mucho tiempo á sus investigaciones, que revelan, al par que gran erudición literara, notable laboriosidad.

El Señor Don Pablo Pudwig, de Buenos Aires, es el autor de un hermoso plano de equella ciudad. El plano comprende no sólo el perímetro de la población misma, sino los barrios situados en su parte sud, así como la situación del muelle en proyecto y las calles trazadas para el ensanche de ese lado de la ciudad.

BOLETIM MENSAL

DA

SECRETARIA DAS REPUBLICAS AMERICANAS,

União Internacional das Republicas Americanas.

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BRAZIL.

IMPORTAÇÃO PELA ALFANDEGA DO RIO.

Quadro demonstrativo da importação directa do estrangeiro para a Alfandega do Rio em 1898 e 1899.

	Valor official.	
	1898.	1899.
De Allemanha	25,801:735$352	23,580:818$871
De Argentina	27,132:209$842	20,964:903$025
Austria	513:200$816	492:647$774
Belgica	8,332:872$316	8,893:784$355
Chile	2,300:915$713	1,076:740$851
Estados Unidos	18,547:473$219	17,866:616$185
França	25,512:480$707	23,217:128$872
Grã Bretanha e possessões	98,037:127$447	88,812:415$426
Hespanha	2,249:378$945	2,058:900$408
Hollanda	189:369$500	197:195$783
Italia	4,696:992$526	5,800:769$865
Portugal	14,280:674$811	12,883:110$420
Russia	2:814$000	10:839$166
Suecia	7:365$600	168:194$100
Suissa	77:525$166	162:845$316
Uruguay	12,383:195$300	14,467:711$765
Diversos	3:105$600	32:362$010

EXPORTAÇÃO.

Acaba de ser publicado o primeiro numero do Boletim do serviço de Estatistica Commercial, sob a direcção do Sr. J. P. WILLEMAN.

Esse boletim contem os seguintes dados estatisticos sobre a exportação pelos portos do Rio de Janeiro e Santos, Estancia e Aracajú no primeiro trimestre deste anno e pelos portos do Estado do Maranhão

em Janeiro e Fevereiro. O valor total da exportação nesse periodo foi de 117,871,802 milreis, assim distribuida:

Europa:	
Allemanha	10,764:723$000
Austria	6,304:378$000
Belgica	2,459:105$000
França	3,158:900$000
Grã Bretanha	5,466:491$000
Hespanha	4:610$000
Hollanda	6,899:744$000
Italia	1,542:580$000
Portugal	448:384$000
Canal (á ordem)	660:300$000
Outros paizes	993:443$000
America:	
Argentina	925:030$000
Chile	11:269$000
Estados Unidos	77,033:073$000
Uruguay	151:478$000
Asia: China e Japão	140:800$000
Africa: Todos os Paizes	907:394$000
Total	117,871:802$000

ESTRADA DE FERRO DO RIO GRANDE A BAGÉ.

[Extrahimos do "Jornal do Commercio."]

O relatorio da Directoria da *Southern Brazilian Rio Grande do Sul Railway Company* (*Limited*) para o anno de 1899 diz que a receita bruta da estrada de ferro foi de 1.717:546$, contra 1.504:938$ no anno anterior, e as despezas no Brazil forão de 1.533:109$ contra 1.296:895$ em 1898.

As despezas em Londres montárão a £3,250, comparadas com £3,282 no anno anterior; o resultado total das operações no Brazil e em Londres foi um lucro de £2,276, comparadas com um lucro de £3,480 no anno anterior, e um prejuizo de £1,641 em 1897.

O augmento nas despezas de custeio foi devido ás grandes chuvas de 1898 e 1899, que tornárão necessarios grandes reparos o anno passado, que custárão 102.477$000.

A garantia para 1899 foi paga em *funding bonds*. Os titulos recebidos para o semestre terminado em Julho venderão-se por £44,903, sendo o seu preço médio de 84—2—5; a importancia devida pelo Governo para o mesmo periodo era de £53.240.

Os titulos do 2° semestre, recebidos depois de fechadas as contas, forão vendidos por um preço medio de 84 por cento realisando £44,762.

A Directoria recebeu a sua remuneração em *funding bonds*, e a receita foi creditada com a importancia devolvida, como no anno precedente.

Depois de pagos os juros dos debentures devidos em 1 de Outubro

de 1899, e distribuido um dividendo provisorio á razão de 3 por cento por anno, ficou um saldo de £66,862, inclusive o saldo transferido do exercicio anterior.

Pagos os juros dos debentures devidos em 1 de Abril de 1900, ficou um saldo liquido de £35,889, do qual a Directoria recommendava que se distribuisse um dividendo para o 2° semestre de 1899, á razão de 5 por cento ao anno, ou 10s. por acção, livres de impostos, o que faria uma distribuição total de 4 por cento para o anno todo, deixando um saldo de £20,889 para passar para o exercicio seguinte.

FORÇA HYDRAULICA EM MINAS.

Extrahimos do "Minas Geraes:"

"Companhia S. Bento, de Santa Barbara, contratou a compra dos terrenos que marginão a cachoeira do Paty, existente no rio Santa Barbara, distante dez kilometros mais ou menos da cidade do mesmo nome, para aproveitar a força motora da dita cachoeira em beneficio da sua mineração.

"Constitue uma das grandes riquezas do centro do Estado de Minas a poderosa e quasi prodigiosa força motora apresentada pelas quédas de agua, tal como a da cachoeira do Salto do caudaloso rio Piracicaba, no districto de Antonio Dias Abaixo. Esta cachoeira, descripta na 'Revista do Archivo Publico Mineiro' (anno de 1898, III), é uma magestosa quéda d'agua em tres tombos, estreitamente serrados de granito, formando a altura de 40 metros, sendo a entrada de agua num canal de não mais de 3 metros e distando, segundo o 'Diccionario Geographico das Minas de Brazil' (pag. 587), 20 leguas do centro da zona aurifera de Minas, que é a cidade do Caethé, conforme os dados fornecidos pelo Dr. Paul Ferrand, na sua obra *L'or á Minas Geraes.*

"Sob este aspecto, o centro de Minas é superior ao Transvaal para a exploração da industria extractiva do ouro, porquanto as emprezas de mineração da Republica Sul-africana só tem como motor o vapor, ao passo que as quédas d'agua das vertentes dos rios S. Francisco e Doce, dos quaes a serra do Espinhaço é a linha divisoria, constitue o motor natural das emprezas industriaes.

"Devido a isto a zona central de Minas constitue já a zona essencialmente fabril do Estado, pois nella, poucas leguas distante da nova Capital, estão installadas as fabricas de tecidos de Pitanguy, Curvello, Sete Lagôas, Sabará, Santa Barbara e outras, a Ceramica Nacional do Dr. João Pinheiro da Silva, as fabricas de ferro e as emprezas destinadas á extracção do manganez.

"Portanto, não tardará muito a soar o momento em que o centro de Minas dominará industrialmente toda a America do Sul, confirmando-se a verdade enunciada pelo Dr. Gorceix de que Minas é um coração de ouro num peito de ferro."

NOTICIAS MINEIRAS.

Extrahimos do "Jornal de Minas:"

"Esteve na cidade Alta do Rio Doce, fazendo estudo sobre a jazida de malacacheta, de propriedade do cidadão JOAQUIM FRANCISCO DE ARAUJO, o Dr. ADOLPHO GOMES DE ALBUQUERQUE.

"Apresentou elle ao proprietario acima um relatorio copioso de informações scientificas, sobre a riqueza da jazida em mineraes e especialmente com relação ao *kaolin*, alli encontrado em abundantissima quantidade e optima qualidade para o fabrico de fina porcellana.

"A jazida, distante desta cidade 20 kilometros, está situada a 0° 3′ de latitude e 20° 56′ de longitude occidental do meridiano do observatorio astronomico do Rio de Janeiro.

"A *malacacheta* é encontrada em uma área de 40,000 metros quadrados, e o terreno, de natureza metamorphica, azoica e precambiana, é constituido por schistos micaceos, chloritosos, quartosos, argillosos, etc. Da analyse qualificativa conclue-se que a malacacheta é formada de silicatos de protoxydo e sesquioxydo de alumina, magnesia, potassa, soda é lithina, podendo-se affirmar, á vista dos blócos da camada superior, medirem as placas convenientemente cortadas 10.^{m}28 por 0.^{m}18."

ESTRADA DE FERRO DAS ALAGÔAS.

Extrahimos do "Jornal do Commercio" a notica seguinte:

"Realisou-se em Londres, em 27 do mez passado, a assembléa geral ordinaria dos accionistas da *Alagoas Railway Company, Limited*, sob a presidencia do Sr. JOHN BEATON, Presidente da Companhia.

"O Sr. BEATON, ao submetter o relatorio e as contas á approvação dos accionistas, disse que a rigorosa secca a que elle se referio na ultima assembléa geral foi seguida de uma estação muito secca, que impedio o pleno desenvolvimento das safras, com o resultado inevitavel de diminuir o trafego da estrada.

"Ainda assim, se a reducção da receita foi de 10 por cento, poude a Directoria fazer uma reducção de 14 por cento nas despezas e assim apresentar um saldo maior do que em 1898, a saber, de 213,000$ contra 204,000$. Pelo que diz respeito á reducção das despezas, realisou-se ella apezar das difficuldades com que teve de lutar o superintendente. O saldo de 213,000$ representa a taxa de 7 d. por mil réis, taxa em 31 de Dezembro ultimo, £6,226, e deduzinte desta somma as despezas de administração e escriptorio em Londres (£2,606), o lucro liquido seria de £3,620, importancia que se elevaria a £4,826, se o saldo em moeda papel fosse convertido á taxa de cambio corrente de 8$\frac{3}{8}$ d. Não se levou em conta de £2,853 relativa á 'conta de cambio em suspenso,' porque nada tem que ver com as despezas de custeio.

"Foi, porém, bom que o resultado das operações do anno habilitasse o resgate de parte desta somma, e como resta apenas um saldo de £2,251 no debito desta velha conta, ha toda razão para suppor que na proxima assembléa geral esteja ella inteiramente saldada.

"Os *fundings bonds* recebidos por conta da garantia de juros sobre o capital da linha principal, relativos a 1899, forão vendidos por uma média de preço de £83 13s. 6d. por cento, o que deixou um *deficit* de £5,852 sobre a importancia de £35,854, devidos á Companhia. Esta somma accrescentada ao *deficit*, igual relativo ao anno anterior, alcança a um total de £12,224, que representa 2 por cento por anno sobre o capital em acções de £305,000.

"Voltando ao balanço, diz o Sr. BEATON que a Directoria recebeu a importancia de £1,243, do total de £5,652, devido pelo Governo por conta de despezas em Londres. Observar se-ha que do lado do debito ha um item de £4,000 na conta de emprestimo, que foi um adiantamento temporario contra letras a receber por conta semelhante do outro lado.

"O saldo da conta de renda liquida monta a £33,381 e a Directoria recommendou a distribuicão de um dividendo de 12s. por acção, ou 3 por cento sobre o capital da Companhia. Isto absorverá £9,000, deixando um saldo de £24,381 para ser transportado para o exercicio seguinte, cumprindo lembrar que esta importancia comprehende as importancias devidas pelo Governo a saber, £15,000.

"Pelo que diz respeito ao futuro da estrada, é sabido dos accionistas que o desenvolvimento do trafego tem-se retardado ha annos devido a causas independentes da acção da Directoria, mas ha toda esperança que os preços mais altos do assucar e do algodão estimularão a producção do districto servido pela estrada, de modo a trazer augmento de trafego. O Sr. BEATON quereria applicar a mesma observação á renda annual, mas emquanto o cambio permanecer abaixo de 21½d., a Companhia ficará sujeita a um prejuizo proporcional á depreciação do papel moeda, na conversão da garantia de juros em papel sobre o capital do Ramal. O anno passado montou esse prejuizo a £6,512, fazendo o prejuizo total da renda proveniente dessa fonte a £46,000.

"Depois os pagamentos por conta da garantia de juros em esterlino trouxe maior reducção de receita, na importancia de £5.852, representando mais de 4 por cento ao anno sobre o capital da Companhia.

"Ha toda razão de esperar-se que se dê melhora, não sómente no cambio como tambem na situação financeira do Governo brazileiro. Não ha duvida que o anno de 1900 será muito importante na historia financeira do Brazil, porque o *funding scheme* ha de mostrar pela primeira vez todo o seu effeito."

RELATORIO DA COMPANHIA PERNAMBUCANA DE NAVEGAÇÃO EM 1899.

Da "Revista Industrial e Mercantil" extrahimos o seguinte:

"A companhia fez durante o anno 112 viagens redondas, nas quaes foram navegadas 106,380 milhas e transportados 13,726 passageiros, 689,511 volumes de carga e 6,058:680$125 em dinheiro.

"O serviço da navegação, que é feito desde 1853 sem interrupção

alguma, effectuou-se com toda a regularidade, não só nas linhas subvencionadas pelo Governo Federal, como tambem nas escalas e linhas extraordinarias, fóra da zona contractada, estendendo-se ao norte até Manáos e ao Sul até Santos.

"A receita foi de rs: 2,491:989$797 e a despeza de 2,210:419$020, dando o saldo 281:570 $768.

"Na despeza foi incluida a verba de 291:301$883, despendida com os vapores e renovação do material nos quaes a Directoria de gerencia da companhia se acham empenhadas, para tentarem um largo e progressivo augmento do serviço."

CHILE.

CONTRATO DE NAVEGAÇÃO.

O Diario Official da Republica publica os termos de um contrato celebrado entre o Governo e a Companhia de Navegação por Vapor no Pacifico.

A companhia obriga-se pelo dito contrato a conduzir toda a correspondencia que a Direcção Geral de Correios disponha se entregue para os portos da costa do Pacifico em que na actualidade tocam os vapores e nos que mais tarde façam escala.

O menor numero de viagens que haverão de fazer os vapores será o seguinte: Entre Valparaiso e Ocós, duas por mez; entre Valparaiso e Melipulli, duas por mez; entre Valparaiso e Liverpool, uma por mez.

A permanencia dos vapores em cada um dos portos de Chile será, pelo menos, de duas horas, a menos que as malas se tenham entregue antes de que o dito periodo tenha transcorrido.

Salvo caso fortuito, força maior ou outra circumstancia imprevista, os vapores não devem empregar em cada viagem maior numero de dias do fixado em seu itinerario. Não poderá a companhia retardar a sahida de um barco do porto de Valparaiso mais de 24 horas, a não ser que a demora esteja justificada por qualquer das causas anteditas.

Si a companhia deixar de fazer uma viagem, já seja ao norte, ao sul ou á Europa, pagará uma multa de $3,000. Si no transcurso de um anno tiver deixado de fazer duas viagens, o Governo poderá rescindir o presente contrato.

Fica terminantemente prohibido levar a bordo polvora, dynamite, nitro-glycerina ou qualquer outro artigo inflammavel ou perigoso.

"O Governo fixará no projecto de lei de orçamento para 1901, a quantia de £6,720 como subvenção annual á companhia.

A companhia compromette-se a fazer ao Governo varios abatimentos nas tarifas de passagens e fretes.

Fica entendido que no caso de guerra entre qualquer das Republicas da costa, a companhia não tem a obrigação de levar a bordo de seus barcos nem tropas nem munições, devendo os ditos barcos observar a mais estricta neutralidade.

O contrato durará cincó annos, si o Congresso Nacional concede os fundos para o pagamento da subvenção accordada, e poderá prolongar-se indefinidamente por accordo das partes contratantes sob condições iguaes.

SOCIEDADE DE SEGUROS "LA CONTINENTAL."

Tem-se estabelecido sob a denominação de "La Continental," com sede na cidade de Valparaiso, uma sociedade anonyma, com o objecto de assegurar valores contra incendios e riscos de mar e executar os contratos necessarios para o mais seguro e vantajoso emprego dos fundos sociaes. Tambem poderá estender-se a verificar seguros de qualquer outra natureza, si assim o decidir a Assemblea Geral de Accionistas.

SOCIEDADE COOPERATIVA PARA A FABRICAÇÃO DE CERVEJA.

Tem-se fundado em Santiago de Chile uma sociedade anonyma com o nome que encabeça estas linhas. Sua duração será de trinta annos, contados desde a data da approvação legal de seus estatutos, podendo prorogar-se o prazo por maior tempo, si assim o acordar a Junta Geral de Accionistas. Como seu nome o indica, o objecto da sociedade é a fabricação de cerveja. Seu capital social será de $300,000, representado por 30 acções com um valor nominal de $10 cada uma.

EQUADOR.

PRODUCÇÃO DE CACÁO.

A "Revista Comercial" de Guayaquil, em sua edição de 31 de Maio de 1900, contem um relatorio pelo Presidente da Camara de Commercio daquella cidade sobre o commercio deste paiz no primeiro semestre de 1899. Segundo este relatorio a exportação de cacáo no dito periodo foi como se segue:

	Kilogrammas.
Guayaquil	24,072,499
Manta	73,317
Bahia	2,279,617
Esmeraldas	60,438
Puerto Bolivar	1,217,674
Total	27,703,545

Na producção do cacáo Equador occupa o primeiro lugar, com 30 por cento da producção total, como se pode ver do seguinte quadro:

Paizes.	Annos.	Toneladas.
Equador	1899	27,703
Trindade	1899	12,408
S. Thome	1899	12,047
Brazil	1898	10,272
Venezuela	1897	8,866
Santo Domingo	1898	3,789
Haiti	1899	2,018
Cuba	1896	1,440
Jamaica	1899	1,050
Perú	1898	604
Colombia	1898	553
Outros Paizes		12,278
Total		93,028

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

COMMERCIO COM OS PAIZES LATINO-AMERICANOS.

RELAÇÃO MENSAL DAS IMPORTÇÕES E EXPORTAÇÕES.

O quadro dado na pagina 337 é extrahido da relação compilada pelo chefe da Repartição de Estatistica do Ministerio da Fazenda, mostrando o commercio entre os Estados Unidos e os paizes latino-americanos. A relação corresponde ao mez de Junho de 1900, com uma relação comparativa para o periodo correspondente do anno anterior, assim como para os oito mezes findos em Junho 1900, comparados com os correspondentes de 1899. Deve-se explicar que os algarismos das varias alfandegas, mostrando as importações e exportações de um só mez, são recebidos no Ministerio da Fazenda até quasi o dia 20 do mez seguinte, e perde-se algum tempo necessariamente em sua compilação e impressão. Por conseguinte, as estatisticas para o mez de Junho, por exemplo, não são publicadas até os primeiros dias de Agosto.

A FABRICAÇÃO DE AROS PNEUMATICOS PARA RODAS.

Ao tratar deste assumpto, diz o "Scientific American" o que segue:

"O grande progresso da bicycletta e do automovel se deve, em grande parte, aos aros pneumaticos, pois esses vehiculos seriam insupportaveis por suas trepidações si não os levassem quando tratam de recorrer até 30 kilometros por hora. O aro pneumatico se compõe de tres partes: um circulo de borracha, chamado *camara*, onde se comprime ar por meio de uma bomba; *forro* ou banda, formado de borracha pegada em lona, que se oppõe ás dilatações anormaes da camara; e finalmente, a pina ou arco de aço de garganta, sobre o qual descansam as outras partes que compõem o aro.

"A tela é de algodão e se escolhe ella com muito cuidado. Antes de utilisar-se, é submettida á operação do engommadura. A tela passa

lentamente por um cylindro por debaixo de uma regoa que serve de barreira a uma dissolução espessa de borracha; depois se estende numa mesa quente, onde, evaporando-se a benzina se secca e retem a borracha. Algumas vezes a operação se faz em ambos lados da tela.

"A pina faz-se de aço delgado, resistente, que se lamina e a elle se dá forma. Depois de preparado esse aço, se calibra elle, pois a menor variação do seu diametro, ou impediria a collocacão do forro, si fosse demasiado grande, ou o faria imperfeito, se fosse muito pequeno.

A borracha é a unica substancia de que realmente consiste o aro, posto que as outras duas partes só lhe servem de apoio. As boas fabricas abandonam cada vez mais os methodos empiricos, para fazel-os hoje segundo processos scientificos. Assim é que em toda fabrica bem montada ha um laboratorio chimico e vehiculos especiaes para as provas que se fazem.

"Começa-se por cortar a borracha em pedaços que se lançam em umas tinas de agua tepida onde se abranda o material. Passam depois os pedaços por uma serie de trituradores formados por dous cylindros que rodam um contra o outro com velocidades distinctas, de onde sahem em pedacinhos cada vez mais delgados. Esta primeira operação, que se faz sempre sob uma corrente de agua, separa da borracha os restos de madeira, a arêa e outras substancias que talvez se lhe puzeram adrede.

"Terminada essa operação, passa a borracha a outras tinas de agua tepida onde acaba de abrandar-se. Em seguida passam os pedacinhos pelos laminadores, compostos de dous cylindros lisos que os laminam e estendem em tiras largas. Estas, laminadas de novo, acabam por pegar-se e constituir uma especie de cinta de grão e grosso de um ou dous millimetros de espessura com uma largura de uns 20 metros. Durante toda a operação tem continuado a lavagem com agua.

"Como nesse estado a borracha cede ás mudanças atmospherica, abrandando-se ou endurecendo-se temporariamente pelo calor ou o frio, é submettida em seguida ao processo conhecido da volcanisação, ou seja a incorporação do enxofre. Essa incorporãçao de 4 a 10 por cento conserva as propriedades naturaes de elasticidade da borracha, e lhe permitte resistir as mudanças atmospherica sem abrandar-se nem endurecer-se."

O PLANTIO DAS TAMAREIRAS EM ARIZONA.

O Departamento da Agricultura dos Estados Unidos mandou recentemente uma consignação de tamareiras novas para o Territorio de Arizona, onde ficarão plantadas e cultivadas por peritos do Governo na esperança de que nasça de ahi uma nova industria para o pais. As arvores foram compradas nas possessões francezas do Norte da Africa por um agente especial do Departamento, o qual foi mandado á Algeria neste intuito pelo Secretario da Agricultura.

O Departamento da Agricultura tem feito experiencias desde alguns

annos na producção das tamareiras em Arizona, porém até agora não teve um exito completo. Tem-se provado que este fructo se dá no solo e no clima do Territorio, sendo a mais grande difficuldade a de conseguir boas arvores. Até agora as tamareiras de Arizona têm sido produzidas plantando a semente, com o resultado de que a metade das plantas maduradas não davam fructo, ao passo que o fructo das demais era relativamente máo. As arvores que se trouxeram da Algeria são das melhores que se poderam achar, tendo sido escolhidas com grande cuidado, especialmente no que diz respeito ás suas qualidades productoras.

As autoridades territoriaes estão cooperando com os funccionarios do Governo nesta experiencia e têm consagrado um grande terreno á cultura das tamarerias. As arvores têm de 3 a 5 annos de idade e cerca de 5 pés de altura; crê-se que começarão a fructificar dentro em 5 annos pouco mais ou menos.

EXPORTAÇÃO DE ASSUCAR DE PORTO RICO.

O consul-geral da Belgica nas Antilhas, em um relatorio que dirigiu ultimamente ao seu Governo, diz que a ilha de Porto Rico exportava outr'ora 60,000 toneladas de assucar por anno, das quaes 20,000 toneladas foram enviadas á Hespanha e o resto aos Estados Unidos. Mas devido ao facto de que os mercados da Hespanha estão agora fechados ao assucar de Porto Rico e a que muitos engenhos foram destruidos pelo temporal de 8 de Agosto, 1899, se crê que a producção total para 1900 apenas excederá 40,000 toneladas. Os methodos empregados na manufactura do assucar são muito primitivos e na opinião do consul a industria assucareira só poderá manter-se na ilha estabelecendo engenhos centraes com machinas as mais aperfeiçoadas e adoptando medidas proteccionistas.

AS FRUTAS DE CALIFORNIA.

A colheita de laranjas de California, que está para terminar, tem sido a mais grande que se tem obtido neste Estado. A principal estação da laranja na California é a de Dezembro até Maio, ainda que as arvores começam a produzir em Novembro e continuam até Julho. Podese obter a fruta fresca durante nove mezes do anno e por meio dos refrigeradores a laranja tem-se convertido em uma fruta de todo o anno. Ainda que se importam laranjas de Jamaica e Mexico, o oitenta e cinco por cento da quantidade que se consome nos Estados Unidos procede das laranjaes do paiz, pertencendo o maior numero dellas á California.

Muitos dos limões que se produzem na California se enviam á Nova York, mas a maior parte da colheita annual se consome na secção Oeste do pais até Chicago. Uma grande quantidade dos limões que se consomem nos Estados Unidos procede dos portos do Mediterráneo, de

onde se importam em grandes carregamentos. Nas subhastas de frutas em Nova York se vendem, mensalmente, de 100 a 200 mil de caixas de limões, tanto para o uso local como para o consumo geral.

Noventa por cento das ameixas que se consomem nos Estados Unidos são da California. Calcula-se que a colheita actual chegará a 120 ou talvez a 125 milhões de libras. A do anno passado foi de 65 milhões. Outr'ora se importavam as ameixas da Turquia e outros paizes da Europa, mas hoje não só não se fazem essas importações, mas os Estados Unidos exportam á França e Allemanha, em concurrencia com o producto tanto em qualidade como em preço.

Contam-se entre as frutas de California, de importancia commercial, os pecegos que se preparam, já seccos, em caixas e saccos de varios tamanhos. De igual modo se preparam os damascos, vendendo-se grandes quantidades de ambas frutas.

Tambem se dão e entram a formar parte do numero de frutas de importancia commercial, amendoas e nozes.

Noventa e nove por cento das passas que se consomem nos Estados Unidos procede da California.

A California produz tambem grandes quantidades de legumes que envia a diversas partes do paiz, tanto frescas como seccas e conservadas em latas.

HAITI.

AS ESTRADAS DE FERRO E O DESENVOLVIMENTO MINERAL.

Referindo-se ás riquezas mineraes de Haiti e ao que contribuirão as estradas de ferro ao seu desenvolvimento, o Sr. WILLIAM M. POWELL, Ministro dos Estados Unidos, diz que o que mais necessita a Republica são meios faceis de communicação. Accrescenta que o Governo tem outorgado ultimamente concessões para a construcção de vias ferreas, incluindo uma que porá em communicação as capitaes de Haiti e de Santo Domingo, ao mesmo tempo que abrirá ao commercio uma rica região mineira e agricola. Entre os que teem obtido concessões para a exploração de minas figuram alguns cidadãos dos Estados Unidos.

MEXICO.

IMPORTANTE CAMINHO DE FERRO.

Affirma um periodico de San Juan Bautista, que em San Luis, Estado de Missouri, Estados Unidos, se tem formado um poderoso syndicato americano, para a construcção de extensas linhas ferreas, e seu Presidente, o Sr. JOHN W. MIDGLEY, tem apresentado á Secretaria de Communicações e Obras Publicas um projecto de estrada de ferro,

que terá de ligar os Estados de Veracruz, Tabasco, Chiapas e Campeche, sendo seu ponto de partida um lugar dado no Estado de Veracruz e seu ponto terminal a cidade e porto de Campeche. O projecto, aceito sem objecção alguma, é dos mais importantes que se teem proposto, e será para Tabasco o passo mais adiantado na marcha do progresso. A via ferrea em questão porá esta parte do paiz em communicação com a capital da Republica e com a peninsula de Yucatan, fazendo mais commodo e barato o trafico. Segundo o traçado da via, a estrada de ferro atravessará regiões de immensa riqueza agricola, sobretudo terrenos cubertos de madeiras preciosas, tintureiras, resinosas, etc., regiões que produzirão, em abundancia prodigiosa, milho, arroz, café, cacáo, canna de assucar, tabacco, baunilha e grande diversidade de plantas fibrosas superiores ao henequen.

Outra das vantagens que terão estas comarcas, como consequencia da via ferrea descripta, será a fundação de numerosas colonias agricolas que a companhia constructora se compromette a estabelecer.

FABRICAS DE TECIDOS DE ALGODÃO.

A Republica do Mexico conta já com numerosas fabricas de tecidos de algodão, alcançando seu numero a 133, distribuidas pelos differentes Estados. Devido a que os industriaes teem começado desde agora a fazer seus pedidos, se crê que as importações de algodão no anno economico que começa, excederão em muito ás do semestre de Julho a Dezembro do anno passado.

VENEZUELA.

CONTRATO PARA O CULTIVO DA BORRACHA E GUTTA-PERCHA.

O Ministro de Fomento de Venezuela tem celebrado com o Sr. Juan Dall' Orso um contrato para a plantação e exploração da borracha e gutta-percha. O Governo dá em arrendamento ao contratante quinze leguas quadradas de terras devolutas. O contratante deverá submetter ao Ministerio de Fomento dentro do prazo de dous annos, a contar da data do contracto, o plano ou planos detalhados e firmados por um agrimensor publico ou por um engenheiro da Republica das citadas quinze leguas de terras devolutas. O contratante se obriga a pagar, como arrendamento, ao Governo Nacional a quantia de 40 bolivares em dinheiro de contado por cada cem kilogrammas de borracha que se exportarem, e assim mesmo se compromette a importar do Brazil a melhor semente da arvore denominada *Siphonia elastica*, ou *Hevéa brazileira*. O contratante poderá effectuar o cultivo e a exploração da borracha por si ou por meio de uma companhia que para este fim constituir, e terá direito a cortar nos mattos do Estado a madeira que

necessite para a construcção de officinas, depositos e habitações, sem ter de pagar nada por isto ao Governo Nacional.

O Governo permittirá a introducção livre de direitos aduaneiros das machinas e seus accessorios, vehiculos terrestres e fluviaes e de apparelhos de agricultura que sejam necessarios á empreza. O contratante se obriga a dar principio aos trabalhos um anno depois de firmado este contrato. O Governo concede ao contratante a livre navegação, isenta de todo imposto nacional creado ou por crear-se, dos rios, lagos e lagunas comprehendidos na concessão ou que conduzam naturalmente a ella. O contratante poderá introduzir por sua conta immigrantes para o estabelecimento de colonias, submettendo-se em tudo ás leis vigentes sobre a materia. A duração do contrato será de cincoenta annos e poderá ser transferido em todo ou em parte a qualquer outra pessoa ou companhia, previa a approvação do Governo; mas em nenhum caso a um governo estrangeiro. Terminados os cincoenta annos da duração do contrato, passará a empreza com todos seus terrenos e accessorios a ser propriedade do Governo nacional. O Governo não poderá gravar a empreza com nenhum imposto nacional. As duvidas e controversias que possam suscitar-se sobre a intelligencia e execução deste contrato serao decididas pelos tribunaes de Venezuela, conforme as leis da Republica, sem que possa este contrato ser em nenhum caso motivo de reclamações internacionaes.

TRATADO DE LIMITES ENTRE COSTA RICA E NICARAGUA.

Aos Commissarios de Limites de Costa Rica e Nicaragua:

Senhores: Em cumprimento do meu dever, como arbitro nas differenças que possam occorrer na tarefa de V. V., de traçar e demarcar a linha fronteira doz paizes que representam, fui chamado em Outubro ultimo, pela commissão de Nicaragua, a declarar que ponto da Bahia de Salinas ha de tomar-se como seu centro, para fixar definitivamente a fronteira, desde sua coincidencia com o rio Sapoa até sua terminação em dita Bahia. O trabalho de campo naquella epocha, estava cerca de San Carlos, e a obra por executar necessitava alguns mezes para chegar ao rio Sapoa; mas se solicitou a decisão de antemão, para dar tempo á discussão e além disto, evitar demora, quando o trabalho avançasse até aquelle ponto.

Com a instancia para que eu fixasse o ponto centrico da Bahia, apresentou a commissão nicaraguense uma exposição de seu modo de pensar sobre o assumpto, e alguns extractos dos trabalhos de uma commissão mixta anterior, que em 1890 se occupou da materia e pareceu estar não longe de um arranjo amigavel; mas que finalmente se dissolveu sem chegar a resultado algum.

Essa exposição do parecer da commissão nicaraguense foi transmittida immediatamente á commissão de Costa Rica, a quem se convidou para que fizesse a replica que tivesse por conveniente.

A ambas commissões se informou tambem, que posto que parecia possivel um arranjo amigavel, eu demoraria o pronunciamento do laudo na materia, pelo tempo que tal possibilidade parecesse persistir; e pedi que me informasse, de tempo em tempo, sobre a marcha do assumpto.

Não se chegou a tal arranjo. Tão pouco apresentou a commissão de Costa Rica exposição alguma acerca do parecer da commissão nicaraguense antes referido.

Entretanto, os encarregados do trabalho de campo avançarão prompto até o rio Sapoá, e terão então que suspender a obra, até que se determine o ponto centrico da Bahia de Salinas, indispensavel para poder fixar a direcção do rumo final da linha fronteira.

Para evitar esta demora e o conseguinte dispendio a ambos os Governos, não posso suspender por mais tempo meu laudo nesta materia. Mas convem advertir ao respeito, que meu laudo não constitue obstaculo para que se chegue, ainda todavia, ao arranjo amigavel.

No tratado de 1858 se concède aos commissionarios a faculdade "de desviar-se da linha recta astronomica entre Sapoá e Salinas, caso em que isto possam acordar-se para buscar limites naturaes."

Esta faculdade não fica em maneira alguma restringida ou limitada por meu laudo que sómente determina por onde haverá de correr uma linha astronomica.

Havendo, portanto, devidamente considerado por completo o assumpto, dou meu laudo como segue:

As estipulações do tratado de 1858 que tratam da materia são estas.

Do Artigo II.—"Do ponto em que a fronteira coincida com o rio Sapoá, o que pelo dito, deve distar duas milhas do lago, se tirará uma recta astronomica até o ponto central da Bahia de Salinas no mar do Sul, onde ficará terminada a demarcação do territorio das Republicas contratantes."

Do Artigo IV.—"A Bahia de San Juan del Norte, assim como a de Salinas, serão communs a ambas as Republicas; e por conseguinte o serão suas vantagens e a obrigação de concorrer a sua defesa."

A interpretação de todos os pontos duvidosos deste tratado foi submettida ao Presidente CLEVELAND em 1888; e seu laudo sobre a materia se deu nos seguintes muito claros termos:

"2. O ponto central da Bahia de Salinas ha de fixar-se, traçando uma linha recta atravez da bocca da Bahia, e determinando mathematicamente o centro da figura geometrica que resulte circumscripta pela dita linha recta e a praia da Bahia na baixa maré."

"3. Deve entender-se por ponto central da Bahia de Salinas o centro da figura geometrica formada como fica dito. O limite da Bahia

para o Oceano é uma linha recta traçada desde a extremidade de Punta Arranca Barba, e indo quasi directamente para o sul, até a parte mais occidental da terra immediata a Punta Zacate."

No allegado da commissão nicaraguense se sustem que o verdadeiro limite da Bahia devesse ser uma linha entre Punta Zacate e Punta Mala. Assim ficaria de uma a duas milhas dentro da linha fixada pelo laudo do Presidente Cleveland. Desnecessario é examinar os meritos desta pretensão. Pelo Tratado Matus-Pacheco, celebrado em Salvador o 27 de Março de 1896, esse laudo foi adoptado como lei para esta commissão.

O Artigo I daquelle Tratado diz:

"Os Governos contratantes se obrigam a nomear cada um uma commissão composta de dous engenheiros ou agrimensores, com o objecto de traçar devidamente a linha divisoria entre as Republicas de Costa Rica e Nicaragua, segundo o estabelece o Tratado de 15 de Abril de 1858 e o laudo arbitral do Presidente dos Estados Unidos da America do Norte, Mr. Grover Cleveland."

As faculdades arbitraes que se me conferiram pelo Artigo II desse Tratado, "para decidir qualquer classe de difficuldades que surgirem," é claro que hão de exercer-se sómente dentro dos limites assignalados pelo Artigo I. Alli onde a intelligencia do laudo do Presidente Cleveland não esteja em questão, careço de autoridade para separar-me d'elle.

Quanto ao trabalho inconcluso e parciaes convenios de 1890, foram todos abrogados pelo Tratado de 1895. É de notar-se que mediante a adopção amigavel proposta da linha de Punta Zacate a Punta Mala como limite da Bahia, haveria resultado accrescido o territorio de Nicaragua em cousa de tres quartos de milha de frente á costa.

Sustem-se, além disso, no allegado de Nicaragua que a linha desde Sapoá até o centro da Bahia perde seu caracter, como linha divisoria, alli onde deixa a costa e segue por sobre as aguas da Bahia. Isto, em effeito, parece deduzir-se do artigo IV do Tratado de 1858, ja citado, que declara communs as aguas da Bahia e do facto de que a linha conclue no centro da Bahia e não estende ao Oceano.

Mas, em minha opinião, as funcções desta commissão estão limitadas á definição e demarcação da linha divisoria entre as duas Republicas. O caracter legal da parte da linha tirada sobre a agua e talvez algumas questões de jurisdicção que possam surgir, estão pelo menos fóra do objecto da presente investigação, que é meramente determinar a locação do centro da Bahia de Salinas, tal como se descreve no laudo do Presidente Cleveland.

A Bahia de Salinas foi cuidadosamente medida e cartographiada por officiaes da Marinha dos Estados Unidos em 1885; e pela Repartição Hydrographica Naval dos Estados Unidos se publicou um mappa da mesma Bahia, sob o numero 1,025. De accordo com ambas as Com-

missões tenho adoptado esse mappa como a representação correcta do contorno da Bahia. Sua figura é a de uma bolsa curva que, desviando-se do Este, dobra para o Sul, como de cinco milhas de longitude e como da metade dessa medida de largura, por termo médio. Seu contorno se assemelha um pouco ao cabo redondeado de uma pistola, com algumas projecções irregulares.

Deseja-se achar o centro mathematico desta figura, cerrada pela linha recta que une as extremidades da Bahia. O centro mathematico de uma figura irregular é o ponto médio de sua area. Os centros mechanicos todos, taes como o de gravidade ou de equilibrio, etc., nos quaes actua uma força qualquer, teem que ser excluidos de consideração.

Isto resultará obvio, si considerarmos por um momento o caso de uma Bahia sob a forma de meia lua. O centro de gravidade de sua figura não cahiria de nenhuma maneira sobre a agua, mas sobre o terreno abraçado pela agua. É claro que isto não poderia ser considerado como o centro da Bahia.

Nem é applicavel procedimento geral mathematico algum, tal como o methodo das minimas quadradas. Este methodo dará o centro de um grupo de lugares distribuidos ao azar, mas a serem estes dispostos em forma de meia lua, o centro ficaria, não entre os mesmos, mas dentro do espaço convexo, que elles parcialmente circumdem.

A outros methodos ha que recorrer para achar o ponto médio de areas irregulares restrictas; e podem ser suggeridos muitos, mais ou menos applicaveis a differentes figuras. Mas bastará indicar aqui sómente o methodo que adoptei eu, como o mais adequado para a figura de que se trata, a qual affecta algo da forma curva ou crescente.

Tenho supposto um navio que do Oceano penetra na Bahia, por um ponto situado á igual distancia das extremidades da mesma, e que, tão approximadamente como é possivel, segue um curso equidistante das bordas oppostas, á direita e esquerda, até que tem penetrado até o ponto mais remoto da Bahia.

Este curso, ponteado cuidadosamente no mappa, si bem curvo, pode ser tomado como o eixo maior da Bahia.

A angulos rectos com elle, em differentes pontos, tenho traçado linhas rectas atravez da Bahia, que vão de costa á costa, e por meio de um planimetro tenho determinado a posição de uma linha tal que exactamente divida a area da Bahia em iguaes partes. Esta linha pode ser tomada como o correspondente eixo menor da Bahia e sua intersecção com o eixo maior será o centro da Bahia.

Situado naquelle ponto o supposto navio, uma linha tirada atravez da proa, perpendicular á da carreira, deixaria a frente daquella a metade das aguas da Bahia, e a outra metade ficaria detraz.

Tendo desta maneira localizado cuidadosamente o ponto, com a escala do mappa tenho determinado a distancia a que se acha do ponto

mais elevado da pequena ilha existente na Bahia, cuja longitude e latitude se dão no mappa, como segue:

	°	′	″
Latitude	11	03	10
Longitude	85	43	38

Resulta estar a trinta e sete segundos norte e quatorze segundos a l'este deste ponto.

Portanto, fixo a posição do centro da Bahia de Salinas, assim:

	°	′	″
Latitude norte	11	03	47
Longitude oeste	85	43	52

A este ponto tem de dirigir-se a linha fronteira, desde seu encontro com o rio Sapoá, salvo que as duas commissões possam convir em uma linha de limites naturaes.

Sou de V. V., muito respeitosamente, seu obediente servidor,

E. P. Alexander,
Engenheiro Arbitro.

PRODUCÇÃO DE CAFÉ NO MUNDO.

O Consul dos Estados Unidos em Malaga, o Sr. Richard M. Bartleman, remetteu á Secretaria de Estado em Washington, as seguintes informações relativas á producção de café no mundo durante os ultimos seis annos fiscaes:

Anno.	Producção.	Anno.	Producção.
1895–96	10,355,000	1898–99	13,723,000
1896–97	13,605,000	1899–1900	14,437,000
1897–98	16,178,000	1900–1901	13,975,000

As duas ultimas cifras, ainda que teem sido calculadas com grande cuidado, são simplesmente approximadas.

Os dados anteriormente citados demonstram que o consumo de café tem ido augmentando durante os ultimos quatro annos, quasi á razão de 1,000,000 de saccos por anno; e si os calculos feitos para a proxima colheita resultam confirmados e o consumo só fôr igual ao do anno precedente, se necessitarão mais de um milhão de saccas para supprir a demanda no anno vindouro, o que fará diminuir notavelmente as grandes quantidades de café que teem sido armazenadas durante os ultimos annos. Esta crença é o principal factor no bom aspecto que hoje apresenta o mercado. Os armazens de café em Europa teem soffrido uma diminuição de 3,000 toneladas por mez, e ainda ficam 232,550 toneladas. A quantidade de café que se sabe existe em todo o mundo em armazens ascende a 382,080 toneladas, havendo diminuido em 7,790 toneladas.

O MELAÇO COMO ALIMENTO.

No curso de um artigo publicado no "Louisiana Planter" sobre os productos da canna de assucar, se diz que a pequena colheita de 1899 trouxe como consequencia uma demanda crescida dos melaços de qualidade inferior. O baixo preço por que se tem vendido este artigo nos Estados Unidos durante muitos annos e o facto de que grandes quantidades delle se perdiam por falta de mercado, chamou a attenção dos criadores de Inglaterra que, reconhecendo as propriedades do melaço como substancia alimenticia para o gado, compraram grandes quantidades delle.

Esta applicação do melaço, até agora ignorada pelos fazendeiros americanos, tem sido extensamente discutida pelos agricultores da Luisiana, quem em vez de exportal-o aos baixos preços a que tem acostumado a vendel-o, tem resolvido utilizal-o na alimentação do gado, estando seguros de que deste modo não só realizam grandes economias, mas que melhoram a condição de seu gado notavelmente. Pelas experiencias que teem feito tem verificado que o melaço engorda o gado, tornando-lhe a pelle lisa e brilhante.

Crê-se que na proxima colheita de canna não haverá tanta abundancia de melaços inferiores e que talvez seja até insufficiente para supprir o mercado. Assim pois, os fazendeiros sómente o venderão no caso de que os preços que lhes offerecerem, justificarão sua venda, para, com seu producto comprar outro alimento para o gado. Mas ainda encontrando bons preços, o melaço, como alimento, é tão superior, que de neuhum modo devesse ser substituido por grãos, a não ser pela aveia, cujas propriedades nutritivas são iguaes, si não superiores, ás do melaço.

COMMERCIO INTERNACIONAL EM LINHAÇA.

Os principaes paizes productores de linhaça são os Estados Unidos, a Republica Argentina, Russia e India, os quaes produzem quasi 95 por cento da colheita do mundo. Em 1899, os Estados Unidos exportaram 2,830,991 alqueires de linhaça; a Republica Argentina, 8,517,909 alqueires; Russia, 6,682,143 alqueires, e India, 17,658,656 alqueires. A producção média annual destes paizes, durante os ultimos oito annos, é approximadamente de 36,373,000 alqueires. Para este total, a India tem contribuido com cerca de 43 por cento; Russia, com 35 por cento; a Republica Argentina, com um pouco mais de 17 por cento, e os Estados Unidos com 6 por cento.

Convem notar que a linhaça é um producto agricola que não tem utilidade como materia prima, excepto para os fins de semeação e

como um artigo de commercio. Sua utilidade depende da sua conversão em productos manufacturados. Por conseguinte, a reduzida exportação deste producto de um paiz pode significar grandes recursos manufactureiros e não uma pequena producção. Isto explica o lugar relativamente insignificante que occupam os Estados Unidos entre os paizes exportadores deste producto, assim como o lugar preeminente que occupa a India.

Na producção de linhaça, os Estados Unidos occupam o segundo lugar. Os dous productos manufacturados da linhaça são oleo de linhaça e massa de linhaça. Um alqueire de linhaça (56 libras) produz 30 por cento de oleo e 70 por cento de massa. Quasi toda a massa de linhaça que se fabrica nos Estados Unidos é exportada. Em 1897, a producção de linhaça nos Estados Unidos foi de 11,000,000 alqueires, ou 616,000,000 libras. Deste total, 70 por cento foi convertido em massa da linhaça. Em 1898, os Estados Unidos exportaram 436,206,321 libras de massa de linhaça. É evidente, portanto, que a importancia da linhaça como um artigo de exportacão dos Estados Unidos, depende principalmente da exportacão de productos manufacturados d'ella, especialmente da massa de oleo.

BIBLIOGRAPHIA.

Nesta secção do Boletim Mensal se tratará dos livros e folhetos enviados á Secretaria das Republicas Americanas que se referem a assumptos de interesse aos paizes da União Internacional das Republicas Americanas.

Tem chegado á Secretaria um volume intitulado "Sociedad Mexicana de Geografía y Estadística," boletim especial para o quadragesimo noveno anniversario da fundação da sociedade. Contem, entre outras cousas interessantes, o parecer da commissão nomeada para emittir seu juizo respeito á indicação que recebeu a sociedade para concorrer á Exposição de Buffalo. No curso do parecer a commissão se exprime assim: "Interpretando o pensamento que creou a Exposição de Buffalo, a Commissão crê que a melhor maneira que tem a sociedade para concorrer ao certamen é apresentando os seguintes trabalhos: 1° Um livro que se intitulará "El Progreso de México en el Siglo XIX;" 2° um exemplar do Boletim, como orgão que é da sociedade; e 3° Um quadro synoptico, geographico-estadistica da Republica Mexicana.

Annuncia "La Nación," de Buenos Aires, que o ex-cathedratico de instrucção civica do Collegio Nacional de Cordoba, o Sr. Dr. Benjamin E. del Castillo, tem publicado naquella cidade um estudo historico e de Direito Constitucional com o titulo de "Constituciones de las Provincias." Na dita obra o Sr. Castillo estuda os antecedentes

constitucionaes da Republica desde a Independencia, passando logo a fazer um exame de alguns dos artigos mais importantes da Constituição actual, occupando-se logo das reláções entre a nação e as provincias, e das faculdades de uma e outras.

Foi recebida nesta Secretaria o numero 3 do "Boletin de la Sociedad de Geografía y Estadística de la República Mexicana." Contem a primeira parte de um tratado muito instructivo e interessante com o titulo de "Arte de la Lengua Mexicana," obra do Sr. P. Horacio Carochi, da Companhia de Jesus, compendiada por P. Ignacio Paredes, da mesma companhia. O trabalho revela que seu autor possuia profundos conhecimentos philologicos.

A Repartição de Estatisticas dos Estados Unidos tem publicado uma monographia sobre a producção e o commercio de carvão do mundo, da qual uma parte especial é dedicada ao commercio de carvão dos Estados Unidos. Este livro contem numerosos quadros e diagrammas e dá um resumo comprehensivo do assumpto.

Bulletin Mensuel

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Bureau des Républiques Américaines,

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RÉPUBLIQUE ARGENTINE.

PUBLICATION ÉCONOMIQUE OFFICIELLE.

Le "Bulletin Officiel" (Boletín Oficial) du 4 mai 1900 contient le décret important suivant:

Attendu que, un des moyens les plus efficaces pour encourager l'immigration et attirer l'attention des capitales étrangères vers la République est une exposition claire de ses conditions sociales et fiscales; et attendu qu'il n'existe aucun ouvrage spécial pouvant montrer, d'une manière concise et positive, les différentes phases de notre développement politique, économique et intellectuel, le Président de la République décrète:

"Article 1er. Que le Directeur de la Bibliothèque Nationale, Señor Don P. Groussac, compile un livre sur la République Argentine qui devra embrasser, outre une description sommaire du pays, une étude de ses progrès économiques, sociologiques et intellectuels, ainsi que tels sujets historiques jugés nécessaires.

"Art. 2. Le livre dont il s'agit devra être imprimé, sous la direction de l'auteur, en espagnol, en français et en anglais, et devra être terminé le 31 juillet 1901.

"Art. 3. La rémunération qui sera donnée à Señor Groussac sera fixée en temps opportun et sera en rapport avec l'importance du travail.

"Art. 4. Le Ministère de l'Agriculture est chargé de l'exécution du présent décret."

ÉTABLISSEMENT D'AGENCES INDIENNES.

Le No. 1993 du journal officiel du Gouvernement, paru le 22 avril dernier, contient le texte complet de la loi relative à l'établissement de

missions Indiennes, semblables à celles des Etats-Unis, dans le territoire de Formosa, où 74,000 hectares de terrain ad hoc ont été réservés. Le but du Gouvernement est de prévoir les brigandages et les insurrections de la part de certaines tribus de sauvages indiens en initiant graduellement ces derniers à l'art de l'agriculture et les amener ainsi, petit à petit, sous l'influence d'une civilisation moderne. Les terrains, après un temps déterminé, deviendront la propriété de ces Indiens.

LA RECLAME NORD-AMÉRICAINE DANS LA RÉPUBLIQUE ARGENTINE.

Les grands progrès faits en ces derniers temps par l'importation des Etats-Unis dans la République Argentine, écrit le "Handels Museum," de Vienne, sont dus en grande partie, à la bonne qualité des marchandises, et à la réclame active et intelligente des maisons américaines. Les importations des Etats-Unis en 1899 ont augmenté par rapport à l'année précédente, non seulement pour les produits spéciaux de l'Union, tels que l'huile de coton et le pétrole, mais encore pour des articles où l'Amérique avait à lutter contre la concurrence de marchandises européennes déjà introduites sur le marché argentin. Alors que la plupart des fabricants étrangers se contentent de faire paraître une courte insertion en langue étrangère dans une feuille d'annonces, les différents fabricants et exportateurs américains envoient dans l'Argentine des rapports mensuels et même bi-mensuels, très bien rédigés, en langue espagnole. Ils procèdent, d'ailleurs, de même dans tous les pays.

Dans ces rapports, expédiés gratuitement, la production des fabriques, ainsi que leurs progrès techniques ou commerciaux, sont rendus visibles par le texte et l'image.

L'action prépondérante de la réclame nord-américaine est basée sur ce fait que les habitants de la République Argentine connaissant les langues étrangères ne forment qu'une minorité de la population, et par conséquent, dans le cas le plus favorable, cette minorité seule peut comprendre les annonces non rédigées en espagnol.

TRAITÉ AVEC L'ITALIE CONCERNANT LES DROITS DE PROPRIÉTÉ.

Le "Boletín Oficial" de Buenos Ayres, organe officiel de la République, promulgue, dans son numéro du 20 avril 1900, le traité relatif aux droits de propriété, passé avec l'Italie, à la conférence internationale qui a eu lieu à Montévidéo.

CAPITALE DU TERRITOIRE DE RIO-NEGRO.

Par décret en date du 9 mai 1900, publié dans le "Boletín Oficial" du 10 mai dernier, Viedma est déclarée la capitale du territoire de Rio-Negro.

SANATORIUM POUR LE TRAITEMENT DE LA TUBERCULOSE.

Le Gouvernement construira un sanatorium à Córdoba pour les personnes attaquées de la phtisie. Des mesures ont été prises dans ce but, afin de trouver $200,000. Le "Bulletin Officiel" (Boletín Oficial) du 1er mai dernier, publie un décret à l'égard du fonctionnement et de la direction de cette institution.

NOMINATIONS DE CONSULS.

Par décret paru dans le "Bulletin Officiel" du 6 mai 1900, Señor Don Silvio Silvera y Galvez a été nommé Consul à Matanzas, Cuba, et Señor Oscar M. de Rojas y Crusat, Vice-Consul à Cárdenas, Cuba.

NOUVEL INGÉNIEUR DU GOUVERNEMENT.

Le Gouvernement de la République Argentine vient d'engager Mr. E. L. Corthell, comme Ingénieur consultant, pour la navigation des ports. Le contrat fut négocié par le Consul-Général de la République à New-York, approuvé par le Président et légalisé dans un décret paru dans le "Bulletin Officiel" du 28 arvil dernier.

BRÉSIL.

LA CONVENTION FRANCO-BRÉSILIENNE.

La commission des douanes a approuvé le projet de loi sur les cafés présenté par le Gouvernement en exécution de la convention conclue avec le Brésil.

En voici les principales dispositions:

"Article 1er. Le droit minimum sur le café en fèves et pellicules est fixé à 136 francs par 100 kilos;

"Art. 2. Le tableau E annexé à la loi du 11 janvier 1892 est modifié comme suit:

"Café en fèves et pellicules: droit du tarif minimum métropolitain diminué de 78 francs.

"Art. 3. Le Gouvernement est autorisé à concéder par décret l'application du tarif minimum résultant de la loi du 11 janvier 1892 et des lois postérieures aux cafés et autres denrées coloniales originaires du Brésil, tant en France et en Algérie que dans les colonies et possessions françaises et pays de protectorat de l'Indo-Chine."

LONGUEUR DES VOIES FERRÉES.

Dans un rapport que Mr. Thomas C. Dawson, Secrétaire de la Légation des Etats-Unis à Rio de Janeiro, a adressé récemment au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères à Washington, ce fonctionnaire fournit

quelques données utiles concernant les chemins de fer du Brésil. D'après ce rapport, il paraît qu'il y a actuellement dans la République, 63 lignes de chemin de fer, opérant séparément. La longueur totale, livrée aux compagnies, est de 14,801 kilomètres (9,197 milles). De ce total, 1,462 kilomètres de voies (908 milles) ont 7 pieds de largeur (1.6 mètres ou $1\frac{3}{4}$ yards); 12,459 kilomètres (7,742 milles) ont une voie de un mètre de largeur (1.09 yards) et 887 kilomètres (551 milles) ont une voie de $\frac{3}{4}$ d'un mètre de largeur (2 pieds $4\frac{1}{8}$ pouces).

LA VITICULTURE DANS L'ÉTAT DE MINAS-GERAES.

M. le Dr. Americo Werneck, Ministre de l'Agriculture de cet Etat, y a considérablement développé la culture de la vigne.

Il a fait procéder dernièrement à une expérience des plus intéressantes—la fabrication de vins au moyen de ferments demandés à l'Institut Leclair en France.

Bien que ces ferments soient arrivés en retard, alors que les raisins destinés à l'expérience étaient déjà plus que mûrs, les résultats ont été des plus encourageants.

Le ferment de Château-Margaux, surtout, a servi à produire un vin supérieur à celui obtenu, d'après les procédés ordinaires, au moyen de raisin en bonne maturité.

TAXES IMPOSÉES AUX VOYAGEURS DE COMMERCE À PORTO ALLEGRE.

D'après un rapport du Consul d'Angleterre à Porto Allegre, les voyageurs de commerce visitant ce port sont assujettis aux taxes suivantes:

	Milreis.	Francs.
Voyageurs de maisons étrangères	500	585.00
Voyageurs de maisons brésiliennes	250	292.50
Voyageurs de maisons de l'Etat	100	117.00

Ces taxes sont valables pour un an et doivent être acquittées même si le voyageur montre ses échantillons par l'entremise d'une maison de commerce de la ville, laquelle est responsable de la taxe et passible d'une amende de 10 pour cent en cas d'infraction à la loi.

Il est à remarquer, toutefois, que la taxe en question n'est pas rigoureusement et uniformément exigée, bien que, dernièrement, plusieurs voyageurs aient été forcés de l'acquitter. En principe, il est vrai, la taxe est toujours exigible, surtout si la présence des voyageurs est dénoncée aux autorités, ce qui arrive parfois, par suite de l'animosité qu'éprouvent contre eux beaucoup de négociants locaux. Les maisons importantes de la place considèrent, en effet, que les voyageurs leur font tort en prenant de petites commandes chez leurs clients.

AUGMENTATION DANS LES RECETTES DOUANIÈRES DE MATTO GROSSO.

Depuis cinq ans, la recette a suivi une progression lente mais sensible; c'est ainsi qu'elle a passé de 440 contos en 1895 à 493 contos en 1896, à 708 contos en 1897, à 742 contos en 1898. En 1899, elle n'a été que de 661 contos en conséquence de la crise dont a souffert l'élevage.

La recette de l'exercice 1899 a été de 661 contos, soit près de 53 contos de plus que l'évaluation budgétaire, et la dépense totale s'est élevée à 678 contos de reis.

COMMISSION POUR ÉTUDIER LES FIÈVRES TROPICALES.

M. A. MILNE, secrétaire honoraire de "The Liverpool School of Tropical Diseases," a fait savoir à M. le Dr. PAES de CARVALHO qu'une commission de médecins anglais allait se rendre en Amazonie pour étudier, dans toutes leurs manifestations, les fièvres de la région que baignent l'Amazonas et ses affluents. La commission comprendra les Drs. DURHAM et WALTER MYERS et un naturaliste. On peut espérer les meilleurs résultats de cette prochaine visite, car les services rendus à la médecine par l'École de Liverpool sont bien connus.

L'EXPORTATION DE PARA EN 1898 ET 1899.

En 1898, la valeur officielle de l'exportation de Para a été de 131,102,162 contos or; en 1899 elle s'est élevée à 159,796,069 contos, soit une augmentation de 28,693,907 contos sur l'année antérieure.

CHILI.

DROITS DE DOUANE PERÇUS EN MAI 1900.

Voici, d'après le journal "El Mercurio" de Valparaiso, du 10 juin 1900, quels sont les droits de douane perçus dans la République pendant le mois de mai dernier:

Arica	$30,617.28	Valparaiso	$1,912,998.99
Pisagua	231,865.32	Talcahuano	367,949.25
Iquique	1,181,998.35	Coronel	47,904.90
Tocopilla	204,933.41	Valdivia	38,282.18
Antofagasta	66,990.21	Puerto Montt	3,375.03
Taltal	76,415.74	Ancud	46.50
Caldera	13,351.56		
Coquimbo	81,603.60	Total	4,258,332.32

CONTRAT DU GOUVERNEMENT AVEC LA COMPAGNIE DE BATEAUX À VAPEUR DU PACIFIQUE.

Le "Diario Oficial" de Santiago du 13 juin 1900 publie le contrat qui a été passé entre le Gouvernement et la Compagnie de bateaux à vapeur du Pacifique pour le transport des dépêches du Gouvernement,

celui des passagers et les marchandises dans la République et dans les ports des pays étrangers où les vaisseaux de la dite compagnie relâchent. Le Gouvernement accorde à la compagnie une subvention annuelle de $6,720, cette dernière s'engageant, en échange, de faire les réductions suivantes sur les prix du fret et des passagers:

Sur les troupes de l'armée et de la marine, les criminels, les passagers de 3e classe et le fret du Gouvernement entre Valparaiso et Punta Arenas, 75 pour cent.

Sur les employés civils et militaires, les immigrants et les personnes au service du Gouvernement qui voyagent en première classe entre les ports indiqués; les employés du Gouvernement de toutes sortes et les prisonniers voyageant de Valparaiso à Puerto Montt, Liverpool et les points intermédiaires; les indigents chiliens, repatriés par le Gouvernement, venant d'Europe en 3e classe, et que les agents du Gouvernement font passer par le détroit de Magellan, pourvu que leur nombre ne soit pas moins de cinquante sur chaque bateau, 50 pour cent. Le transport de lettres devra être fait gratis et de nombreuses réductions dans le tarif sont faites sur les affaires que le Gouvernement négocie dans la République.

Le contrat durera pendant cinq années, si le Gouvernement paye la subvention, et poura continuer indéfiniment, dans les mêmes conditions, avec le consentement des deux parties contractantes.

PROJET DE CRÉATION D'UNE LIGNE DE NAVIGATION CHILIENNE ENTRE VALPARAISO ET LIVERPOOL.

La "Revista Comercial" de Valparaiso annonce qu'un projet est actuellement soumis au Gouvernement chilien pour la création d'une ligne de navigation entre le Chili et l'Europe. On constituerait une flotte comprenant au minimum six vapeurs de 8,000 tonnes, naviguant sous pavillon chilien et qui relieraient Valparaiso et Iquique à Liverpool.

Le capital de la Société serait de 750,000 livres sterling en actions de 20 livres sterling. Une subvention annuelle de 50,000 livres sterling serait demandée au Gouvernement pendant les dix premières années de fonctionnement de la ligne.

L'industrie et le commerce chiliens fondent de grandes espérances sur cette entreprise, qui leur faciliterait l'écoulement de leurs produits en Europe.

EXPLOITATION DE DÉPÔTS DE GUANO.

Une concession vient d'être accordée à Messieurs Antonio Gordovez et Juan de Dios Olivares pour l'exploitation de dépôts de guano nouvellement découverts sur la côte voisine de Antofagasta. Le contrat prescrit que ce guano servira exclusivement à la consommation intérieure et la concession a été octroyée dans le seul but d'encourager et de rendre plus profitable l'industrie agricole de la République.

Les travaux devront commencer dans une période de six mois, à partir de la date de la ratification du contrat. Les prix auxquels cet engrais devra être vendu dans les différents ports du pays sont fixés dans le contrat.

AMÉLIORATION DANS LES ÉCOLES DE JEUNES FILLES.

Mrs. JUANA GREMLER, principale de l'Ecole de jeunes filles à Santiago, vient d'être envoyée en Europe par son Gouvernement, afin d'étudier dans ces pays, l'organisation et le fonctionnement des écoles similaires. A son retour, elle fera un rapport au Ministère de l'Instruction Publique, dans lequel elle fera connaître le résultat de ses investigations et recommendera tels changements qu'elle jugera nécessaires pour l'amélioration de cette classe d'écoles dans la République.

COMPAGNIE D'ASSURANCE SUR LA VIE "L'AMÉRIQUE DU SUD."

Le "Diario Oficial" de Santiago, du 2 juin 1900, publie en entier les statuts de "la Compagnie d'assurance sur la vie l'Amérique du Sud" de Rio Janeiro, Brésil, "Compañía de Seguros sobre la vida la Sud-América." Cette compagnie à laquelle on a accordé récemment le privilège de faire des affaires au Chili, établiera une succursale dans les principales villes de la République.

BREVET D'INVENTION POUR LA CONCENTRATION DES NITRATES.

Le "Diario Oficial" publie dans son numéro du 6 juin 1900 un acte accordant un brevet d'invention à MRS. NICOLAS PALACIOS et CHARLES F. MASSON pour avoir trouvé un nouveau procédé pour la concentration des nitrates. Les inventeurs ont deux années pour introduire leur invention dont ils auront après cela le droit exclusif pendant 20 ans.

TRAMWAYS ELECTRIQUES DE VALPARAISO.

Le "Diario Oficial" du 11 juin 1900 promulgue un décret approuvant les statuts de la Compagnie de Tramways électriques de la ville de Valparaiso. Ce journal publie aussi le texte entier de ces statuts. Cette compagnie, au capital de $1,200,000, en actions de $100 chacune, transportera les passagers de la ville de Valparaiso et des environs.

COLOMBIE.

AUGMENTATION DES DROITS D'IMPORTATION SUR LES BOISSONS.

En vertu d'un décret rendu le 21 mai 1900 par le chef civil et militaire du département de Panama, l'impôt qui grève l'introduction des liqueurs dans ce département est augmenté à partir du 1er juin de la présente année de la façon suivante:

Eau-de-vie ordinaire et ses composés provenant des autres départements ou de l'étranger, jusqu'à 21 degrés de l'ariomètre Cartier, 1 piastre 20 centavos par litre.

Boissons distillées, telles que cognac, genièvre, whisky, etc., jusqu'à 21 degrés, du même ariomètre, 1 piastre 20 centavos par litre.

Alcool, jusqu'à 42 degrés, 1 piastre 50 centavos par litre.

Alcool ayant plus de 42 degrés, 2 piastres 50 centavos par litre.

Liqueur de 22 à 42 degrés, 2 piastres par litre.

Liqueur pesant plus de 42 degrés, 3 piastres par litre.

Liquide condensé servant à la préparation des boissons imposées, 10 piastres par litre.

Essences destinées à d'autres industries, telles que celles de vanille, rose, etc., 2 piastres par kilogramme (poids brut).

Eaux minérales, non gazeuses, telles que Vichy, Oreza, Chantilly, etc., vendues comme eaux médicinales, 2½ centavos par kilogramme.

Eau de soda, limonade et toutes autres boissons gazeuses 5 centavos par kilogramme.

Vins désignés sous les noms de vin blanc, vin rouge, vin de Bordeaux, etc., en barriques, barils et dames-jeannes, 2½ centavos par kilogramme.

Vins connus sous les noms de vin blanc, vin rouge et vin de Bordeaux, en bouteilles, 5 centavos par kilogramme.

Bière blanche ou brune, bière de gingembre, ou autres, 10 centavos par kilogramme.

Boissons fermentées, non imposées spécialement, 10 centavos par kilogramme.

Sirops, 10 centavos par kilogramme.

Vins connus sous les noms de vin doux, vin sec, Malaga, Xérès, Oporto, etc., en barriques, barils et dames-jeannes, 10 centavos par kilogramme.

Vins connus sous les noms de vin doux, vin sec, Malaga, Xérès, Oporto, etc., en bouteilles, 12 centavos par kilogramme.

Champagne et vins mousseux, 25 centavos par kilogramme.

Amers et apéritifs de tous les noms et qualités, 20 centavos pas kilogramme.

Le paiement de l'impôt dont il s'agit se fera d'avance et au comptant par le propriétaire, importateur ou consignataire, dans le Bureau des Finances départementales du lieu où l'introduction aura été faite.

LIGNES DE NAVIGATION.

Les compagnies de navigation qui fréquentent régulièrement le port de Colon sont les suivantes:

Française, Compagnie Générale Transatlantique; Allemande, Hamburg-American Line; Américaine, Panama Rail Road Co.; Anglaise,

Royal Mail Steam Packet Co., Harrison Line, West India and Pacific S. S. Co., Prince Line; Espagnole Compañía Transatlántica Española; Italienne, La Veloce.

En sus de ces lignes, quelques vapeurs américains et anglais viennent à Colon chargés presque tous de charbon ou de bois et destinés aux approvisionnements du Panama Railroad et de la Compagnie Nouvelle du Canal.

Une ligne de vapeurs norvégiens fait aussi un service très actif pour le transport des bananes entre Colon, Bocas del Toro et la Nouvelle-Orléans.

MONOPOLE DE LA PÊCHE DES PERLES.

Le "Board of Trade Journal," de Londres, signale qu'un décret récent du Président de la Colombie stipule que la pêche des perles sur les côtes de la République fera dorénavant l'objet d'un monopole. Pour obtenir le droit exclusif d'exploiter les pêcheries, les concessionnaires devront payer, au Gouvernement colombien, une redevance d'au moins 25 pour cent du produit net, en sus d'une certaine somme en or. Le contrat qui sera passé à cette occasion devra être ratifié par le pouvoir exécutif.

ÉQUATEUR.

PRODUCTION DE CACAO.

La "Revue Commerciale" (Revista Comercial), de Guayaquil, du 31 mai 1900, contient un extrait du rapport du président de la Chambre de Commerce de cette ville sur le trafic pendant les six premiers mois de l'année 1899. Voici, d'après ce rapport, quelles étaient en kilogrammes les exportations de cacao de la République pendant la période ci-dessus mentionnée: Guayaquill, 24,072,499; Manta, 73,317; Bahia, 2,279,617; Esmeraldas, 60,438; Puerto Bolivar, 1,217,674, soit un total général de 27,703,545 kilogrammes.

Dans le tableau ci-dessous, qui représente le rendement du cacao du monde, on verra que l'Equateur occupe la première place et produit environ 30 pour cent de la quantité totale exportée:

Pays.	Années.	Tonnes.	Pays.	Années.	Tonnes.
Equateur	1899	27,703	Cuba	1896	1,440
Trinidad	1899	12,408	Jamaïque	1899	1,050
St. Thomas	1899	12,047	Pérou	1898	604
Brésil	1898	10,272	Colombie	1896	553
Vénézuéla	1897	8,866	Autres pays		12,278
Saint-Domingue	1898	3,789			
Haïti	1899	2,018	Total		93,028

ÉTATS-UNIS.

COMMERCE EXTÉRIEUR DE 1899-1900.

Le total du commerce extérieur des Etats-Unis pendant l'année fiscale finissant le 30 juin 1900 excède de 16 pour cent celui de n'importe quelle année antérieure. Il a dépassé de $320,000,000 le commerce de l'année finissant le 30 juin 1899, qui était considéré alors le plus grand qui ait été enregistré. Le total du trafic pour l'année s'est monté à $2,244,193,543; les exportations étant comprises dans ce total pour $1,394,479,214, ou $162,000,000 de plus que l'année fiscale finissant le 30 juin 1898, pendant laquelle on avait exporté la plus grande quantité de marchandises qui ait jamais été constatée. L'augmentation se fait remarquer dans toutes les grandes classes d'exportations, l'excès des produits manufacturés sur 1899 étant de $100,000,000 environ, et celui des produits agricoles de $50,000,000 environ. En ce qui concerne les produits miniers et forestiers, une augmentation de près de $10,000,000 est constatée, pendant que les produits de la pêche ont augmenté d'environ $1,000,000.

Pendant les 12 mois, les importations ont aussi surpassé celles des années précédentes, s'étant montées à $849,714,329, ou $152,565,840 de plus que celles de l'année fiscale 1899. Les importations des articles désignés sous la rubrique, "Articles bruts entrant dans les différents procédés de l'industrie du pays," ont augmenté de plus de $75,000,000, et celles des articles entièrement ou partiellement manufacturés employés dans les manufactures ou les arts mécaniques montrent une augmentation de $25,000,000. Les articles manufacturés et les articles de luxe, etc., montrent chacun une augmentation d'environ $20,000,000; quant aux importations des denrées alimentaires elles dépassaient de $15,000,000 celles de l'année antérieure.

La balance du trafic en faveur des Etats-Unis, pendant l'année, se montait à $544,764,885, soit une augmentation de $14,890,072 sur l'année précédente. Les importations de l'or se sont montées à $2,829,457 et les exportations à $48,266,229, pendant que les importations et les exportations de l'argent se montaient respectivement à $35,236,697 et $56,712,275.

Les faits les plus remarquables dans le commerce de l'année étaient: Premièrement, l'augmentation des matériaux importés pour les manufacturiers et non produits dans le pays; deuxièmement, l'augmentations des exportations des articles manufacturés, et troisièmement, le fait que le commerce extérieur à excédé, pour la première fois dans les annales du Gouvernement, deux billions de dollars.

BREVETS ACCORDÉS EN 1899-1900.

Le rapport du Directeur du Bureau des Brevets aux Etats-Unis montre que, pendant l'année fiscale finissant le 30 juin 1900, il a été

accordé 25,540 brevets, y compris ceux qui ont été renouvelés et les licenses. Il y a eu aussi 1,660 brevets délivrés pour marques de fabrique, 682 pour étiquettes et 93 pour impressions et gravures. Pendant l'année 19,989 brevets ont expiré et les brevets accordés qui n'ont pas été délivrés faute de paiement des droits finals se sont montés à 4,052. Il y a eu 39,815 demandes. Pendant l'année, le total des recettes du Bureau des Brevets s'est élevé à $1,358,228 et celui des dépenses s'est monté à $1,247,828, laissant un surplus de $100,401 qui sera versé dans les caisses du Trésor des Etats-Unis.

REVENUS INTÉRIEURS.

Le total des revenus intérieurs aux Etats Unis pendant l'année fiscale finissant le 30 juin 1900 s'est monté à $295,316,107, soit une augmentation de $21,831,534 sur l'année fiscale antérieure. Voici quelles étaient les différentes sources de ces revenus comparés avec ceux des 12 mois précédents: Spiritueux distillés, $109,868,817, soit une augmentation de $10,585,283; tabac, $59,355,084, soit une augmentation de $6,861,877; liqueurs fermentées, $73,550,754, soit une augmentation de $4,906,196; cédules A et B, $40,964,365, soit une diminution de $2,873,453; legs, $2,884,491, soit une augmentation de $1,649,056; taxes spéciales, $4,515,641, soit une augmentation de $405,952; oléomargarine, $2,543,785, soit une augmentation de $587,167; excise sur les recettes entières, $1,079,405, et une augmentation de $435,959; farine mélangée, $7,439, soit une diminution de $401; fromages faits avec le lait écrémé, $17,064, soit une diminution de $1,034; divers, $529,259, soit une augmentation de $86,837.

RAPPORT POSTAL ANNUEL.

Le 21 juillet 1900, on a publié le rapport annuel du Directeur Général des Postes des Etats-Unis pour l'année fiscale finissant le 30 juin 1900, montrant le total des sommes produites par la vente des timbres-poste, des enveloppes timbrées, des enveloppes de journaux et des cartes postales. D'après ce rapport, 5,283,687,010 articles de ces genres, évalués à $907,687,772, ont été émis. La plus grande partie de ce total provenait de la vente de 958,143,660 timbres-poste ordinaires, évalués à $75,623,739. Dans ce chiffre ne sont pas compris les "stamp books," livres contenant 12 ou 24 timbres-poste qui se vendent 25 et 50 cents chacun et dont la vente se montait à $830,648. Les enveloppes timbrées ordinaires furent vendues pour $4,495,045 et les enveloppes spéciales pour une somme de $9,093,224. Les enveloppes timbrées de journaux, vendues pendant l'année, sont évaluées à $459,090 et le nombre de cartes postales s'est monté à 587,815,250 cartes, évaluées à $5,955,695. Les autres timbres mis en circulation étaient les timbres pour les distributions spéciales, dont le nombre se montait à 6,940,650, évalués à $694,065, et les timbres pour ports dus se chiffraient à 20,950,410, évalués à $531,265.

TRAITÉ DE RÉCIPROCITÉ AVEC L'ALLEMAGNE.

Le 14 juillet 1900, on a proclamé à Washington un nouveau traité de réciprocité conclu entre les Etats-Unis et l'Empire d'Allemagne. Une réduction de droits sur les vins et les tartres est accordée à l'Allemagne, pendant que les Etats-Unis, en échange, obtiennent le bénéfice des clauses des nations les plus favorisées, ou, en d'autres termes, le minimum des droits applicables aux marchandises exportées en Allemagne.

LONGUEUR DES VOIES FERRÉES.

D'après le rapport publié récemment par la Commission du commerce entre les Etats "Interstate Commerce Commission," pour l'année fiscale finissant le 30 juin 1899, la longueur totale d'une seule voie ferrée aux Etats-Unis était de 189,294 milles, soit une augmentation pour l'année de 2,898 milles. Cette augmentation est la plus grande qui ait été constatée pendant n'importe quelle année depuis 1893. La longueur totale du parcours, y compris les voies de toutes sortes, est rapportée être 252,361 milles. Il y a eu 36,703 locomotives qui ont fait le service, soit 469 de plus que pour l'année fiscale finissant le 30 juin 1898, tandis que le total des wagons de toutes classes employés se montait à 1,375,916, soit une augmentation pour l'année de 49,472. Le nombre de personnes employées dans les chemins de fer se montait à 928,824, soit 54,366 de plus qu'en 1898.

Le montant des capitaux employés dans les chemins de fer s'élevait, le 1er juillet 1899, à $11,033,954, ou $50,566 pour chaque mille de parcours. Le nombre de passagers transportés pendant l'année se montait à 523,176,508, et il y a eu 959,763,583 tonnes de fret. Les recettes de toutes sortes se montaient à $1,313,310,618, soit $66,284,497 de plus que l'année antérieure. Les dépenses d'exploitation sont indiquées dans ce rapport comme s'étant élevées à $858,968,999 et le montant des dividendes déclarés pour les 12 mois était $111,089,936.

STATISTIQUES SUR L'IMMIGRATION.

Pendant la dernière année fiscale, l'immigration aux Etats-Unis a été la plus grande qui ait été constatée depuis huit années. Le total général des immigrants arrivés pendant les 12 mois se montait à 448,551 contre 311,715 durant l'année précédente. De ce nombre, près de deux pour cent furent renvoyés dans leur pays.

Voici les 8 pays qui ont fourni la plus grande quantité d'immigrants: Autriche-Hongrie, 114,847; Italie, 100,125; Russie, 90,887; Suède, 18,650; Allemagne, 18,507; Angleterre, 17,254; Japon, 12,806, et Norvège, 9,575. Le nombre d'immigrants arrivés pendant le premier semestre de l'année s'est monté à 174,886, soit 100,000 environ de plus que pendant la dernière moitié de l'année.

Il est nécessaire de remarquer que pendant le premier semestre, il n'y a eu seulement que 1,719 immigrants Japonais, tandis que 11,077

ont débarqué dans les ports du Pacifique pendant le deuzième semestre. Les fonctionnaires du service de l'immigration croient que 12,000 Japonais sont arrivés aux Etats-Unis en passant par le Canada, sans avoir été examinés par le département. Pendant la dernière partie de l'année fiscale, le Gouvernement Japonais a restreint l'immigration de ses sujets aux Etats-Unis.

Pendant les 20 années qui viennent de s'écouler, 9,375,257 immigrants ont débarqués dans les ports des Etats-Unis, mais depuis la loi de 1893, qui prescrit que les immigrants soient examinés avec le plus grand soin, le nombre a diminué jusqu'en 1898.

En 1893, 439,730 immigrants ont débarqué aux Etats-Unis, mais en 1898 le nombre est tombé à 229,299. Les personnes déportées pendant l'année dernière étaient des ouvriers engagés par contrat, des indigents, des infirmes; quelques-unes étaient folles ou atteintes de maladies incurables ou contagieuses.

LA MANUFACTURE DES PRODUITS DU CACAO.

La manufacture des produits du cacao aux Etats-Unis, quoique connue depuis peu, a atteint des proportions phénoménales. Le fait que les propriétés nutritives des produits du cacao commencent à être appréciées, fait espérer que dans un avenir peu éloigné, ce dernier tiendra sa place parmi les articles les plus importants de la consommation du pays.

Les journaux commerciaux, en se basant sur les importations du cacao brut, estiment le total du rendement annuel à 45,000,000 livres, soit un peu plus de 6 onces pour chaque habitant du pays. En 1865 le total de la consommation aux Etats Unis ne dépassait pas 2,000,000 livres, mais une preuve que cette industrie s'est développée considérablement c'est que, en 1896, la consommation se montait à 26,319,275 livres, et que un an plus tard les demandes atteignaient le chiffre de 27,000,000 livres, et en 1899, quoiqu'il n'y eût pas cette année là un grand approvisionnement de cacao brut, l'augmentation se montait environ à 2,000,000 livres. Une des causes qui a augmenté les demandes du cacao sont les qualités reconnues de ce produit comme ration dans l'armée; de grandes quantités de cacao étant distribuées aux troupes sur les champs de bataille en Europe et aux Etats Unis. Comme la plus grande partie de l'approvisionnement de cacao du monde provient de l'Amérique du Sud, il serait plus avantageux pour les pays de cette partie du monde, d'exporter directement leurs produits aux Etats Unis, au lieu de les faire passer, comme ils le font généralement, par les ports Européens.

COMMERCE DES ILES PHILIPPINES.

Le Bureau du Ministère de la Guerre, chargé du service des Douanes et des affaires insulaires, vient de publier un rapport sur le commerce des Iles Philippines pendant les six mois finissant le 31 décembre 1899.

Ce rapport montre que la valeur totale des marchandises importées s'est montée à $11,456,670, dont une valeur de $572,346 était exempte de droit. Le total des droits perçus se sont montés à $2,071,706. Le mouvement de la monnaie comprend l'importation de $109,965, or, et $1,141,292, argent. La classification des importations était comme suit: Denrées alimentaires et animaux, $3,044,636; articles manufacturés, $5,800,411; articles de luxe, etc., $623,779, et articles entièrement ou partiellement manufacturés, $494,235; pendant que les produits divers sont cotés à $1,493,610.

Les exportations des divers ports des Iles Philippines se sont montées, pendant la période nommée à $7,645,026, et les droits d'exportation perçus se sont montés à $237,856. Les exportations de la monnaie étaient: lingot d'or, $79,755; monnaie d'or, $604,350; lingot d'argent, $6,039 et monnaie d'argent, $607,322. Les produits agricoles étaient compris dans les différentes classes d'exportations pour une valeur de $6,550,331 ou 85 pour cent du total; les articles manufacturés, pour $751,370, et les produits des mines, pour 249,285. Les articles non classés sont évalués à $294,040. Voici, selon le pays d'origine, quelles sont les importations:

Importations des Etats-Unis, $768,507; d'Europe, $4,681,924; d'Asie, $6,755,596; d'Océanie, $501,997 et d'Afrique, $3.

En ce qui concerne les exportations, la Chine occupe le premier rang, le Royaume-Uni le second et les Etats-Unis le troisième.

Pendant la période citée, 770 voiliers avec un tonnage total de 40,027 tonnes et 708 bateaux à vapeur avec un tonnage net de 458.479 sont entrés dans les divers ports des îles, pendant que 821 voiliers avec un tonnage net de 50,545 tonnes et 710 bateaux à vapeur avec un tonnage net de 439,880 tonnes, en sont sortis.

COMMERCE DE PORTO RICO.

Le rapport mensuel du commerce de l'île de Porto Rico, publié par la Direction des Douanes et des Affaires Insulaires, montre l'extension du commerce pendant l'occupation militaire de cette île, depuis le 28 juillet 1898 jusqu'au 30 avril 1900. La valeur totale des importations des marchandises pendant la période nommée s'est montée à $15,905,893; la valeur totale des exportations s'est élevée à $13,828,274. Une valeur de $3,154,198 de marchandises fut admise exempte de tout impôt, y compris les provisions expédiées des Etats-Unis comme secours et montant à la somme de $551,104. Dans la valeur totale des marchandises importées, les denrées alimentaires et animaux étaient compris pour $6,184,340, pendant que les articles manufacturés se montaient à $5,653,981. Dans les importations classées par pays, les Etats-Unis occupent la première place avec $6,621,213; l'Espagne, la deuxième avec $3,224,316; le Royaume-Uni la troisième avec $2,539,539; l'Allemagne, la quatrième avec $758,434 et le Canada, la

cinquième avec $960,598. Les principaux articles d'exportation étaient les produits agricoles montant à $11,970,182. En exportations, par pays, les Etats Unis sont à la tête avec $4,225,589; la France vient après avec $2,990,371; Cuba en troisième ligne avec $2,097,943; l'Espagne, quatrième avec $1,424,057, et l'Italie, cinquième avec $932,611.

EXPORTATION DU SUCRE DE PORTO RICO.

Le Consul Général Belge des Antilles, dans un rapport qu'il a adressé récemment à son Gouvernement, parle de l'industrie sucrière de Porto Rico et dit que les exportations annuelles de cet article pour l'Ile se montaient jadis à 60,000 tonnes, dont 20,000 tonnes étaient expédiées en Espagne, le restant pouvant s'écouler sur les marchés des Etats-Unis. Outre le fait que l'Espagne a fermé son marché au sucre de Porto-Rico, plusieurs raffineries out été détruites par le cyclone du 8 août 1899 et on pense que le rendement de 1900 excédera difficilement 40,000 tonnes. En outre, les méthodes employées dans les raffineries sont, dit-on très imparfaites et le Consul pense que l'industrie sucrière de l'île ne pourra survivre qu'à la condition d'y établir des moulins à sucre pourvus d'un matériel des plus modernes et d'adopter des mesures protectrices.

DÉBOUCHÉS FUTURS POUR L'HUILE DE BLÉ.

L'huile de blé, dit "The Manufacturer" de Philadelphie, se révèle comme pouvant remplacer l'huile de coton et être substituée à l'huile d'olive. Cette huile est un sousproduit du blé.

Chaque grain de blé porte une petite moucheture jaune désignée par les gens du métier sous le nom de "germe." Ce germe doit être enlevé avant que le blé, destiné à l'exportation, ne soit chargé sur le navire; sinon, la rancissure se produirait presque certainement et le chargement risquerait d'être perdu. La dégermination est le procédé employé pour arracher ce germe et de cette opération résulte la production d'une substance oléagineuse.

Le seul emploi qui lui était jusqu'à présent dévolu était le remplacement de l'huile de lin dans la préparation de la peinture. On l'employait aussi comme lubréfiant.

Des essais furent faits de temps en temps pour l'employer dans l'alimentation; mais l'impossibilité d'ôter à ce produit son goût désagréable les rendit sans résultats. On annonce maintenant que dans l'ouest des Etats-Unis on a trouvé un procédé qui permet de clarifier, désodoriser et rendre supportable au goût cette huile de blé, sans perte de matière et en abaissant son coût au bas prix de 50 cents par gallon.

Les moulins américains produisent actuellement par an 5,000,000 gallons d'huile de blé vierge, et ils n'ont encore eu à traiter que du blé destiné à l'exportation et qui avait été dégermé. La quantité de leur production peut donc être augmentée indéfiniment.

Des journaux de Chicago citent l'opinion de chimistes qui se sont livrés à des expériences sur ce produit et qui prétendent que l'huile de blé est beaucoup plus digestive que toutes les autres huiles actuellement employées pour la cuisine. Elle ne servira, cependant, suivant toute probabilité, qu'à contrefaire l'huile d'olive.

CONDITIONS AGRICOLES.

Le rapport du statisticien du Ministère de l'Agriculture donne comme suit la condition moyenne de la récolte au 1er août 1900: Maïs 87.5; blé du printemps, 56.4; avoines, 85; orge, 71.6; seigle du printemps, 76; sarrasin, 87.9; pommes de terre, 88.2; fléole des prés, 79.9.

La condition moyenne du maïs est tombée de deux points en juillet et le 1er août était 2.4 points au-dessous de celle constatée en 1899 à la même date, mais était 1.3 points au-dessus de la moyenne des moyennes du mois d'août pendant 10 années.

La condition moyenne du blé du printemps a augmenté de 1.2 points en juillet, mais le 1er août était 27.2 points plus bas qu'au 1er août 1899 et 27.8 points au-dessous de la moyenne de 10 années.

La condition moyenne des avoines était, le 1er août, 5.8 points de moins que pendant la même période de l'année 1899, mais était 2.7 points au-dessus des moyennes de 10 années. La proportion de la récolte de l'avoine de 1899 est estimée à 6.8 pour cent.

La condition moyenne de l'orge a diminué de 4 points en juillet et le 1er août était 22 points plus bas que le 1er août 1899 et 13.7 points au-dessous de la moyenne de 10 années.

Pendant le mois de juillet, on constate une amélioration de 6.3 points dans la condition moyenne du seigle du printemps, mais le 1er août la condition de cette céréale était 13 points de moins que celle constatée à la même date pendant l'année 1899, et 10.9 points au-dessous des moyennes de 10 années.

Les rapports préliminaires indiquent une diminution d'environ 32,000 acres ou 4.8 pour cent dans l'aire ensemencée de sarrasin, comparée avec celle de 1899. La condition moyenne est 5.3 points de moins qu'au 1er août 1899 et 2.9 points au-dessous de la moyenne des moyennes du mois d'août pendant les 10 années antérieures.

La condition du riz est très élevée, comparée avec celle constatée le 1er août 1899 et avec la moyenne pendant un nombre d'années.

La condition moyenne des pommes de terre est tombée à 3.1 points et était 4.8 points de moins que le 1er août 1899.

La condition de la récolte des patates n'a pas changée.

Les rapports indiquent que l'aire ensemencée de foin a diminué de 5.3 pour cent. Des 14 Etats qui en 1899 ont cultivé 1,000,000 acres de foin ou davantage, tous, à part un, rapportent une diminution dans la contenance.

La condition de la fléole des prés est 6.8 points de moins qu'au 1er

août 1899 et 7.5 points au-dessous des moyennes du mois d'août pendant 10 années.

Les rapports concernant la production de la luzerne sont généralement défavorables.

Les changements dans la condition de la récolte du tabac ont été aussi défavorables depuis le mois de juillet, mais on pense qu'il y aura une récolte moyenne dans la plupart des Etats où se cultive le tabac.

Dans la Louisiane, la condition de la canne à sucre est à 3 points du point normal, est 22 points de plus qu'au 1er août 1899 et 5 points au dessus de la moyenne de 10 années. D'une manière semblable, tous les Etats qui contribuent à la récolte du sucre, à l'exception d'un seul où ce produit n'est pas cultivé en très grande quantité, rapportent des conditions favorables. La condition du sorgo à sucre est aussi favorable.

La condition moyenne du coton, au 1er août 1900, était 76 contre 84 le 1er août 1899 et 85.3 la moyenne des moyennes du mois d'août pendant les 10 dernières années.

L'EXPORTATION DES ARTICLES EN CUIR.

Dans ces derniers temps, écrit la "New-Yorker Handels Zeitung," la concurrence de l'industrie américaine des cuirs sur les marchés du globe s'est fait sentir d'une façon sensible. Il y a dix ans, l'idée d'introduire des chaussures américaines sur les marchés étrangers n'aurait rencontré aucune créance. Actuellement, c'est un fait accompli, et les résultats obtenus fournissent la preuve que l'industrie des Etats-Unis peut lutter victorieusement contre celle de l'étranger. L'évolution industrielle dans la cordonnerie est telle que la production dépasse déjà la consommation; c'est ainsi que les manufactures américaines arrivent à fabriquer en neuf mois de quoi suffire à la consommation du pays pour l'année entière. Le développement de l'industrie a atteint un tel degré, qu'elle est obligée de chercher de nouveaux débouchés à l'étranger pour l'écoulement de sa surproduction. Cependant, l'exportation des chaussures n'a pas obtenu le succès des articles en cuir, 11 pour cent de ces derniers sont expédiés à l'étranger alors que le chiffre n'est que de 1½ pour cent en ce qui concerne les premiers. En valeur, l'exportation est montée de $1,900,000 en 1898 à $3,800,000 en 1890, et pour l'année en cours ce chiffre sera encore fort dépassé.

L'augmentation de l'exportation des machines nécessaires à la fabrication des chaussures est un signe certain que les produits de la cordonnerie américaine sont de plus en plus appréciés à l'étranger. De $494,000 en 1898, l'exportation de ces machines a passé à $503,000 en 1899. Bien qu'il soit accordé aux matières premières étrangères réexportées sous forme d'objets travaillés un dégrèvement des droits de douane, les droits qui frappent les cuirs et les peaux n'en constituent pas moins pour la cordonnerie américaine un grand obstacle dans ses relations avec l'étranger.

Outre l'Europe, qui offre un débouché de plus en plus favorable aux articles américains, il faut citer aussi les marchés des Indes occidentales où les demandes vont toujours en augmentant. Les nouveaux tarifs de douane de Cuba et Porto-Rico contribueront à y faciliter la vente des produits de l'Union.

GUATÉMALA.

CONCESSIONS MINIÈRES.

Un décret récent du Président de la République du Guatémala accorde les avantages suivants aux entreprises minières qui seront établies dans le pays dans un délai de deux ans:

1°. Toutes les machines et mécaniques qui seront importées pour la recherche ou l'exploitation des gisements miniers seront exemptes de droits fiscaux et municipaux;

2°. Les propriétés minières ne seront sujettes qu'à la taxe dite "contribution territoriale," et s'élevant à 6 pour mille. L'exportation des produits minéraux sera exempte de droits fiscaux et municipaux;

3°. Autant que cela dépendra du Gouvernment de Guatémala, les tarifs de transport sur les chemins de fer nationaux ne pourront être augmentés pour les produits minéraux;

4°. Les entreprises minières sont autorisées à améliorer les routes actuelles, et à en construire de nouvelles, selon la loi des expropriations et celle des chemins de fer;

5°. Les autorités locales et départementales accorderont toute l'assistance et la protection possibles aux entreprises minières;

6°. Dans le cas où les entreprises minières feraient venir des ouvriers du dehors, ces derniers jouiront de l'exemption des taxes et impôts stipulés à l'article 11, 1er et 3e paragraphe, de la loi sur l'immigration.

Les privilèges ci-dessus auront une durée de quinze années, même en cas de révision des lois fiscales et minières.

DIMINUTION PROVISOIRE DES DROITS DE DOUANE.

Un décret présidentiel en date du 15 mai dernier porte que les droits de douane subiront une diminution de 30 pour cent pour tous les articles qui seront importés dans la République de Guatémala entre le 1er juillet et le 31 décembre de la même année.

HAÏTI.

DÉVELOPPEMENT DES RESSOURCES MINÉRALES PAR LES CHEMINS DE FER.

En commentant sur les ressources minérales de Haïti et jusqu'à quel point la construction de chemins de fer développerait cette île,

l'Honorable WILLIAM F. POWELL, Ministre des Etats-Unis, dit que la République a grand besoin de moyens faciles de communication entre les différentes sections. Il ajoute aussi que le Gouvernement a récemment accordé des concessions à plusieurs personnes pour la construction de chemins de fer, y compris celui que l'on construira du côté sud des lacs salés. Quand ce chemin de fer sera terminé, il reliera définitivement les capitales de Haïti et de Saint-Domingue et découvrira une riche section agricole et minérale. On projette aussi de construire une autre ligne au nord qui passera par Saint-Mark, Gonaïves et Port de Paix et qui aura son terminus au cap Haïtien. On est en train de construire une autre voie ferrée qui partira du Cap Haïtien et s'étendra jusqu'à la rivière Gran qui se trouve au pied de la chaîne de montagnes Cibao. Quelques-uns de ces chemins de fer traverseront des districts miniers.

On trouve, dans la partie sud de Haïti qui est traversée par les montagnes Hotte, du cuivre, des minerais de fer aimanté. Au nord de Jacmal, on a découvert de l'or en quantités suffisantes pour être exploité. Pendant l'année dernière, le Gouvernement a accordé des concessions pour développer ses ressources minérales, dont plusieurs appartiennent à des citoyens des Etats-Unis. La principale de toutes a été accordée à M. ANTON JAEGERHUBER, un citoyen des Etats-Unis qui est à la tête d'une des principales maisons commerciales de Port-au-Prince. Ce monsieur a obtenu aussi une concession pour la construction de deux lignes de chemins de fer, l'une allant de la capitale au nord et l'autre se dirigeant à l'est, vers la frontière dominicaine; ces deux lignes développeront une riche section du pays.

PERMISSIONS POUR LES BANQUIERS ET LES EXPORTATEURS.

Le Ministre des Etats-Unis à Port-au-Prince a informé le Ministère des Affaires Etrangères à Washington que, conformément à une nouvelle loi, les natifs et les personnes étrangères faisant des affaires à Haïti seront requis à l'avenir de payer un droit de $500 par an pour obtenir l'autorisation de s'engager dans les affaires de banque, et $200 par an pour importer des marchandises par "small shipments." Le terme "small shipments" veut dire, la réception de marchandises moindres que les cargaisons entières d'un seul bateau à vapeur.

MEXIQUE.

SITUATION ÉCONOMIQUE AU POINT DE VUE FRANÇAIS.

Dans un article sur la situation économique du Mexique paru dernièrement dans une revue officielle française et qui n'est que la suite des rapports excellents publiés sur le Mexique, Mr. CHARLES STEPHAN, titulaire d'une bourse commerciale de séjour à l'étranger, attribue, en

grande partie, le grand développement industriel, agricole et commercial de ce pays, à la construction des chemins de fer qui augmentent journellement en importance et en étendue.

Pendant les quinze dernières années, les importations du Mexique ont monté de 64,000,000 à 102,000,000; les exportations de 46,000,000 à 54,000,000; le montant des impôts de la république, qui a été pour l'année dernière, de 63,000,000 de piastres est supérieur à celui encaissé pendant les quatorze dernières années.

Les lignes télégraphiques ont augmenté dans le même laps de temps de 21,000 à 70,000 kilomètres, les voies ferrées de 5,000 à 13,000 kilomètres, sans compter celles qui sont actuellement en construction et qui vont compléter cet énorme réseau.

"L'industrie prend chaque jour une activité de plus en plus grande et, de quelque côté que l'on regarde, on voit s'élever de nouvelles usines. Le capital étranger afflue de toutes parts en fortes quantités, cherchant un emploi dans toutes les branches d'exploitation. Plusieurs hommes d'affaires au Mexique ont eu l'idée d'organiser une société pour établir à Mexico une exposition permanente où tous, étrangers et nationaux, puissent concourir avec leurs inventions et leurs industries, afin de les faire connaître et en faire résulter un profit réciproque."

Mr. STEPHANS observe que le progrès qui se manifeste dans l'importation des produits servant à l'exploitation minière, fait preuve de l'activité industrielle incontestable du Mexique. En effet, la plus grande partie de ces importations consiste en machines et outils. Pendant la dernière année fiscale, elles ont atteint 7,642,949 piastres, argent; 254,955 en appareils électriques, c'est à dire près de 16 pour cent des importations totales, ajoutant à cela 710,053 piastres d'articles en cuir manufacturés; 160,117 en zinc, étain et plomb manufacturés; 2,553,685 d'articles de pièces lourdes de fer; 1,367,319 d'articles de quincaillerie; 214,633 d'articles télégraphiques; 45,815 de poteaux télégraphiques; 1,721,743 de rails; 538,954 de matériel roulant de chemin de fer; 366,342 de véhicules en tous genres; 96,355 de bicyclettes; on arrive à un total de 15,652,919.

Cette importation ne restera pas stationnaire, car en augmentant son activité dans le développement industriel, le Mexique est certain de devenir un plus grand consommateur de matériel industriel, tandis que l'introduction de méthodes plus modernes dans les mines et l'agriculture doit matériellement accentuer la demande d'outils miniers et d'instruments aratoires. La prospérité du Mexique paraît bien assurée en ce moment, basée non seulement sur l'existence de ressources naturelles très riches, mais aussi sur le développement constant de la consommation du pays.

Monsieur STEPHANS dit que les conditions commerciales du Mexique commencent à montrer une tendance vers le système des trusts. Il est intéressant de constater que la plus grande activité dans ce sens a été fournie par l'élément commercial espagnol. Ce dernier a été

rendu responsable de combinaisons qui exerçaient certains contrôles sur la production du sucre et de l'alcool du pays, ainsi que d'une tentative de formation de syndicat sur les cotons. Toutefois, un accaparement semble encore plutôt difficile au Mexique, principalement à cause des moyens de communications encore imparfaites, ce qui force certains centres consommateurs et producteurs à maintenir un certain degré d'indépendance. Le commerce extérieur du Mexique est des plus florissants. Les principales marchandises que le Mexique envoie à l'étranger sont: le café, le caoutchouc, le sucre, le chicle, les haricots, les garbanzos, l'aïl, le bois précieux de teinture, le marbre brut, les peaux de bouc, la purga de Jalapa (racine purgative), le tabac et la vanille. Son exportation totale s'est montée à $18,179,972 argent, dont l'exportation des produits minéraux et des métaux précieux a une bonne part.

L'exportation en 1889 en Allemagne a été principalement de cacao, acajou, xitle, bois de teinture, salsepareille, miel, cuirs et peaux, cire, tabac. Un groupe de commerçants de Dresde s'évertue à étudier les importations de produits de matières premières tels que: huile, caoutchouc, gommes, résine, fibres végétales, semences, ramie et autres produits tropicaux qu'emploient les chimistes, droguistes et parfumeurs allemands. L'Espagne a envoyé au Mexique un délégué spécial chargé d'étudier l'échange de produits tels que: café, peaux, henequen, fibres et filaments, gommes et résines, caoutchouc, contre l'envoi de vins rouges et généreux d'Espagne.

Les nations qui ont le plus acheté de produits mexicains ont été les Etats-Unis et l'Angleterre. Les Etats-Unis ont acheté en un mois: en 1898, 808,000 livres de café pour une valeur de $73,963; en 1899, 2,385,225 livres de café, évaluées á $205,818.

Les Etats-Unis ont envoyé au Mexique en 1898, $153,805; en 1899 $306,731 de machines minières et agricoles, $494,704 d'instruments scientifiques, $424,103 de charbon et combustibles, $847,260 de wagons et locomotives de chemin de fer, $494,784 de rails et matériel fixe de chemin de fer, $689,722 de coton non manufacturé, $541,115 de coton manufacturé, $57,228 de machines à écrire et accessoires, $433,803 d'huiles minérales crues, $214,213 d'huiles raffinées, $701,048 d'huiles végétales, $324,912 de meubles.

La plus forte exportation mexicaine fut celle des tissus qui s'est montée en 1899–1900 à $5,892,891 or, où la France est largement représentée. La demande d'oranges mexicaines aux Etats-Unis augmente, la variété mexicaine de citron est également fort demandée aux Etats-Unis, de préférence aux variétés californiennes parce qu'elle est plus acide. L'exportation du bétail est également en progrès, Cuba étant le principal marché. L'exportation des cornes a donné lieu aussi à d'assez fortes transactions.

Toutes sortes d'industries se sont montées dernièrement. Près de la ligne du chemin de fer de Cuernavaca, au Pacifique, il vient de

s'établir une fabrique de terre cuite. Cette fabrique emploie plus de 200 ouvriers, la plupart américains. On y construit des tubes et tuyaux en terre cuite pour les travaux de drainage, canalisation et irrigation, identiques à ceux de St. Louis. Un entrepreneur espagnol va fonder une fabrique de bouchons; la matière première sera tirée de l'Etat de Michoacan. On parle également de l'établissement d'une fabrique de machines à écrire et de machine caisses. L'industrie de la carrosserie commence aussi à se développer, le fer, le bois et les cuirs existant dans le pays. Plusieurs fabriques de voitures et de harnais, genre américain, se sont établies. Une compagnie de New-York a envoyé des agents pour étudier la production de l'onyx et faire un rapport afin de savoir s'il est possible de faire une exploitation en grand de cette pierre. Ces agents visitent les Etats de Oaxaca et de Puebla où se trouvent les plus forts gisements.

Les progrès de l'agriculture ne sont pas moins sensibles. La Société agricole mexicaine a fait une demande d'un million de plantes de houblon allemand pour être plantés au Mexique. Ils vont être essayés dans les terres tempérées. On importe d'énormes quantités de houblon bavarois et si les plantes allemandes peuvent produire ici, il est certain que le prix de la bière s'abaissera et que sa consommation augmentera.

Entres les Etats de Vera-Cruz et de Oaxaca, il y a une très grande zone de terrain abondamment arrosée où le café et le tabac croissent presque sans efforts. Actuellement ces terrains sont parcourus par quelques représentants d'une puissante compagnie agricole américaine.

Le Mexique possède un excellent système de banques. Les mines ont suivi le développement pas à pas avec l'agriculture. De tous cotés il se découvre de nouveaux gisements.

Dans l'Etat de Sonora on a découvert du coke qui sera de la plus grande importance pour l'industrie. On a découvert, près de la ville de "Musquiz," Etat de Coahuila, de riches gisements de houille. Les mines de "Fuente" s'exploitent sur une grande échelle et donnent d'excellents rendements. Ces nouvelles découvertes de gisements ont évité la coupe immodérée des bois et forêts.

Près de la "Sierra de Prieto" aux environs de la ville de Torreon, on a découvert des mines d'or et d'argent à un très bon titre. Le minerai se trouve à environ de 22 kilomètres au nord-est de la station de Gervanil du chemin de fer international. Les échantillons ont donné de très bons résultats: 40 grammes 68 centigrammes de métal précieux par tonne, ce qui lui donne une valeur de 60 piastres sans compter la valeur de l'argent.

Le Mexique possède des mines de cuivre en abondance, spéciale ment dans les Etats de Sonora, Sinaloa et les Etats du Pacifique. On vient de découvrir à San Blas, des gisements minéraux qui contiennent du cuivre et de l'or à un bon titre, tandis qu'à Moctezuma, près de Casas Grandes, des explorateurs ont également trouvé des métaux précieux mêlés au cuivre. Les mineurs ont jusqu'ici négligés

d'exploiter des minerais de cuivre, sans doute parce que le cuivre a été considéré jusqu'ici comme un minerai dépréciable et sans valeur. Actuellement il acquiert une haute valeur et les prix haussent. Sans le cuivre on ne peut fabriquer les appareils électriques, et comme cette industrie tient à subordonner toutes les autres, il est facile de se figurer la demande qu'il y aura d'ici une vingtaine d'années lorsque toutes les industries seront mues par l'électricité. La configuration géologique de Sonora consiste en une succession colossale de couches minérales suffisantes au monde entier. Ces récentes découvertes ont nécessité la formation de syndicats puissants.

L'ouverture du canal de Nicaragua et l'activité commerciale qui règne déjà sur le Pacifique donneront à l'Etat de Sonora la suprématie sur tous les autres Etats de la République, mais ceci ne s'accomplira non par la situation géographique qu'occupe le Mexique ni par l'augmentation des voies de communications, mais plutôt par la quantité de produits que l'on arrivera à expédier sur les marchés étrangers. Les mines de cuivre valent actuellement plus que les mines d'or.

D'importantes sources de pétrole ont également été découvertes dans les Etats de Tabasco et de Vera Cruz.

EXPLOITATION DU CERRO DE MERCADO.

La Compagnie qui a fait l'acquisition du Cerro de Mercado—la fameuse montagne de fer située près de Durango—va commencer bientôt les travaux d'exploitation sur une vaste échelle. Elle compte fabriquer surtout des rails, article qu'actuellement on importe en grande quantité de l'étranger.

COMMERCE DU HENNEQUEN.

D'après la statistique dressée par l'agence commerciale de Progreso, relativement aux exportations du *henequen* pendant le mois de mai dernier, le montant de l'exportation de cet article, dont le prix est de 32 à 48 cents le kilo, suivant la qualité, s'est élevé à la somme de 3,546,448.67 pesos.

Voici le tableau des exportations effectuées pendant ce même mois des cinq dernières années:

En mai il a été exporté:	Balles.
1895	46,695
1897	32,559
1898	29,357
1899	30,869
1900	68,018

La quantité de balles, expédiées pendant le mois de mai dernier, réduites en kilos, représente le chiffre de 11,066,053 kilos, dont la valeur est mentionnée plus haut.

DÉCOUVERTE DE GISEMENTS DE FER.

On signale la découverte de riches gisements de fer dans le territoire de Tepic, près de la hacienda de Navarrete, appartenant aux héritiers du Général Ramano.

Les gisements sont situés à trois kilomètres environ de cette propriété. Ils sont constitués par une veine ayant deux cents mètres de long et cent de large. La profondeur n'est pas indiquée. Le titre du mineral serait de 57 pour cent. Jusqu'à présent, rien n'a été fait en vue de l'exploitation de cette richesse.

NOUVELLE LIGNE DE CABOTAGE DANS LE GOLFE.

On assure que la Compagnie de Navigation Américaine, "Cuba and New York S. S. Company" (Ward Line), solicite du Gouvernement mexicain l'autorisation de créer une ligne de vapeurs d'un tonnage moyen, faisant le service du cabotage entre les différents ports Mexicains du golfe du Mexique.

L'établissement de cette ligne donnera d'excellents résultats en augmentant le trafic commercial entre les différents ports de la côte orientale du Mexique. Tous les grands centres commerciaux de la République retireraient un avantage plus ou moins grand de cette organisation.

FABRIQUE D'ARTICLES EN CAOUTCHOUC.

Une société de capitalistes mexicains, formée dernièrement, vient d'adresser au Ministère de Fomento une demande tendant à obtenir l'autorisation nécessaire de créer une fabrique d'articles de toutes sortes en caoutchouc.

Un capital assez considerable a été souscrit pour l'établissement de cette industrie avec tous les perfectionnements de l'art moderne. Cette fabrique, la première de ce genre qui sera fondée au Mexique, tirera la matière première des Etats du Sud de la République, où la culture du caoutchouc a pris une certaine extension et un développement assez marqué dans ces dernières années.

On y emploiera, pour le moment, des contremaîtres et des ouvriers allemands et américains fort expérimentés dans ce genre de travail et dans le fonctionnement des puissantes machines, spéciales à cette fabrication.

Ces contremaîtres et ouvriers étrangers auront l'obligation d'instruire et de former un personnel de bons ouvriers du pays. Cette nouvelle fabrique sera construite sur des terrains proche du centre de Mexico.

FONDS POUR L'AMÉLIORATION DE LA VILLE DE MEXICO.

Le Journal "El Nacional" de la ville de Mexico, du 10 juillet 1900, dit que le Ministère des Finances a notifié le conseil municipal (el ayuntamiento) de la ville de Mexico que le Gouvernement fédéral a

affecté $500,000 à l'amélioration de la capitale pendant la présente année fiscale.

CONCESSION DE CHEMIN DE FER.

Le Ministère des communications et travaux publics vient d'accorder à une compagnie anglaise une concession pour la construction d'un chemin de fer dans l'intérieur de l'Etat de Zacatecas.

Les travaux de terrassement doivent commencer dans deux mois, au plus tard, car la compagnie concessionnaire désire mettre la nouvelle ligne en exploitation avant un an.

L'IMPÔT DU TIMBRE—NOUVELLES FRANCHISES.

Le Gouvernement vient de donner une nouvelle preuve de sa sollicitude pour les classes laborieuses et les petits commerçants. Aux termes d'un décret en date du 29 juin, il vient de décider:

Que les employés dont les appointements annuels sont inférieurs à $500, sont exemptés de la patente (despacho) prévue dans la fraction A, de l'article 33 de la loi du Timbre.

Que les livres de commerce exigés par le code de Commerce et qui, d'après le décret du 1er décembre 1899, doivent être timbrés à raison de 50 centavos par feuille lorsque l'actif de la maison de commerce dépasse cinq cents piastres, ne seront timbrés dans cette proportion que lorsque l'actif sera de deux mille piastres ou plus.

LE CHEMIN DE FER "AMERICAN PACIFIC."

Le Ministère des communications et travaux publics a été informé que la construction de la grande ligne "American Pacific" commencera le 10 juillet prochain. La raison de cette notification au Gouvernement mexicain est que cette ligne, partant de Phoenix (Arizona), doit traverser les Etats de Sonora, Sinaloa, Jalisco et le territoire de Tepic.

LES TRAVAUX D'ASSAINISSEMENT.

On reçoit de Mexico de meilleures nouvelles au sujet de l'avancement rapide des travaux d'assainissement de la capitale.

Près de 12 kilomètres d'égouts sont déjà construits et tout fait supposer que cette œuvre, d'une importance si grande, sera complètement terminée en deux années. L'exécution de ces travaux a été menée avec grande habileté. La santé publique que l'on redoutait de voir souffrir par suite des excavations nécessaires dans un sol infecté n'a subi aucune atteinte nouvelle, grâce aux mesures hygiéniques prises par les entrepreneurs sous la haute direction du Conseil de salubrité de la capitale.

LES RECETTES DU TIMBRE.

Les produits du Timbre au Mexique pendant le mois de mai dernier ont été de 2,288,302 piastres contre 2,147,182 correspondant au même mois de l'année précédente, ce qui fait une augmentation de 135,121 piastres.

PARAGUAY.

LE COMMERCE DU PARAGUAY PENDANT L'ANNÉE 1899.

D'après un rapport consulaire anglais, publié dans les "Rapports Diplomatiques et Consulaires" (the Diplomatic and Consular Reports), une légère augmentation dans le commerce, notamment dans les exportations du Paraguay, en 1897 et 1898, avait ouvert de meilleures perspectives pour l'année 1899. Mais ces espérances ont été déçues par l'apparition de la peste dont l'existence a été déclarée officiellement à l'Assomption en septembre dernier.

Bien que le pays ait traversé une période de dépression commerciale pendant laquelle le service de la poste s'est fait très irrégulièrement, il n'y a pas eu disette de denrées alimentaires et leur prix n'a pas augmenté d'une manière exagérée, eu égard à la dépression de la monnaie; il n'y a pas eu non plus de déclaration de banqueroute.

Il n'est pas possible d'obtenir des données statistiques sur les différents articles importés d'Europe au Paraguay et des informations ne peuvent être obtenues, en général, que des maisons mêmes d'importation.

La plus grande partie des chapeaux vendus sont de fabrication anglaise; l'article le plus demandé est un feutre noir mou avec un bord pas trop large. Le prix payé pour un chapeau de ce genre est environ de $15 papier.

Les couteaux viennent principalement d'Angleterre. Le genre préféré est une lame de Scheffield avec un manche noir en bois garni de clous en cuivre.

On vend beaucoup de cotonnades au Paraguay; elles constituent certainement l'importation la plus considérable d'Europe. Les cotonnades doivent être étiquetées en mètre; cela convient mieux aux négociants. Les marchandises doivent être du plus bas prix possible et de belle apparence; leur durée n'est pas de première importance.

Après les cotonnades, l'importation la plus considérable est vraisemblablement celle des cachemires qui trouvent une bonne vente à l'Assomption.

L'attention des maisons de commerce des Etats-Unis a été appelée dernièrement sur ce pays comme offrant un débouché à leurs produits, entre autres aux cotonnades. On se propose d'envoyer des voyageurs de commerce des Etats-Unis à l'Assomption pour étudier le marché et voir dans quelles conditions on pourrait entamer des relations d'affaires avec le Paraguay. On dit aussi qu'une maison des Etats-Unis a consenti à fournir des cotonnades blanchies au même prix que celui des cotonnades de fabrication anglaise.

Dans la presse du Paraguay et des Etats-Unis, on a attiré l'attention sur le placement des capitaux de l'Amérique du Nord dans le Paraguay;

on dit que des capitalistes des Etats-Unis ont l'intention de venir, prochainement, visiter le pays.

Le gros du commerce étranger avec le Paraguay, à l'exportation comme à l'importation, est entre les mains des Allemands. Il y a, à l'Assomption, 10 maisons d'affaires allemandes et une seule maison anglaise, mais il faut remarquer que plusieurs de ces maisons allemandes font aussi le commerce d'articles anglais; la colonie allemande au Paraguay est de 1,000 à 1,200 personnes.

Il y a à l'Assomption plusieurs maisons italiennes et espagnoles qui font le commerce des vins et de l'épicerie. Les flanelles italiennes sont en grande demande et d'un tissu gris mou que l'on préfère à celui d'origine anglaise.

Les droits de douane sont perçus au Paraguay sur le poids brut. Les exportateurs doivent, en conséquence, prendre soin d'empaqueter leurs marchandises dans du papier mince, et non dans des boîtes en carton, comme on le fait quelquefois. Les marchandises doivent être expédiées et le fret payé directement à l'Assomption via Montevideo.

La fabrication du sucre et la production de la canne sur une petite échelle, suffisante pour la consommation locale, peut vraisemblablement devenir une entreprise assez avantageuse au Paraguay, mais il n'y a pas de perspective que le sucre puisse jamais devenir un article d'exportation. En septembre 1898, une usine à sucre appelée "l'Empresa Azucarera;" a été inaugurée, mais elle n'a pas réalisé en 1899 les espérances qu'on avait fondées sur elle. Cela tient probablement à l'intérêt élevé payé par la Compagnie pour ses emprunts et à la circonstance que le Gouvernement n'a pas pris des mesures, ainsi qu'on s'y attendait, pour protéger l'industrie nationale en imposant un droit plus élevé sur le sucre importé. La récolte de 1899 s'est élevée à 325 tonnes environ, dont la moitié seulement avait été vendus à la fin de l'année. Le prix du sucre importé à l'Assomption est de $2.12 environ par arrobe; pour le sucre fabriqué dans le pays, le prix est de $1.18 par arrobe.

On distille au Paraguay une quantité supérieure de rhum, tiré de la canne non écrasée. De petites quantités de ce spiritueux ont été envoyées en Allemagne et ont obtenu, dit-on, de bons prix. Le prix du rhum nouveau est de $0.62 à $1 par 10 litres; le rhum qui a mûri est de $2.50 à $3.75 par 10 litres.

Le tabac est cultivé sur une petite échelle, mais on a essayé d'encourager cette industrie et d'améliorer la qualité de la feuille en la préparant d'après la méthode de Cuba. Les principaux marchés pour le tabac de Paraguay sont: Hambourg, Brême, Amsterdam et Anvers. La production totale de 1900 est estimée approximativement à 280 tonnes, dont un huitième environ, évalué à $112,488 (or), a été exporté surtout en Europe.

Dans le but d'encourager l'industrie cotonnière, la Banque agricole paye $4 par arrobe avec la graine et $13 sans graine. Du coton amér - cain planté au Paraguay a donné, dit-on, de bons résultats.

La yerba maté, qui remplace dans l'Amérique du Sud le thé ou le café, est consommée par une forte proportion de la population du Brésil, de la République Argentine, de l'Uruguay, du Chili et du Paraguay. Le total de la yerba maté exportée de l'Assomption pendant 1899 a été évalué à $486,783 or.

La noix de palme ou de coco croît en abondance sur tous les points du Paraguay. Elle est riche en huile et on s'en sert surtout pour faire du savon. En 1899 des noix de palme ont été expédiées à Liverpool par la Banque Agricole et y ont obtenu des prix élevés. On en a également expédié en Italie où l'on en fait de l'huile. Une maison suisse de l'Assomption se sert maintenant d'une machine qui donne, dit-on, de très bons résultats en brisant la noix sans écraser l'amande.

Il y a au Paraguay plusieurs essences de bois dont quelques unes prennent un beau poli et conviennent pour des meubles lourds et massifs.

Les industries représentées à l'Assomption sont les suivantes: deux usines à sucre, trois distilleries de rhum, une brasserie, une fabrique de savon, une briqueterie, une fabrique de cigares, deux manufactures de coton et de laine, une verrerie et deux tanneries.

Le fait le plus saillant du commerce du Paraguay est que pendant les deux dernières années les relations avec l'Europe ont augmenté considérablement et la plus grande partie des exportations y sont envoyées directement et non, comme autrefois, par la rivière du Plata.

La valeur des exportations de l'Assomption en 1899 a été, d'après les données de la douane du Paraguay, la suivante:

Peaux, $441,308; yerba maté, $618,292.16; tabac, $112,488.15; bestiaux, $5,300; bois, oranges, crins, $595,550.59; cornes, $4,865.75; transbordements, $243,218.47, soit un total de $2,021,023.12 or.

A ces chiffres il faut ajouter 25 pour cent de plus pour les exportations d'autres points du pays qui ne sont pas publiées.

Les exportations de 1898 s'étaient élevées à $4,414,922 or; la diminution de 1899 provient des mesures de quarantaine; une quantité considérable de yerba maté est restée dans les pays par suite des difficultés de transport.

Les importations de l'Assomption pour 1899 se sont élevées à $1,619,590.40 or. En y ajoutant $528,247.26 or pour des articles ne payant pas de droits on a un total de $2,147,837.66 or. On n'indique pas le pays d'origine de ces marchandises comme pour les exportations. On ne peut pas obtenir de données pour les importations en ce qui concerne les autres régions du Paraguay. On peut, néanmoins, les évaluer à près de 25 pour cent en plus. Les importations en 1898 s'étaient élevées à $5,216,972 or; la diminution accusée par 1899 provient aussi de la crise commerciale causée par la peste bubonique.

URUGUAY.

CONSTRUCTION DU PORT DE MONTÉVIDÉO.

Le 10 mai dernier sont arrivés à Montévidéo deux ingénieurs représentant un puissant syndicat français, dont font partie les usines du Creusot, la Compagnie de Fives-Lille et la Compagnie marseillaise de constructions hydrauliques. Ce syndicat se prépare à concourir pour la construction du port. Les ingénieurs récemment arrivés ont pleins pouvoirs pour négocier directement avec le Gouvernement et prendre part à l'adjudication au nom du syndicat.

On assure que le Gouvernement uruguayan est certain de recevoir encore, avant l'expiration du délai fixé (31 juillet), six propositions, outre celle émanant du susdit syndicat français.

Le ministre de l'Uruguay en Allemagne a annoncé l'entrée en lice de deux puissants établissements de Berlin et de Hambourg.

La légation uruguayenne à Paris a informé le Gouvernement que l'ingénieur GUÉRARD a terminé la confection du projet definitif du port ainsi que la rédaction du projet du cahier des charges.

DÉCISION DE L'ARBITRE CONCERNANT LA DELIMITATION DE LA FRONTIÈRE ENTRE COSTARICA ET NICARAGUA.

Aux Commissaires des limites de Costa Rica et de Nicaragua:

MESSIEURS: Dans l'exercice de mes fonctions, comme arbitre des différents pouvant s'élever pendant les travaux de délimitation de la frontière entre les pays que vous représentez, je fus appelé sur les lieux, au mois d'octobre dernier, par la Commission de Nicaragua, pour déclarer quel point de la Baie de Salinas devrait être pris comme son centre, en traçant la direction finale de la frontière, depuis sa coïncidence avec la rivière Sapoà jusqu'à sa terminaison à la dite baie. Le travail à cette époque était près de San-Carlos, avec la perspective de travaux additionnels avant que la rivière Sapoà pût être atteinte, mais la décision fut demandée en avance afin de donner le temps de discuter la question et en même temps d'empêcher que le travail fut retardé quand il arriverait à ce point.

La Commission de Nicaragua, en me demandant de fixer le point central de la baie, me soumit un exposé de sa manière de voir en la matière et quelques extraits du rapport de la première Jointe Commission qui, en 1890, considérant le sujet, semblait ne pas être loin d'un arrangement amical quand, finalement, elle fut dissoute, sans être arrivée à aucun résultat efficace.

Cette exposition de la manière de voir de la Commission de Nicaragua fut immédiatement transmise à la Commission de Costa-Rica qui fut invitée à répondre comme elle le jugerait convenable.

Les deux commissions furent alors informées que, comme un arrangement amical semblait possible, j'attendrais aussi longtemps que cette possibilité semblerait exister avant de prononcer aucun jugement et je demandai d'être informé de temps en temps de la marche des progrès.

Les deux commissions ne tombèrent pas d'accord et la Commission de Costa-Rica n'a soumis aucun rapport ou commentaire sur les vues de la Commission de Nicaragua mentionnées ci-dessus.

Pendant ce temps là, les travailleurs atteindront bientôt la rivière Sapoà et devront alors suspendre les travaux jusqu'à ce que le point central de la baie Salinas soit déterminé avant qu'ils puissent décider définitivement, la direction que devra suivre la ligne finale de la frontière.

Pour éviter ce délai et les dépenses qu'il occasionnera aux deux Gouvernements, il ne m'est pas possible de suspendre plus longtemps ma décision à ce sujet, mais il est convenable que je fasse remarquer que ma sentence n'empêchera pas un accord amical.

Le traité de 1858 donne le pouvoir aux commissions de diverger de la ligne droite astronomique entre Sapoà et Salinas pourvu qu'elles soient d'accord sur cette divergence afin d'adopter une borne naturelle.

Ce pouvoir est, en aucune façon, restreint par ma sentence, qui détermine seulement ou l'on devra tracer une ligne astronomique droite.

Ayant, en conséquence, étudié à fond, la question voici quelle est ma décision:

Les stipulations du traité de 1858, traitant de la matière, sont les suivantes:

De l'Article II: "Du point où la frontière touche la rivière Sapoá, qui, comme il a été dit précédemment, doit être à deux milles du lac, on devra projeter une ligne astronomique droite jusqu'au point central de la baie de Salinas, dans la mer du Sud, lequel point déterminera la démarcation du territoire des Républiques contractantes."

De l'Article IV: "La Baie de San Juan del Norte, aussi bien que celle de Salinas, doivent être communes aux deux Républiques; conséquemment, jouissant des mêmes avantages, elles auront aussi l'obligation de s'unir pour leurs défenses."

L'interprétation de tous les points douteux de ce traité fut soumise au Président CLEVELAND, et sa décision à ce sujet fut donnée dans les stipulations très claires qui suivent:

"2. Le point central de la Baie Salinas doit être fixé par une ligne droite qui traversera l'embouchure de la baie et déterminera mathématiquement le centre de la figure géométrique formée par telle ligne droite et le bord de la baie à marée basse.

"3. Par le point central de la Baie de Salinas, il faut comprendre le centre de la figure géométrique formée, comme il été dit plus haut. La limite de la baie du côté de l'océan est une ligne droite tirée depuis l'extrémité de Punta Arranca Barba près du sud, jusqu'à la partie la plus occidentale de la terre aux environs de Punta Sacate.

La Commission de Nicaragua soutient, dans son argument, que la véritable limite de la baie devrait être une ligne entre Punta Sacate et Punta Mala. Cette ligne serait entre un ou deux milles en dedans de celle déterminée par la sentence du Président CLEVELAND. Il est inutile d'examiner les mérites de cette prétention. Par le traité Matus Pacheco, passé à San Salvador, le 27 mars 1896, cette décision fut adoptée comme loi par cette Commission.

Le premier article de ce traité est comme suit:

Les Gouvernements contractants sont obligés de nommer respectivement une commission, composée chacune de deux ingénieurs ou géomètres, dans le but de déterminer exactement la ligne de démarcation entre les Républiques de Nicaragua et Costa-Rica, d'après les clauses du Traité du 15 avril 1858 et la décision du Président des Etats-Unis de l'Amérique du Nord, Mr. GROVER CLEVELAND.

Les pouvoirs comme arbitre qui me sont conférés dans l'Article II de ce Traité, de trancher n'importe quelle difficulté qui pourrait surgir, doivent être seulement exercés dans les limites fixées par l'Article I. Je n'ai pas le droit de décider contrairement au jugement du Président CLEVELAND là où la signification de la sentence n'est pas contestée.

Quant au travail inachevé et aux conventions partielles de 1890, ils furent tous rejetés par le Traité de 1896. Il faut remarquer que le territoire qui aurait été accordé au Nicaragua par l'adoption amicale proposée de la ligne partant de Punta Zacate à Punta Mala, comme limite de la baie, aurait environ trois quarts de mille de côte.

Il est de plus démontré, dans l'argument de Nicaragua, que la ligne de Sapoa, au centre de la baie, perd son caractère comme ligne de démarcation là où elle quitte le rivage pour entrer dans les eaux de la baie. Cet argument semble, en effet, s'accorder avec l'Article IV du Traité de 1858, déjà cité, qui déclare les eaux de la baie communes et avec le fait que la ligne se termine au centre de la baie et ne s'étend pas jusqu'à l'océan.

Mais, dans mon opinion, les fonctions de cette Commission sont limitées à déterminer la démarcation de la ligne séparatrice entre les Républiques. Le caractère légal de cette partie de la ligne sur l'eau, et peut-être quelques questions de juridiction qui peuvent surgir, sont du moins en dehors du but de la présente investigation qui a pour objet seulement de déterminer la location du centre de la Baie de Salinas telle qu'elle a été décrite dans la décision du Président CLEVELAND.

En 1885, le plan de la Baie de Salinas fut soigneusement levé

par les oficiers de la marine des Etats-Unis, et une carte géographique de la dite baie fut publiée, sous le No. 1025, par le service hydrographique de la marine des Etats-Unis. Avec le consentement des deux commissions j'ai adopté cette carte, comme représentant correctement le contour de la baie. Sa figure a la forme d'une poche courbée, commençant à l'est et se dirigeant vers le sud, a à peu près cinq milles de long et environ une moitié de cette longueur, comme largeur moyenne. Son contour ressemble un peu à la crosse d'un pistolet avec quelques projections et indentures irrégulières.

On désire trouver le centre mathématique de cette figure, fermée par la ligne droite unissant les extrémités (headlands) de la baie. Le centre mathématique d'une figure irrégulière est le point medium de son aire. Tous les centres mécaniques tel que le centre de gravité ou de l'équilibre, etc., dans lequel l'action d'une force quelconque est concernée, ne doivent pas être considérés.

Ceci se présentera facilement, si nous considérons pour un moment le cas d'une baie ayant la forme d'un croissant. Le centre de gravité de cette figure ne tomberait pas du tout sur l'eau de la baie, mais sur le promontoire embrassé par l'eau. Celui-ci, bien entendu, ne pourrait pas être considéré comme le centre de la baie.

Il est impossible d'appliquer aucun procédé mathématique général tel que celui de la méthode des plus petits carrés (least squares); cette méthode trouvera le centre de n'importe quel groupe de morceaux de terre distribués au hasard; mais s'ils étaient disposés en forme de croissant, le centre ne serait pas parmi eux, mais se trouverait dans l'espace convexe qu'ils entourent partiellement.

On doit, en conséquence, inventer d'autres méthodes pour trouver un point moyen des aires irrégulières et restreintes et beaucoup peuvent être suggérées plus ou moins applicables aux figures différentes. Mais il sera suffisant ici d'indiquer seulement celle que j'ai adoptée comme étant la mieux appropriée à la figure qui nous intéresse, laquelle affecte, comme elle le fait, la forme courbée d'un croissant.

J'ai supposé un navire qui de l'océan pénètre dans la baie, par un point situé à égale distance de ses caps (headlands), suivant, aussi près que possible, une route équidistante des rivages opposés, sur la droite et la gauche, jusqu'à ce qu'il ait pénétré au point le plus reculé de la baie.

Cette route, quoique courbe, étant soigneusement relevée sur la carte, peut être prise comme l'axe principale de la baie. J'ai tracé à différents points, à travers la baie, d'un rivage à l'autre, des lignes droites formant des angles droits avec l'axe et, au moyen d'un planimètre, j'ai déterminé la position d'une ligne telle qu'elle divisera exactement l'aire entière de la baie, en parties égales. Cette ligne peut être prise comme la petite axe correspondante de la baie et son intersection avec la grande axe sera le centre de la baie.

A ce point, une ligne qui traversera la proue du navire supposé perpendiculairement à la route qu'il suit, aura une moitié des eaux de la baie devant elle et l'autre moitié derrière elle.

Ayant, de cette maniàre, localisé exactement le point, j'ai déterminé, d'après l'échelle de la carte, sa distance du point le plus élevé de la petite ile dans la baie, dont la latitude et la longitude sont données sur la carte comme suit: Latitude, 11° 3′ 10″; longitude, 85° 43′ 38″.

Les résultats sont 37 secondes nord et 14 secondes à l'est de ce point.

En conséquence, je fixe la position du centre de la Baie de Salinas comme suit: Latitude, 11° 3′ 47″ nord; longitude, 85° 43′ 52″ ouest.

La ligne frontière doit se diriger vers ce point, depuis sa rencontre avec la Rivière Sapoa, à moins que les deux Commissions puissent convenir d'une ligne formée par des bornes naturelles.

Je suis, Messieurs, très respectueusement, votre obéissant serviteur,

(Signé) E. P. ALEXANDER,
Ingénieur-Arbitre.

NEW YORK, *le 10 mars 1900.*

PRODUCTION ET COMMERCE DU CAFÉ DU MONDE.

Mr. RICHARD M. BARTLEMAN vient de transmettre de Màlaga au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères à Washington, la traduction d'un article d'un journal contenant des renseignements au sujet de la production du café du monde. Il dit que les courtiers hollandais ont publié récemment un rapport très important donnant des statistiques sur le café pendant les six années qui viennent de s'écouler, et d'après les chiffres de ces statistiques il déduit les données suivantes concernant les importations et livraisons pour l'année, ainsi que la consommation et le stock restant en magasin en Europe et aux Etats-Unis le 31 décembre 1899:

Description.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.	1894.
EUROPE.						
	Sacs.	*Sacs.*	*Sacs.*	*Sacs.*	*Sacs.*	*Sacs.*
Importations pour l'année...	9,165,700	9,426,800	9,181,900	7,374,300	7,340,000	6,494,000
Délivré pour la consommation	8,867,400	8,502,900	7,968,100	7,405,700	6,805,400	6,647,800
En stock le 31 décembre	4,114,800	3,816,500	2,892,600	1,675,700	1,710,200	1,175,600
ETATS-UNIS.						
Importations pour l'année...	6,433,900	5,822,900	5,817,900	4,585,900	4,588,900	4,465,100
Délivré pour la consommation	6,271,900	5,822,900	5,408,900	4,554,000	4,435,000	4,400,000
En stock le 31 décembre	1,080,000	918,000	918,000	508,000	475,000	321,000
ETATS-UNIS ET EUROPE.						
Importations pour l'année...	15,599,600	15,249,700	14,999,800	11,960,200	11,928,900	10,959 100
Délivré pour la consommation	15,139,300	14,325,800	13,377,900	11,959,700	11,240,400	11,047,800
En stock le 31 décembre	5,194,800	4,734,500	3,810,600	2,186,700	2,185,200	1,496,600

La production universelle pendant les six années fiscales passées est rapportée avoir été comme suit:

Année.	Production.	Année.	Production.
	Sacs.		*Sacs.*
1895–96	10,355,000	1898–99	13,723,000
1896–97	13,605,000	1899–1900	14,437,000
1897–98	16,178,000	1900–1901	13,975,000

Le journal, "The American Grocer," du 18 juillet 1900, publie un article intéressant intitulé le "Commerce du café du monde" (World's Coffee Trade), dans lequel il est dit que le commerce du café pendant l'année fiscale finissant le 30 juin 1900 est remarquable, étant données les livraisons qui ont été les plus grandes qui aient jamais été enregistrées et la hausse des prix, ce qui indiquerait que la consommation est presque aussi grande que la production, et que la disparité entre l'approvisionnement et les demandes est beaucoup moindre qu'elle n'a été pendant quelques années. Cet exposé est suivi d'une table montrant les livraisons actuelles de café en Europe et aux Etats-Unis pendant les dix années qui viennent de s'écouler. En 1890–91, les livraisons aux Etats-Unis se sont montées à 2,672,976 sacs, et en Europe à 6,045,685 sacs, soit un total de 8,718,661 sacs. En 1899–1900, les livraisons ont augmenté dans les proportions suivantes: Etats-Unis, 6,035,623 sacs; Europe, 8,937,076 sacs, soit un total de 14,972,699 sacs. Le total général pour les deux pays, pour une période de 10 années, se montait à 118,666,346 sacs, soit une moyenne annuelle de 11,866,635 sacs.

Ces chiffres montrent que pendant dix années, les demandes ont augmenté de près de 72 pour cent. De 1890–91 à 1896–97, le prix du café a été généralement élevé, et si on compare ce fait avec les livraisons qui ont été faites, on verra que pendant cinq ans, de 1891–92 à 1895–96 inclus, les livraisons sont restées pratiquement stationnaires et n'ont pas beaucoup varié d'une moyenne annuelle de 10,935,595 sacs. On peut déduire de ceci que les prix élevés ont empêché la consommation d'augmenter. Pendant cette période, la culture du café a été une industrie très profitable et, excepté dans les Indes orientales, cette production a été encouragée partout. Ceci fut prouvé par une récolte du Brésil de 8,680,000 sacs en 1896–97, contre une moyenne annuelle de 6,015,800 sacs pendant les cinq années passées.

La récolte du Brésil pendant les dix années commençant en 1890–91 et finissant en 1899–1900 montre un total général de 72,309,000 sacs, ou une production moyenne annuelle de 7,230,900 sacs. L'article cité est accompagné d'une carte montrant l'aire productive du café au Brésil et le territoire capable d'être cultivé ce qui assurerait un approvisionnement assez grand pour satisfaire aux besoins du monde pendant de nombreuses années à venir, sujet, cependant, aux influences que les marchés du monde exercent en excitant d'un côté la production par

les prix élevés et en empêchant de l'autre cette industrie de se développer par des prix si bas qu'ils rendent cette industrie improfitable.

Les exportations de Rio-Janeiro et de Santos, pendant l'année fiscale finissant le 30 juin, montrent que le nombre de sacs expédiés du premier port aux Etats-Unis, se montait à 2,376,000, et en Europe à 905,000; du dernier port, 1,619,000 sacs furent expédiés aux Etats-Unis et 4,119,000 en Europe. Le total des exportations des deux ports s'est monté en dix ans à 71,748,000 sacs, ou 4,220,470 tonnes, la moyenne annuelle étant de 7,174,800 sacs. Ces chiffres représentent 60 pour cent des livraisons totales du monde.

Pendant l'année fiscale 1899–1900, le Brésil est compris pour 9,019,000 sacs dans le total général du monde qui s'est monté à 14,972,699 sacs. En 1898, l'approvisionnement connu du café était 5,435,974 sacs, mais les livraisons ont été beaucoup plus grandes qu'au 1er juillet 1900, l'approvisionnement n'étant seulement que de 404,587 sacs de plus. Ceci indiquerait que les demandes sont presque aussi fortes que l'approvisionnement et qu'une diminution quelconque dans les récoltes augmenterait matériellement les prix.

Pendant l'année fiscale finissant le 30 juin 1900, le "New York Coffee Exchange" a vendu 5,879,500 sacs de café, contre 4,060,500 sacs en 1898–99. Le meilleur mois de l'année fiscale était le mois de septembre et la vente n'allait pas en juillet, le plus haut prix payé étant 8.05 cents en mai pour être délivré en juin et le plus bas 4.10 cents en septembre pour être délivré en octobre.

PERSPECTIVE DE LA PROCHAINE RÉCOLTE DE COTON AUX ETATS-UNIS.

D'après le rapport annuel du "Commercial and Financial Chronicle," de New York, on constate cette année, une augmentation notable dans la superficie des plantations de coton aux Etats-Unis. L'augmentation est générale pour tous les districts et de 22,433,245 acres en 1899, la superficie totale des plantations s'est élevée à 24,625,944 acres en 1900, soit une augmentation de 2,193,699 acres ou 9.76 pour cent. Il est à remarquer toutefois que la superficie des plantations a diminué, en 1899, d'environ 150,000 acres comparativement à l'année précédente.

Voici un résumé des conditions actuelles de la prochaine récolte:

Il est dès à présent certain que la récolte sera tardive. Il en a été de même l'année dernière, mais, cette saison, les travaux ont été retardés plus longtemps encore dans certain districts. Au commencement de l'année, la pluie et les froids empêchèrent les travaux à peu près partout. Plus récemment, toutefois, ce sont surtout les planteurs de l'Alabama, du Mississippi, du Texas et de la Louisiane qui ont eu le

plus à se plaindre sous ce rapport. Des pluies excessives y sont tombées, les terres sont détrempées et les basses terres en partie inondées. Cela a surtout été le cas au Texas où certaines plantations ont été inondées deux fois cette année. Pour le Texas, l'aspect de la récolte est en général moins favorable que l'année dernière.

Dans les districts où la plante est suffisamment avancée pour qu'on puisse travailler le terrain et où les pluies n'ont pas été excessives pendant ces derniers temps, le sarclage a été fait dans de bonnes conditions. Mais par contre, le sarclage n'a pas encore été commencé dans une grand partie de la Caroline du Nord et dans les districts où la récolte est tardive; la plante y est encore trop petite pour permettre de travailler le terrain. Il en est d'ailleurs ainsi presque tous les ans, et il suffit généralement d'une semaine de bon temps pour ramener les choses à leur état normal. L'achat des engrais a fortement augmenté, mais, jusqu'à présent, leur emploi n'a été pratiqué que sur les bords de l'Atlantique et dans l'Alabama. En ce qui concerne l'influence des engrais sur l'importance de la récolte, on ne doit pas perdre de vue que leur emploi avait fortement diminué en 1899.

Les remarques qui précèdent indiquent assez clairement les conditions de la récolte. On sait qu'elle sera plus tardive encore que l'année dernière, mais, à part cela, les perspectives ne sont pas défavorables. Il serait cependant prématuré de vouloir en estimer le rendement; celui-ci dépendra en grande partie du temps qu'il fera jusqu'au moment de la récolte.

PRIME POUR L'INVENTION DE GANTS ISOLANTS.

L'Association des industriels de France contre les accidents, écrit le "Bulletin Commercial" de Belgique, vient d'ouvrir un concours international pour gants isolants destinés aux ouvriers électriciens. Ces gants devront assurer une protection efficace aux mains et à l'avant-bras. Ils devront être solides et pouvoir résister non seulement à la tension électrique, mais aussi aux perforations accidentelles qui pourraient provenir, par exemple, de la rugosité des fils de cuivre. Ils devront être faciles à porter, commodes pour toutes les mains et laisser aux doigts une liberté suffisante pour exécuter le travail dans de bonnes conditions.

Les concurrents devront faire parvenir, avant le 31 décembre 1900, au président de l'association susmentionnée, à Paris, une notice explicative et deux paires de gants qui seront présentées au concours.

L'examen de ces gants et les expériences auxquelles ils seront soumis seront faits par une commission spéciale, qui présentera ensuite un rapport au conseil d'administration de la société.

Une somme de 1,000 francs sera accordée, comme prime, à l'inventeur des gants déclarés les meilleurs, ou pourra être répartie entre plusieurs concurrents.

MÉLASSE COMME PÂTURE DES ANIMAUX.

Dans le cours d'un article concernant les produits de la canne à sucre, le journal "Louisiana Planter" dit que par suite de la récolte peu abondante de la canne à sucre de 1899, les demandes de mélasse bon marché ont été plus nombreuses. Le prix bas auquel la mélasse a été vendue aux Etats-Unis pendant les dernières années, ainsi que les quantités considérables qui ont été jetées, faute de marchés pour l'écouler, ont attiré l'attention des éleveurs de bestiaux de l'Angleterre et de très grandes quantités ont été expédiées à l'étranger pour être données en nourriture aux chevaux et aux bestiaux, les planteurs de la Louisiane semblant ignorer la valeur, comme aliment, de ce produit des plantations des Etats-Unis. Récemment, les planteurs de sucre de cet Etat discutèrent à fond la question et décidèrent qu'il était préférable de nourir leurs chevaux, leurs mules et leurs bestiaux avec de la mélasse que de l'expédier en Angleterre. Outre que la mélasse fournit un aliment abondant, il a été démontré, à la grande satisfaction de l'association, que l'économie faite sur le prix des barils, l'embarquement de ces derniers à la Nouvelle-Orléans et leur réembarquement en Europe, serait très grande.

Comme la mélasse est un aliment liquide, les planteurs de la Louisiane mettent un temps considérable à la préparer pour la consommation. On a trouvé que le meilleur moyen de donner la mélasse aux bestiaux était de la leur rendre toujours accessible et de leur en laisser manger autant qu'ils en désirent, sans craindre aucun résultat dangereux. L'expérience a aussi démontré que les animaux qui se nourrissaient de mélasse devenaient gras, luisants et que l'effet général était satisfaisant.

On estime que la récolte actuelle de la canne à sucre produira moins que la moitié de l'approvisionnement normal de mélasse de qualité inférieure, de sorte qu'il y en aura peu à offrir aux acheteurs, s'il y en a, à moins que les planteurs trouvant le prix de la mélasse trop élevé, la vendent et achètent en échange des grains pour les animaux. Si même cela arrive, il sera nécessaire de prendre de très grandes précautions, car la mélasse est un aliment bien meilleur pour le bétail que beaucoup d'espèces de grains et les 5 ou 10 livres employées par tête pour les animaux qui travaillent peuvent être difficilement remplacées par aucune autre nourriture, à part l'avoine, pouvant donner d'aussi bons résultats.

BIBLIOGRAPHIE.

Les livres et les brochures qui seront envoyés au Bureau de Républiques Américaines, et qui contiendront des sujets ou matières traitant de pays de l'Union internationale des Républiques Américaines, seront mentionnés dans le Bulletin Mensuel sous le titre "Bibliographie."

Le 1er novembre 1900, on publiera dans la ville de Mexico un livre contenant les noms et adresses de tous les citoyens des Etats-Unis, des Anglais et des autres personnes parlant la langue anglaise, habitant dans cette ville. Ce livre aura pour titre "Gringoes in Mexico," et sera compilé par deux jeunes journalistes en rapport respectivement avec les "Deux Républiques" (Two Republics) et le "Mexican Herald" (le Messager Mexicain). Ce livre sera principalement un almanach de commerce et contiendra non seulement le nom, l'adresse, la profession de toutes les personnes qui parlent l'anglais dans la capitale du Mexique, mais aussi une liste, par classes, de toutes les maisons de commerce importantes et de leurs employés parlant l'anglais. On y trouvera aussi les noms des personnes appartenant à la société, ceux de tous les fonctionnaires du Gouvernement et de la municipalité, ceux des places qui se trouvent dans la ville ou aux environs et enfin les noms de tous les édifices publics, des églises et de leurs emplacements, etc.

Mr. Richard E. Chism, Docteur en Philosophie, qui habite la ville de Mexico, vient de publier une "Encyclopédie des lois Mexicaines sur les mines" (Encyclopedia of Mexican Mining Laws.) Ce volume de 201 pages sera d'une très grande valeur pour toutes les personnes qui sont intéressées dans les lois relatives aux mines dans la République du Mexique. Cet ouvrage contient aussi une table des matières très compréhensive de 32 pages, qui rend ce livre encore plus utile et un glossaire des termes miniers mexicains.

Le "Nicaragua en 1900" (Nicaragua in 1900) est le titre d'une brochure dont l'auteur est Señor Don Cristano Medina. Le but de ce petit ouvrage est d'attirer l'attention des personnes qui visitent l'Exposition Universelle de Paris sur les produits du Nicaragua et leur importance dans le monde commercial. Des descriptions des produits du Nicaragua exposés à l'Exposition sont incorporés accidentellement dans cette brochure.

Señor Pablo Pudwig, de Buenos Ayres, a publié récemment le plan de cette ville. Ce plan montre non seulement la ville proprement dite, mais aussi Barracas al Sur et d'autres faubourgs du sud aussi bien que le dock et les rues qu'on se propose de construire au sud et dans ce voisinage.

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ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The following is an extract from the message of President ROCA to the National Congress, delivered at Buenos Ayres on July 17, 1900, and published in "La Nación," an important daily newspaper of the capital of that Republic:

FINANCIAL SITUATION.

The message begins by saying that at the opening of the present legislative period and in the memorial of the Minister of Finance, the state of the national finances was made public, and, while there has been but little change in the situation since that time (as far as the administration is concerned), the internal and external circumstances that have affected the economic life of the nation have been many and varied.

"The war in South Africa restricted to a considerable extent the flow of foreign capital to the Republic, as did also the existence of the bubonic plague, and the *aphthous* fever (foot-and-mouth disease) among stock, which caused a quarantine by Brazilian and European ports, which quarantine is still maintained against cattle on the hoof. The unlooked-for happenings in China, and the complicated financial situation in Europe, have all tended to depress international values and restrict credit in the financial centers of the world. These facts which more or less influence or will affect the finances of the country

at its principal source of supply, disturbing thereby commerce and production, are sufficient in themselves to cause the Executive to exercise great prudence in all matters relating to public expenses; but other causes, produced by the efforts made to acquire armaments and materials for the navy and to realize costly public works, and arrive at the liquidation of railroad guarantees and Provincial debts, compelled the Government to adopt a financial policy of watchful and energetic foresight.

"To the large public debt contracted within the last few years, and which must be cared for by the Government, there should be added the plan of amortization of the foreign debt which goes into operation in 1901, and which requires a disbursement of $3,633,502 gold. This compels a dependence solely upon the resources of the country, and confines the Government to the actual means at hand, for the accomplishment of which end it is necessary to adopt energetic measures, in order to meet the obligations of the nation without disturbing economic development. If the next harvest is as abundant as the preceding one, the situation will improve; but it would be a lack of prudence not to consider a possible failure in this direction, especially when it is evident that the resources of the Republic depend upon the greater or lesser production at home."

THE FLOATING DEBT.

Speaking of the floating debt, the President states that it consists of drafts on the Treasury which fall due during the present and coming year, amounting to $9,330,000 gold, and credits in Europe to the extent of $4,500,000 gold, or a total of $13,830,000 gold. "To meet this there are on hand at the Argentine Legation in London, and at different banks, and in the Treasury, $2,000,000 national currency and $7,300,000 in gold. At the Treasury there have been no delayed payments, and payments for account of the budget are made promptly. It is calculated that the sums which have been solicited from Congress for the payment of former expenses will amount to $5,000,000. The Treasury has sufficient funds in Europe, after making the July payment on the public debt, to meet that which falls due on the first of October, which amounts to £760,000. This leaves a considerable surplus to apply on the amount due on the first of January, amounting to £600,000. It is also in condition to retire the greater part of the Treasury drafts in circulation, the credits on Europe being on long time and renewable at maturity. The limiting of this paper to $9,330,000 gold at home has placed it at its true value.

FUTURE OBLIGATIONS.

"Apart from the obligations already named there are three large ones for the future, consisting of Puerto Madero bonds, $4,000,000 gold;

balance for armaments, payable in three years, $3,000,000 gold; advance by Baring, due in 1902, $10,000,000, or a total of $17,000,000 gold. The first of these falls due on July 1 next, and was contracted, in the opinion of the bankers, to cover the bonds of the port, which they held as a guarantee. For the second and third there is provided in the budget $2,000,000 gold, which covers the amount due for 1901."

THE BUDGET.

The budgets of 1899 and 1900 are compared, showing that in the latter there was a decrease of $2,638,994 gold and $8,721,081 national currency. The budget for 1901, notwithstanding that it includes the funds for amortization, which amount to $3,663,502 gold, shows an increase in gold of $2,161,565, and a decrease in national currency of $5,831,459. This amounts to a decrease in the present budget of $8,078,842 national currency, but as for sundry purposes the expenses in various departments have been increased by $536,933, the actual saving amounts to $7,541,909 national currency. These figures show a decrease of 13 per cent from the budget of 1899, leaving the total amount of the budget $147,100,000 national currency.

THE PUBLIC DEBT.

The internal consolidated and foreign consolidated debts, and the debt for improvements and armaments, amount to $418,379,118 gold. The disbursements for this account, according to the 1901 budget, are $22,487,214 gold and $12,093,810 national currency, or a total of $27,808,490 gold. The Executive desires to convert the debt in such a manner that the amount required will not exceed $22,000,000 gold.

REVENUE TARIFF.

The Executive favors a tariff for revenue, takes as a basis for his estimate the receipts for the year 1899, which amounted to $37,991,718 gold and $62,300,000 national currency, and devotes considerable space to the consideration of this important subject.

GOVERNMENT ESTIMATES.

The estimate for the needs of the Government from all sources for the year 1901 is $25,981,543 gold and $88,340,250 national currency. This shows a decrease of $6,001,499 national currency, and an increase of $2,161,065 gold, or a saving of $1,094,747 national currency, as compared with the estimate for 1900.

PRINCIPAL EXPORTS.

The "Review of the River Plate," for July 21, 1900, contains a table showing the destination of the principal exports to European,

North American, African, and Brazilian ports for the first half of the year 1900. From this, after reducing some of the quantities to denominations used in the United States, the following statistics are obtained:

Wheat	bushels	54,382,340	Tobacco	bales	3,495
Maize	do	11,339,754	Goatskins	do	1,356
Flour	tons	9,170	Sheepskins	do	21,105
Flaxseed	do	191,202	Hair	do	1,840
Wool	pounds	201,494,377	Oxhides, dry	number	820,406
Tallow	do	21,051,946	Oxhides, salt	do	536,398
Wethers, frozen	number	1,201,905	Horsehides, dry	do	33,788
Beef	quarters	96,900	Horsehides, salt	do	8,060
Butter	cases	24,688	Oil seed	bags	69,807
Sugar	tons	1,090	Quebracho	tons	126,915
Hay	bales	953,746	Pollards	bags	78,697

The share taken by the United States was as follows: Dry oxhides, 394,594, or almost half the supply; salt oxhides, 7,480; hair, 366 bales; goatskins, 1,083 bales, or more than three-fourths of the exports; wool, 18,042,777 pounds; linseed, 428 tons, and quebracho, 12,455 tons.

Belgium was the largest purchaser of wheat, with Great Britain second. The number of tons of maize reported sold to France and Great Britain was nearly equal, although the quantity of maize as well as of wheat credited to "orders" exceeded the amount exported directly to any one country. All but 200 of the frozen wethers, all of the quarters of beef and sugar, and all but 128 cases of butter, were exported to Great Britain. The other articles, excepting the horsehides, were pretty well distributed, Belgium and Germany taking all but 2,600 of the aggregate of 41,848 of both the dry and salt horsehides.

BOUNDARY TREATY WITH BRAZIL.

The "Official Bulletin" of the Argentine Republic in a recent issue publishes the general boundary treaty agreement between the representative of that Republic and the representative of Brazil.

Article 1 of this treaty states that the dividing line between the Argentine Republic and Brazil commences at the Uruguay River opposite the mouth of the Guareim and follows the thalweg of said river to the mouth of the Pepiri-Guazú. The right margin or west side of the Uruguay River belongs to the Argentine Republic, and the left margin or east side of the same river to Brazil. From the mouth of the river Pepiri-Guazú, the line follows the bed of that river to its principal source, where it continues over the highest land to the main source of the San Antonio River, and from there follows the river's bed until it unites with the Liguazú River, in conformity with the decision made by the President of the United States.

The entire territory west of the dividing line of both of these rivers

and of the dividing line between the heads of the two streams belongs to the Argentine Republic, while that to the east belongs to Brazil. From the mouth of the San Antonio River the line follows the thalweg of the Iguazú River to its juncture with the Paraná, the south or left margin of the river belonging to the Argentine Republic, and the north or right margin to Brazil. The islands of the Uruguay and of the Iguazú rivers shall continue to belong to the country by which they are assigned by the thalweg of each one of these rivers.

The foregoing embraces the principal points of the treaty. The instrument itself must be ratified by the national Congress of each of the two Republics at as early a date as possible before becoming effective.

PUBLIC LANDS IN MISIONES TERRITORY.

The "Buenos Ayres Herald," of July 27, 1900, says that the Department of Immigration offers to immigrants good public lands in the Department of Cerro-Cora, in the Territory of Misiones, for agricultural development. Families are to receive 100 lots of 100 hectares each, divided in lots of 25 hectares, at $2 per hectare, payable one-fifth cash and one-fifth each year during the space of four years.

This Department is healthy, and the thermometer never falls below 15° C. nor ranges above 38°. It is especially adapted for growing tobacco, sugar, ramie, flax, and particularly olives. The country has also sections covered with wood and timber.

The capital of the Department has medicines available gratis for the colonists who have no money to buy them, and at cost for those who can buy. The immigrant will be sent to the colony free on showing his intention to take up land. These lands will not be given to brokers or speculators. Señor ALSINE, chief of the Immigration Department in Buenos Ayres, will furnish all data desired.

TOBACCO PRODUCTION AND IMPORTATION.

The tobacco manufacturing industry in the Argentine Republic is very extensive, and a large part of the raw material used is raised solely in the northern part of the country. The annual native production of tobacco is estimated to be about 12,000 tons, and the consumption about 14,000 tons. The importations amount to about 771,540 pounds annually, mostly from Bahia, Sumatra, Havana, Paraguay, and Virginia.

About 11,500,000 cigars are imported annually, of which about 10,200,000 come from Italy, 1,000,000 from Havana, 100,000 from the Philippines, etc. In Buenos Ayres, the capital and chief commercial center of the Republic, there are about 700 tobacco factories, employing 7,500 people, and working with a capital of about $12,000,000.

The population of the Argentine Republic is composed of many different nationalities but Italians are largely in the predominance among the foreign born residents, which accounts for the large importation of Italian cigars. The principal brands imported from Italy are Neapolitans, Tuscans, Cavours, Virginias, etc. According to the report of the German Legation the exports of cigars from Germany to the Argentine Republic are as yet small, although Germany now ranks third in the trade, but the Germans in this, as in all other lines in the Argentine Republic, are steadily making headway. Havana cigars are sold at exceedingly high prices, ranging from $18 to $45 per box of 100, but common cigars manufactured in Buenos Ayres range in price from $1.40 to $7 per box of 100.

In the Province of Salta there are 1,051 plantations of tobacco which comprise 2,733 hectares under cultivation. It is calculated that the production this year, for the Province named, will amount to 2,600,000 kilos of tobacco. In the neighboring Province of Jujuy there are 55 plantations, comprising 172 hectares, estimated to produce over 40,000 kilograms of tobacco. These Provinces are in the extreme north of the Republic and have a tropical climate.

TRADE AT BAHIA BLANCA.

The British Vice-Consul at Bahia Blanca reports to his home government that the natural advantages of that port, as regards climate and the facilities of shipment, have now made it one of the most important centers in the Republic for the exportation of wheat. The shipments of this grain to Europe commenced in 1891, with about 2,000 tons. In 1899, 200,000 tons were shipped over the Great Southern Railway's mole, and the exports for 1900 are expected to reach a total of 300,000 tons.

There are in and in close proximity of Bahia Blanca seven large wool *barracas* with baling presses. These establishments are connected with French and German exporting houses in Buenos Ayres. Besides these, there are several *barracas* where wool and other produce is received for sale on consignment. The wool business is steadily increasing, the shipments in 1891 being 17,000 bales, which had increased in 1899 to 47,000 bales. The anticipated shipments in 1900 will reach a total of from 60,000 to 65,000 bales.

The Great Southern Railway Company has a large shed at the port for storing grain and other produce, while the Bahia Blanca and Northwestern Railway Company have two very large buildings for the storing and sale of wool and other produce. The latter are known as the "Victoria Produce Market." The accommodation in all these buildings is insufficient for the increased quantity of produce arriving

for export. The export trade has been, and still is, very much hampered by inadequate storage and wharf accommodations, particularly the latter. The Southern Railway Company is now increasing its mole to about double its former size. These alterations are expected to be completed by the end of 1900. A straight channel in the estuary from Port Belgrano to the railway mole is being dredged so that ships and steamers drawing from 24 to 26 feet can enter at high tide.

COMMERCIAL TRAVELERS' LICENSES.

In the report of the British Vice-Consul at Buenos Ayres for 1899 (Foreign Office, Annual Series, 2,580) it is stated that commercial travelers going to the Argentine Republic, whether to sell goods or merely to show samples and solicit orders, must first secure a license to do business. This varies in price in accordance with the kind of business carried on, and is, roughly speaking, from $50 to $250, paper, per annum, though the licenses for permanent business in the country are in some cases very much higher. No licenses are issued for a shorter period than one year, and the fine inflicted for non-compliance with the law is 50 per cent of the amount due. Licenses are obtainable only on personal application.

EXTRADITION TREATY WITH THE UNITED STATES.

The Official Bulletin of the Argentine Republic has recently published, in Spanish and English, the full text of the extradition treaty between that country and the United States. This treaty was signed by the representatives of the two Governments at Buenos Ayres on September 26, 1896; was modified and approved by the National Congress of the Argentine Republic on December 29, 1898, and duly approved and modified in its ratified form by the United States Senate on February 5, 1900. The treaty consists of twelve articles, and provides that refugees from justice shall be reciprocally delivered up, under given circumstances, to either of the high contracting parties.

FORFEITURE OF LAND CONCESSION.

The "Boletín Oficial," official organ of the Government, under date of June 2, 1900, publishes a decree declaring forfeited the concession of 80,000 hectares of Government lands in the Territory of Rio Negro. This is a colonization concession granted in 1887. By the forfeiture of this concession the land reverts to the Government, the concessionaires becoming liable for the payment of a fine of $10,000 for non-compliance with the terms of the contract.

COMMERCIAL INTERESTS OF PATAGONIA.

The "Berichte über Handel und Industrie," Berlin, August 3, 1900, contains a report of the commercial attaché of the German Consulate-General at Buenos Ayres, embodying an article upon the development of the commercial interests on the coasts of Patagonia. This district has recently received the special attention of the Argentine Government, and in a modest way commercial circles have begun to manifest interest in it. According to the most recent statistics, the territory of Chubut contains about 4,500 inhabitants, while that of the Santa Cruz includes about 5,700 people. In that part of the Straits of Magellan which belongs to the Argentine Republic there are 500 inhabitants. A description of the various ports in Patagonia is given. The expedition, which had been sent out by the Ministry of Marine of the Argentine Republic, has obtained most valuable results, and many details in regard to the possibilities of the country have been secured. The principal article of export is wool, of which about 1,000 tons are exported from Puerto Santa Cruz. Iron wire and sheet tin, articles of nutriment, liquors, condensed milk, butter, potatoes, and building material are imported. Especial attention is called to the necessity of packing the goods very securely, owing to the peculiar conditions existing in regard to transportation in Patagonia.

CULTIVATION OF FIBER-PRODUCING PLANTS.

In discussing the advantage of cultivating the proper fiber-producing plants and in creating mills for the production of bagging and twine for harvest requirements "La Prensa," of Buenos Ayres, says:

"In 1899 our country imported 31,580 tons of *arpillera* (bagging), with a value of $6,315,999 gold; 3,954 tons of tying twine, valued at $700,870 gold. Both sums form a total of $7,106,870 gold, or paper $16,345,801. It will be seen, therefore, that the manufacture of bags and twine constitutes a powerful industry in prospective, the establishment of which in this country should not be delayed."

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

Mr. E. M. Nelson, representing the Ministry of Agriculture, has been sent abroad for the purpose of studying rural economy in several countries. He will visit England, the German Empire, France, Italy, Spain, and Switzerland, with a view to the formation of a system suitable to conditions in the Argentine Republic. Mr. Nelson will also be the representative of the Argentine Republic at the Bucolic Congress to be held in Paris in September. To this he takes a specially prepared case containing fifty different samples of the wool produced in the River Plate region.

The Government has approved the bid for the extension of the telegraph line from Rawson to Camarones, amounting to $107,365.40, national currency. The Treasury Department has also delivered to the Department of Posts and Telegraphs the sum of $16,510.17, national money, to be used for the improvement of the postal service between these two points.

The report of the "Nuevo Banco Italiano" (New Italian Bank) for the year ending June 30, 1900, shows a net gain during that year of $658,754. A dividend of $11 a share has been declared. The bank has been exceedingly prosperous during the last twelve months, and its business is now in a most flourishing condition.

Señor Don Ricardo A. Muñiz has made a contract with the Government for the survey of the public lands granted to the Franciscan missionaries in the Territory of Formosa. These lands cover an area of some 74,000 hectares.

The Government has made a contract with Mr. Robert Blake, conceding him, in accordance with the terms of the contract, about 20,000 hectares of Government lands in the Territory of Santa Cruz.

The President promulgated a decree, under date of June 1, 1900, authorizing the extension of the Chubut Railway from Trelew, in accordance with the original concession.

BOLIVIA.

NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST.

The Bureau of the American Republics is indebted to the courtesy of Señor Don Manuel V. Ballivián, Honorary Corresponding Member of the International Union of American Republics, of La Paz, Bolivia, for the following interesting information:

In accordance with a Federal decree of the 1st of April last, a general census of the Republic was taken on the 1st of September, 1900. The National Bureau of Immigration and Statistics at La Paz had charge of the work of counting the population. The Government exerted itself to the utmost to secure an accurate enumeration, and received the hearty cooperation, not only of the national press, but that also of a great number of individuals who were desirous of the success of the undertaking.

Señor Don Adolfo Ballivián, a distinguished diplomatist of the Bolivian Republic, has been appointed Commissioner to represent his

Government in the fixing of the boundary line between Bolivia and Brazil.

A military college has just been founded at La Paz. It has been inaugurated under exceedingly favorable auspices and is meeting with marked success. A large number of students from the different districts and Departments of the Republic have been enrolled, and the institution has entered upon its career with every indication of a prosperous future. The distinguished and popular director of this progressive college is Gen. CLODOMIRO MONTES.

A new national college of civil and mining engineering has been established at Oruro. This institution was organized under a special law passed by the last Congress. Sixteen free scholarships have been granted to high school students who have distinguished themselves in their studies and conduct. These scholarships have been eagerly solicited, and their issuance will greatly stimulate the study of civil and mining engineering within the Republic.

The Decauville Railroad, which has recently been imported by the Federal authorities for use at the Government palace at La Paz, has just been put in operation.

Civil engineer MARIANO BUSTAMENTE will soon make a report on the proposed railroad which will unite one of the ports of Lake Titicaca with La Paz. This is one of the most important railroad projects which has been projected in the Republic, and when completed will open up a rich agricultural and mining region which has hitherto remained difficult of access on account of bad roads and lack of transportation facilities.

BOUNDARY DATA.

"El Comercio" (The Commerce), a daily newspaper of La Paz, contains, in a recent issue, an article stating that the Bolivian Boundary Commission, which has been investigating the question of limits between Bolivia and the Argentine Republic, has made a report to the Bolivian Government and delivered its chartographic maps to the Minister of Foreign Relations. The last work of this Commission covered investigations regarding the zone which extends from Esmoraca to Zapaleri, so that the Government has now at hand all the data necessary to enable it to settle definitely the boundary question with the Argentine Republic.

FRACTIONAL SILVER COINAGE.

The Treasury Department has authorized the Banco de Comercio de Oruro (Commercial Bank of Oruro) to have coined for its account in the mint of the Republic $2,000,000 in 50-cent Bolivian silver coins.

BRAZIL.

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS IN JULY, 1900.

The following returns of the customs receipts for the month of July have been made public:

	Milreis.		Milreis.
Rio de Janeiro	4,970,414.215	Penedo	13,368.047
Santos	2,351,661.032	Pará	1,319,991.912
Bahia	1,382,000.047	Maranhao	391,776.498
Pernambuco	2,022,177.943	Jaraguá	204,290.666
Rio Grande do Sul	1,063,099.410	Parahyba	66,173.636
Paranguá	139,274.281	Victoria	30,529.885
Santa Catharina	74,750.685	Natal	6,170.451
Uruguayana	73,036.104		
Aracajú	50,391.075	Total	14,159,105.887

COFFEE PLANTING.

It is stated by the British Acting Consul-General at Rio that very little new planting has been done on coffee plantations during the past three years, so that it is not probable that the average annual production during that period will be exceeded for some time to come, as the young plants coming into bearing will not be more than sufficient to counterbalance other trees going out of production. It is represented by the planters that although with coffee selling at 12 *milreis* per arroba (32 pounds) or 28 *shillings* per hundredweight, they realize a satisfactory profit, yet the majority of them have been so hard pressed during the fall that it will require a year or two of good prices to enable them to spare anything for investment in new plantations.

As an indication of the extent to which coffee cultivation is pursued in Brazil, the following details which appeared in the last report of the Secretary of Agriculture of the Sao Paulo government may be quoted:

"There are in Sao Paulo 15,075 plantations, of which 11,234 have upward of 50,000 trees; 1,844 possess from 50,000 to 100,000; 999 between 100,000 and 200,000; 597 from 200,000 to 500,000 trees. On these plantations 1,703 machines are to be found for cleaning coffee, 1,243 of which are moved by steam and 460 by water. The registered mortgage debt on these plantations is computed at 240,000,000 *milreis*, about $38,922,000, at an exchange rate of 8d.

"In Minas Geraes it is said that there are 2,739 coffee plantations 1,234 with less than 50,000 coffee trees each, 844 with over 100,000 trees each, and 64 with over 500,000 trees each. Of these plantations 500 use water power and 1,243 steam."

The planters complain that only their inferior grades of coffee are known abroad in their true character, their better qualities being sold

under the disguise of such titles as Mocha, Java, Martinique, etc. These better sorts, which cost in Rio and Santos 35 *francs* per 50 kilos (about 3d. per pound), are sold on the European markets, in consideration of their reputed origin, for 80, 90, and 100 *francs* per 50 kilos. Very generally they are mixed with a proportion of the real article indicated by the name. It is even said that this spurious trade is strengthened by the shipment of Brazilian coffees from various parts of Europe to Egypt, and thence to Arabia, via Aden and Jeddah, etc., so that it may there be packed in Mocha fashion, after which it is shipped to Syria or other places, or returned to Egypt as genuine Mocha. The result of this plan, according to the statement published, is that good Santos coffee, sold in Brazil for 6 *francs* per 10 kilos, is sold in bulk in Egypt at 9.50 *francs*, retailed at 10.50 *francs* per 10 kilos, and when transformed into "real Arabian Mocha" fetches 5 *francs* per kilo.

AMAZON STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

From the report of the Amazon Steam Navigation Company for 1899, which was read at the annual meeting of the stockholders of this company recently held in London, it appears that the operations during 1899 were highly satisfactory. The net income of the company for 1899 was almost double that for 1898, being 1,417 *contos* in 1899, against 709 *contos* in 1898. The board of directors recommended the distribution of a final dividend of 3 per cent, making a total of 5 per cent for the year, against 4 per cent for the three preceding years.

In view of the increase that is being made in the fleet, the company has increased its reserve fund to £60,000 and the insurance fund to £100,000.

One of the four new vessels which the company has ordered built is now ready, and it is expected that the other three will be ready before November. The two vessels in course of construction will be the largest and swiftest owned by the company.

The prospects for the present year are excellent. The average rate of exchange during the first six months was 8 *pence*. Operating expenses have necessarily increased this year, owing to the increase in the price of coal, but fortunately the company had already entered into contracts for coal at prices much below those ruling at present, and it is expected they will have sufficient for the service up to the end of the year.

The relations of the company with the Federal Government and with the governments of the States of Pará and Amazonas continue satisfactory. The subsidies were punctually paid. In the competition for the trade of the Amazon and its tributaries, it is believed that the position of the company has been fully maintained.

PRODUCTION OF DIAMONDS.

According to a recent publication by Dr. GARCEZ, says the "Nouveau Monde," of Paris, the annual production of diamonds in Brazil is about 40,000 carats, including the diamond lands of the State of Bahia.

The State of Minas Geraes is richest in these precious stones. The finest which have been found there are the "Southern Star"—belonging to-day, it is believed, to the Portuguese Crown—weighing in the rough 253 carats and after cutting 125 carats, and the "Dresden" diamond, which weighed 117 carats when found and, after cutting, 63 carats. These two diamonds were found at Bagagem. A few years ago a diamond weighing 80 carats uncut was found near Diamantina, in the same State, but it contained many imperfections.

In the fiscal year 1900, the United States imported $3,363 worth of diamonds from Brazil against no imports the previous year.

THE MINING INDUSTRY.

According to reports from British sources, the gold derived from the various mines in the State of Minas Geraes and the quantity exported in 1899 was about 143,000 ounces, worth $2,199,658, United States currency. The manganese ore extracted from lands in the same State and exported to the United States and Great Britain was about 65,000 tons, valued at $316,322.50.

During the last session Congress decreed that the heavy import duties on machinery, implements, and other mining accessories should be replaced by a tax of only 5 per cent *ad valorem*. At the same time the State government of Minas Geraes reduced the export duty on gold from 5 per cent to 3½ per cent. A law was also promulgated by this State for a more clear codification of the regulations affecting prospecting and mining concessions in connection with lands under State control.

Recent discoveries of minerals in Brazil are reported by a correspondent of the "South American Journal," as follows: At Ouro Preto, copper, lead, graphite, mercury, and mica; at Tripuhy (Minas Geraes), mercury; in the valley of the Jordão (Minas Geraes), coal; at Juiz de Fóra (Minas Geraes), malachite, sulphur, saltpeter, and gold; at Caconde (Rio Pardo), gold, platinum, crystals, coal, and petroleum; at Prados, gold; at Agua Luja (Bagagem), diamonds; at Congonhas do Campo, lead, cobalt, antimony, and graphite; at Camaquan Pelotas, copper, nickel, agate, manganese, and mica.

ELECTRICAL ENTERPRISES.

The British Acting Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro reports that there is, without doubt, a great field in Brazil for electric enterprise

in developing traction, lighting, and industrial operations, the numerous water courses furnishing unusual facilities for generating power.

Quite recently, a contract was placed with a United States firm for lighting the city of Juiz de Fóra (Minas Geraes) by electricity. The contract includes 50 street arc and 100 incandescent lights, and a capacity for 4,000 arc lights of 16 candles each for private consumption. The power in this case will be derived from waterfalls distant 10 kilometers from the city.

The "Société Anonyme du Gaz de Rio de Janeiro," a Belgian company, has secured an extension of its privilege for lighting that city by gas until 1940, and by electricity until 1915.

The distribution of electric current is to be subterranean and the system of lighting to be by arc lamps. The price for the first five years is fixed at 800 *reis* per kilowatt hour for the State and 850 *reis* for private consumption. During the ten subsequent years the prices will be reduced to 750 and 800 *reis*, respectively. Payment is to be made 50 per cent in paper and 50 per cent in gold.

Recent experiments with the Auer light were very successful, and this system is now to be adopted in connection with street lighting.

DEMAND FOR SANTOS COFFEE.

A prominent London coffee firm reports that it finds that there are plenty of buyers of good average Santos coffee at 40s. and that is the reason why Brazil remains so firm. The wants of Europe come from two sources—foremost from the trade, which, with the exception of Havre, is but poorly supplied, and also from any outsiders who have made handsome profits.

There is another matter well worth knowing. It is that good average Santos coffee is now the drink of the people, to the detriment of all the better grades of coffee, and as the supply of Santos is getting more limited than in recent years these growths will undisputably command relatively higher prices than before.

EXPORTS OF PARÁ RUBBER.

From the port of Belem there were exported during the month of June 1,940,594 kilograms of rubber, of which 962,353 kilograms were exported to Europe and 978,238 kilograms to the United States. During the first half of the present year the exports of Pará rubber amounted to 10,530,509 kilograms, of which 5,355,128 kilograms were shipped to Europe and 5,175,381 to the United States.

The exports of rubber from Manáos for the same period amounted to 5,433,323 kilograms, of which 3,929,342 kilograms were destined for Europe and 1,504,981 kilograms for the United States.

THE CAOUTCHOUC INDUSTRY IN AMAZONAS.

The "Deutsche Export-Zeitung" in its issue of August 20, 1900, has an interesting article upon the caoutchouc industry in the State of Amazonas in Brazil. This State, which contains 700,000 square miles, is the largest one of the United States of Brazil. It lies between the 74° and 54° west of Greenwich and between the 4° north and the 10° south latitude. The State of Amazonas is bounded on the north by British Guiana and Venezuela, on the west by Colombia, Peru, and Bolivia, and on the south and east by the Brazilian States of Matto Grosso and Pará. On the northern and western boundary there are several mountain chains and high plains, but in the main the country consists of valleys, thickly covered with forests, that are crossed by a number of streams the sources of which are in the Andes.

The commerce of the Amazonas depends entirely upon the production of caoutchouc, which is not only the principal but the only industry of the country. The total amount of caoutchouc which is produced in the world is calculated at 57,500 tons; of this the valley of the Amazon, Brazil, Peru, and Bolivia yields 25,000 tons, or nearly one-half.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

The sugar crop of the State of Alagôas averages yearly from 600,000 to 700,000 bags of 60 kilograms. Last year the exports of sugar were valued at 10,930,000 *milreis*.

According to the report of the Dumont Company, which owns a large coffee plantation at Ribeirão Preto, the coffee crop this year amounted to 93,301 *arrobas*, compared with 91,476 *arrobas* for 1899.

Brazilian exports to France for the months of January and February of this year amounted to 13,558,000 *francs*, or 1,982,000 *francs* more than the same period last year.

By act No. 463 of the 22d of June, 1900, the Governor of the State of Pernambuco is authorized to pay a premium of 1 *conto* to every farmer owning 5,000 feet of maniçoba trees producing rubber.

CHILE.

SPECIAL TECHNICAL COMMISSIONERS.

The Department of Public Works has commissioned Señor Don Carlos Soza Bruna, a civil engineer of large experience and considerable local reputation, to go to Europe for the purpose of studying the latest engineering methods in use in that country. He will visit

the principal manufactories of engineering supplies, and will examine closely and become thoroughly acquainted with the latest instruments in use by the profession on the Continent with a view of profiting by and introducing them into Chile wherever practicable. It is a notable fact that the Government of Chile is keenly alive to the importance of keeping thoroughly informed regarding the advancement of practical scientific research both in Europe and America, and is fully determined to profit by any improvements which may come into use from time to time.

The Department of Public Instruction has always taken an active interest in everything that tends to advance education and improve existing methods. Recently the Government appointed Prof. ERNESTO RETHWISCH, of Tacna, to make special observations in Europe. He goes abroad with the special object of investigating the organization and workings of chemical laboratories as well as the appliances and methods in use in European institutions in the teaching of chemistry and physics. He will also devote considerable attention to the investigation of the system in use in the teaching of natural history. During his stay in Europe he will make reports to his Government embodying his observations, and will suggest to the Department of Public Instruction such changes, modifications, or improvements in the methods of instruction in the branches named as he may deem proper.

This progressive spirit manifested in such a practical manner on the part of the Government of Chile can not fail to be of great benefit to the nation, and its influence will be felt for many years to come as it puts into operation forces that elevate the people morally and intellectually, and at the same time renders more effective and easy the dissemination of knowledge.

A decree has been promulgated naming Señor Don MÁXIMO DORLHIAC, Professor of Mechanics and Locomotive Construction in the School of Industrial Arts, to proceed to Europe for the purpose of studying and examining the systems and methods in use there in the teaching of mechanical engineering. Professor DORLHIAC will go to France and will remain in that Republic about five months, during which time he will devote his attention to the observation and study of the mechanical arts.

The Department of Industry and Public Works has commissioned Señor JUSTIANO SOTOMAYOR to go to Italy to study the operations and processes of the electrical iron foundry at Brescia, and report upon the feasibility of employing this method in Chile. The appointee will send a full detailed report to the department covering his investigations regarding the matter, and will make such suggestions as he deems appropriate concerning the application of this process in the Republic.

TRADE OF PUNTA ARENAS.

A British Foreign Office report states that the Territory of Magallanes, of which Punta Arenas is the port and distributing center, depends upon the sheep-farming industry principally, though the gold discoveries in Tierra del Fuego, Lennox Island, and around Cape Virgin have, to a certain extent, assisted in the development of Chilean Patagonia. The import business is largely in the hands of the Germans. The report says that all merchandise, without exception, is permitted to enter free of duty. Owing to the unprecedented winter of 1899, the marked progress and prosperity of Magallanes were temporarily checked. The losses sustained by the farmers through the depletion of stock is estimated at $213,000,000. This has been counterbalanced, however, to a great extent, by the improved price of wool.

Punta Arenas is not only the distributing market for the Chilean territory, but the larger share of the business of Argentine Patagonia is through this port. Puerto Gallegos, in the Argentine Republic, which is fast growing into an important town, receives most of the merchandise for distribution from Punta Arenas. From the local returns it appears that 179 foreign vessels entered and cleared from Punta Arenas in 1899. Besides this there is a large local shipping interest which serves to carry the wool and merchandise to and from the port. Freights and passages are extremely high owing to the very high price of coal. Exporters send their goods by steamer, as sailing vessels often experience difficulty and great delay in navigating the Straits.

The population of Punta Arenas is estimated at 7,000 and appears to be increasing. The town is well paved and is lighted by electricity. A telephone line runs from Punta Arenas along the coast farms to Dungeness Point, and another line is under construction which will connect the town with Gallegos. A telegraph line will also connect towns of Punta Arenas and Gallegos. There are no railways, and all wool for export has to be conveyed by local steamers and by bullock carts from the interior.

THE COPPER INDUSTRY.

The British Consul-General at Valparaiso reports that the total exports of copper ores from the Republic of Chile to foreign countries in 1899 were 15,553,087 kilograms in excess of the quantity exported in 1898, the total being 35,854,439 kilograms (35,854 tons).

The decrease in the exports of copper bars was 3,288,970 kilograms, but the value was much greater than in 1898. Copper ingots in the

rough show a decrease of 1,368,108 kilograms, so that the great increase in the exports, both in quantity and value, was in rough ore.

It has been said that copper is the real mainstay of Chile, and although the Government has been content to live upon the income from the nitrate industry, the real wealth of the country lies in its inexhaustible and incredibly rich minerals. There is every reason to believe that even should copper command considerably lower prices than those now ruling, the mines of Chile, owing to the proximity to sea transit, may, with improved methods and machinery and cheapened land transportation, be so worked as to give a handsome return for the capital invested.

COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH SCOTLAND.

The "Diario Oficial" (official organ of the Chilean Government), of June 20, 1900, contains an extensive and detailed report of the trade relations between Chile and Glasgow, Scotland, for the year 1899, made by the Consul of the Republic of Chile at that point and addressed to the Department of Foreign Relations.

The Consul states that the year 1899 has been, for the port of Glasgow, the most prosperous year of the century and that there has been great activity in all branches of industry. The imports of raw materials have been very large, and the exports of manufactured goods to all parts of the world have been phenomenal, a notable increase having occurred in the exports to Chile. Especial attention is called to the prosperous condition of the shipbuilding industry, for which that port is justly celebrated.

Comparative tables are given, trade with Chile is thoroughly and intelligently discussed, and the report is one of considerable importance to merchants and exporters in the United States interested in the trade of Chile, inasmuch as it shows what their competitors abroad have done and are likely to do in the future in their efforts to secure Chilean trade. In the matter of machinery, particularly locomotives and farm machinery, the Glasgow market, as far as Chile is concerned, has been quite inactive, no movement of importance having been recorded.

The total exports from Glasgow to Chilean ports during the year amounted to £145,000, the principal items being sewing thread, machinery, and bar iron.

THE COTTON INDUSTRY.

The London "Financial Times" recently printed the following article with reference to the cotton manufacturing industry in Chile:

"Chile is about to follow the example of some other countries which have placed bounties upon the native production of textiles, in addi-

tion to the protection afforded by import duties. There already exist in the Republic a hosiery mill and works for dyeing made-up clothing, and now a cotton factory is to be established. The import duty on the classes of cotton piece goods of the kind usually exported from northeast Lancashire (England) to Chile ranges from 25 to 35 per cent. This has induced a Lancashire syndicate to secure from the Chilean Government a monopoly for ten years for the establishment of a factory in southern Chile which shall do the weaving, bleaching, dyeing, and printing of cotton fabrics, and in return for the monopoly the Government binds the concessionaires to expend £125,000 upon the erection and installation of this factory, which is expected to be ready in about a year's time.

"This new venture is further protected by the fact that the Chilean Government undertakes to admit duty free for the ensuing twenty years yarns and machinery for the service and use of such industry, and it is calculated that, allowing for the saving in import duties, the output of the proposed native mill, reckoning the imported cost of cotton piece goods of a similar class produced in modern northeast Lancashire factories, will amount to about £56,000 per annum. The estimate has been made by a Lancashire firm of accountants preparatory to the formation of a company styled the 'Chilean Cotton Mills, Limited,' for the exploitation of the concession named, and a director of one of the machinery-supplying firms for this mill * * * is chairman of the directorate of the mill company. The remainder of the board will consist of textile manufacturers, calico printers, and merchants."

HYGIENIC, PHARMACEUTICAL, AND DENTAL EXHIBITION.

An hygienic, pharmaceutical, and dental exhibition is to be opened at Santiago on December 25, 1900. This will be under the patronage of the Government, and it is expected that a large number of distinguished physicians and surgeons from almost all the countries of Latin America will be present. Manufacturers wishing to exhibit their articles will have an unprecedented chance of showing them to the people. All articles destined for exhibition will be admitted into the country free of duty, provided they are not sold there. The Kosmos and Pacific Steam Navigation companies, as the result of representations made by the Government of Chile, have granted a reduction from their regular freight rates of 33 and 25 per cent, respectively, on articles destined for this exhibition.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

The Chilean Government has conceded to the Spanish Transatlantic Steamship Company, as per decree dated June 15, 1900, privileges

equal to those granted to any other steamship company to which the Government has made concessions. In consideration of these franchises the Transatlantic Steamship Company obligates itself to carry the Government mails free of charge, as is now done by all steamship companies receiving subventions, and to transport all persons in the employ of the Government at reduced rates. The Government is also entitled to reduced rates on Government freight.

The Wireless Telegraph and Signal Company, Limited, has been authorized by the Chilean Government to establish telegraphic communication by means of the Marconi system between Punta Arenas and Ancud or Puerto Montt. By the terms of the concession the company is granted the right to use the public lands of the Government to such an extent as may be deemed necessary for the good of the service.

During the twelve months ending December 31, 1899, according to the report of the British Vice-Consul, 227,000 tons of Chilean coal were shipped, almost entirely for the use of steamers. Very little coal is taken from the Coronel mines for the northern ports of Chile, as they supply themselves mainly with Australian coal.

COSTA RICA.

SPECIAL SESSION OF CONGRESS.

On August 2, 1900, the President issued a call for a special session of Congress to assemble on the 6th of the same month to consider among other matters the following subjects:

"Proposed plan for the general or partial revision of the Constitution.

"Reports from the Department of State upon the subjects of Government, Police, and War.

"Contract made between the Department of Public Works and the Costa Rican Railway Company on the 14th of February last.

"Proposed law regarding the free importation of gold and prohibiting the importation of silver.

"Proposed law for the reform of article 5 of the Coinage Law of the 24th of October, 1896.

"Proposed law for the reform of the postal tariff.

"Observations of the Executive concerning decree No. 37, regarding the reduction of importation duties on lumber for the district of Limón.

"Proposed law relative to the free exportation of bananas.

"Proposed law regarding judicial proceedings for the trying of absent criminals.

"Petition of the municipality of Barba authorizing the establishment of a duty for the construction of a reservoir.

"Petition from the municipality of San José for the raising of a loan to be used to improve the drainage service of the city.

"Petition of the municipality of Alajuela asking for authority to sell real estate.

"Petition concerning the revision of article 8 of decree No. 48, of the 29th of July, 1899.

"Proposed law covering budget submitted by the Executive."

IMPORTANT OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION.

The following is a résumé of an important communication addressed to the National Congress on July 7, 1900, by Señor Don Eloy Truque, Assistant Secretary of State:

The difficult situation into which the country was thrown by the sudden fall in the price of coffee in 1897 and the consequent contraction of the usual credits extended to commerce by foreign bankers and merchants, all of which have had a depressing effect upon the general prosperity of the country, from which it has not yet entirely recovered, notwithstanding the fact that the price of coffee, the principal export product of the Republic, has risen considerably during the last few years, was reviewed at considerable extent. Attention is called to another powerful cause which has tended to further depress the business of the country, this has been the constant fluctuation and rise in the rate of foreign exchange. Fortunately for Costa Rica, the Government wisely concluded to make a radical reform in the monetary system of the country, by placing the nation upon a gold standard. This was done in the face of much opposition, and the results have been marvelous, ushering in, as it were, a new era of prosperity which has extended to the remotest confines of the Republic, and removes this second cause of depression.

The banking situation is thoroughly discussed and reviewed in Señor Truque's communication, the customs receipts are analyzed, exports and imports are extensively referred to, and interesting data and statistical tables are quoted as an evidence that the financial and commercial outlook of the Republic are most promising.

SUBSIDIARY SILVER COINAGE.

"La Gaceta Oficial," under date of August 16, 1900, promulgates the following important decree:

"That whereas the coinage law of the 24th of October, 1896, on establishing the parity of value between the gold *colon* and the silver *peso* of 750 thousandths fine, fixed provisionally between the two coins the relation of 1 to 26.708 grams, and whereas it is absolutely neces-

sary and imperative to make uniform the fineness of both coins, preserving between them approximately the relation of value before established, the Congress of the Republic of Costa Rica, in use of its constitutional powers, decrees:

"ARTICLE 1. That article 5 of the coinage law of October 24, 1896, shall be modified as follows:

"Article V. That the subsidiary silver coin shall be of a fineness of 900 thousandths, and of the following weights and dimensions:

SILVER COINS.

Value.	Weight.	Diameter.
Colones.	*Grams.*	*Mm.*
0.50	10	29
.25	5	24
.10	2	18
.05	1	15

"ART. 2. The substitution of the coin, which shall be issued under the conditions prescribed in the foregoing article, for that now in use shall be made while the latter is being redeemed.

"ART. 3. Notwithstanding the terms of article 1, the present 5 and 10 cent coins, of the value of 0.05 and 0.10 *colones*, respectively, may be kept in circulation as long as the President should not deem it necessary to redeem and recoin them according to the provisions of this law.

"ART. 4. The President shall order sold abroad, for account of the Nation, all of the silver coins at present in circulation which in his judgment may exceed the needs of commerce."

RECALL OF GOLD CERTIFICATES.

The President of the Republic of Costa Rica, under date of August 1, 1900, has promulgated the following important decree:

"Whereas the issues of certificates made by the Government had no other object than that of serving as a means for the establishment in due time of the circulation of gold coin in the country, and their exchange having been ordered there remains no reason for their circulation, nor is it to the interest of the Treasury to prolong for an indefinite time this responsibility as an issuer of said certificates, the President of the Republic decrees:

"ARTICLE 1. That within a period of thirty days from the present date all the certificates now in circulation emitted by the Government shall be presented to the Bank of Costa Rica to be exchanged for gold.

"ART. 2. That the Governors in the capital cities of the Provinces and Territories, and the mayors in the county seats of their respective cantons, shall publish the present decree by means of posters fixed in public places, and shall order that it be promulgated by edicts during

the holidays of the present month in the other smaller settlements of their jurisdiction."

IMPORT TAX ON CACAO.

An important decree, effective on and after August 1, 1900, has been published in the "Gaceta Oficial," and is as follows:

"Only article: A duty of 0.30 *colones* per kilo is placed upon the importation of cacao beans and 0.50 *colones* per kilo on pulverized cacao."

REPAIR FUND FOR CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS.

"La Gaceta" of August 3, 1900, promulgates the following decree:

"Whereas recent earthquakes have caused great damage to various churches and schoolhouses in the Province of Guanacaste, and it being a duty of the National Congress to remedy these damages, the Congress of the Republic of Costa Rica in exercise of its constitutional authority decrees:

"Only article: That the sum of 15,000 *colones* be given to said Province to repair the damages caused by recent earthquakes to churches and school buildings. This sum shall be distributed as the Executive Power may determine."

CUBA.

ORDER REGARDING OLEOMARGARINE.

By direction of the Secretary of War of the United States, the Governor of Cuba has issued an order relating to the use of oleomargarine on that Island and to prevent its being sold as pure butter. The order directs that all oleomargarine imported at the several ports of entry shall have the word plainly marked in Roman letters, and that it shall be kept continuously in and be sold only from packages so marked. There is no tariff upon the oleomargarine imported by Cuba.

TARIFF RATES ON OILS.

The customs tariff for Cuba has been amended by restoring the old duty on oils, which was erroneously omitted when the new tariff was prepared. The law now provides that "crude oils derived from schists, including crude petroleum, axle grease for cars and carts," shall pay $1.40 per 100 kilograms; that "crude petroleum to be used exclusively in the manufacture of illuminating gas and only at gas works in Cuba and for no other purpose," shall pay 70 cents per 100 kilograms.

PRIZES AT THE PARIS EXPOSITION.

Notwithstanding the fact that Cuba has not yet fully recovered from the calamities of a protracted war, its exhibits at the Paris Exposition were of a pleasing and varied character. This is evidenced by the fact that the judges have bestowed upon the products of the Island 140 prizes.

AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES IN SANTIAGO.

A dispatch from Guantanamo states that there is a vigorous resumption of work upon the part of the agricultural industries in the Province of Santiago. The Santa Lucia plantation at La Veta has produced 41,000 bags of sugar during the present season. The United Fruit Company, at Banes, is erecting a sugar mill with a capacity of 1,100 bags daily. A large amount of United States and English capital is being invested at Baracoa for the exportation of cocoanuts. The provincial cities are becoming self-sustaining and the military government is gradually withdrawing the municipal and direct financial assistance from the Island's funds.

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS IN AUGUST, 1900.

The total receipts at the Havana custom house for the month of August, 1900, were $991,926.06, derived from the following sources: Import duties, $867,669.41; export duties, $88,564.94; foreign tonnage dues, $12,415.87; coastwise tonnage dues, $1,462.50; fines, etc., $520.18; special harbor improvement tax, $13,002.43; cattle inspection fees, $2,164.85; storage and cartage charges, $1,639.85; passenger tax, $864; overtime work of employees, $867.83; consular fees, $101; other sources, $2,653.20.

ECUADOR.

COMMERCIAL SITUATION IN 1899.

In a report to his Government on the general situation of Ecuador, Mr. FRANDIN, French Chargé d'Affaires at Quito, says that the year 1899 has been quite favorable to the general trade of Ecuador. There has been a notable increase in the commercial movement on the coast, while in the interior it has somewhat decreased.

He reports that the National Congress of 1899 made some important reforms in the customs laws, namely: Regarding the expedition of damaged merchandise; the responsibility of shippers in case of loss or

damage; transportation of boxes in the custom-house; importation of postal parcels; reduction of import duties on objects destined for use in agriculture and in new industries; repeal of export duties on bamboo, mangrove bark, orchilla, and sarsaparilla; reduction of export duties on coffee; repeal of entrance duties on articles destined for use in instruction; suppression of the monopoly on playing cards, and some other reforms which will facilitate and assure commercial security.

Coffee, according to the new law, will only pay a duty of one-half of a *centavo* per kilogram. As Ecuador is not as yet a great producer of coffee, such action will perhaps give to this product a new impetus.

The following table gives the cacao exportations for the last four years:

Countries.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.
	Kilos.	*Kilos.*	*Kilos.*	*Kilos.*
France	10,066,331	8,530,181	7,144,486	7,068,249
Spain	2,511,484	1,560,546	1,768,179	1,985,317
Germany	4,438,170	2,408,876	2,863,915	3,408,027
England	2,492,335	1,851,129	1,630,969	1,433,323
United States	1,575,870	1,305,510	1,139,702	722,452
Belgium and Holland	290,851	64,675	258,165	467,435
Central America	40,835	44,737	129,471	153,652
Chile	64,526	58,585	45,595	63,379
Mexico	40,577	48,006	26,554	62,480
Italy	39,744	4,083	30,367	12,264
Peru	21,605	9,600	.....	13,820
Uruguay and Argentine Republic	54,715	33,359	2,456	21,027
Colombia	.....	.....	.....	1,960
Austria	.....	6,124	16,231	.....
Cuba	7,498	.....	.....	.....
Total	21,644,541	15,925,411	15,056,090	15,413,385

The exports of cacao are confined to ten months in the year, there being two months in which no shipments are made. The production of cacao will constantly increase, for the *haciendados* continue to plant every year millions of new plants.

VOLCANO OF SARGAY.

Capt. J. T. Ellard, of the Brazilian Pacific Railroad survey, reports the result of his explorations in the volcanic regions of Ecuador, and mentions that the crater of Mount Sargay averages sixty cinder eruptions an hour, and that the explosions of smoke-whirls are almost continuous. The liveliest volcano of the Old World, Stromboli, can barely equal that record, but its lava flows from an elevation of only 2,800 feet, while Mount Sargay, so the report states, rises 17,300 feet above the level of the Pacific.

GUATEMALA.

FRACTIONAL NICKEL COINS.

"El Gualtemalteco," of Guatemala, official organ of the Republic, in its issue of July 31, 1900, publishes the following important decree of the National Legislative Assembly:

"ARTICLE 1. The Executive, by the means at his command, shall formulate the provisions and make the necessary arrangements so that, without loss of time, the coinage of fractional nickel coins shall be begun and carried on, whether in the National Mint or by contract with private parties or national or foreign companies, to an amount sufficient for the needs of commerce, agriculture, and industry.

"ART. 2. The fractional nickel coins shall be issued in denominations of 3 (*cuartillo*), 6¼ (*medio*), and 12½ (*real*) cents, and shall show on the obverse side the coat of arms of the Republic, and upon the opposite side the value.

"ART. 3. The Executive shall determine the alloy of the metals, the size and weight of the coins, fixing the proportion of value in which each denomination shall be coined.

"ART. 4. No person or fiscal or municipal office is obliged to receive more than $5 in nickel coin in payments that do not exceed $100. In excess of this amount it shall be obligatory to receive 5 per cent of the amount of the payment.

"ART. 5. As soon as the exchange of bank bills for silver is reestablished, the Executive shall order the withdrawal from circulation of the nickel coins authorized by this law, substituting therefor silver or reserving revenues for the annual amortization of at least 25 per cent of the amount of nickel money in circulation.

"ART. 6. The Executive is authorized to incur the expenses that are necessary for the execution of the present law."

The foregoing decree was enacted on the 25th of March, 1900, and on July 25, last, the President promulgated decree No. 610, published in No. 27 of the official newspaper of the Republic, a translation of which is as follows:

"Whereas by Legislative Decree No. 455 of the 28th of March of the present year, the National Congress authorized the Executive Power to begin the coinage of fractional nickel coins, either in the mint or by contract with private parties or national or foreign companies, to an amount sufficient to supply the needs of circulation; and,

"Whereas the scarcity of fractional silver coin has been increasing day by day, interfering for this reason with those small transactions so necessary to the development of commerce, industry, and agriculture, and giving opportunity for the commission of serious abuses by the circulation of a considerable quantity of *fichas* (chips), and other

emblems representing values that have no guaranty whatever, nor are they convertible into legal tender coin, for which reason, in compliance with the wishes of the National Legislative Assembly, the President of the Republic of Guatemala decrees:

"ARTICLE 1. An issue of $2,000,000 in fractional nickel coin, and in the following proportion, is hereby authorized: $1,200,000 in coins of 1 *real* (12½ cents); $600,000 in coins of one-half *real* (6¼ cents); $200,000 in coins of one-fourth *real* (3⅛ cents).

"ART. 2. The coin of 1 *real* shall be 21 millimeters in diameter, weigh 405 centigrams, and have a raised band around the edge; it shall have engraved on the obverse side a coat of arms of the Republic, and in numbers the year in which it was coined; on the reverse side there shall be a figure representing 'Liberty' and an inscription around the coin which says: 'Republic of Guatemala,' and at the foot of the figure the value of the coin, 1 *real*, and lower down the word 'nickel.'

"The one-half *real* coin shall be 18½ centimeters in diameter, weigh 238 centigrams, and shall be engraved in the same manner as the former one, with no other difference than that of the expression of the value or one-half *real*, and lower down there shall also appear the word 'nickel.'

"The one-fourth *real* coin shall be 13¼ millimeters in diameter and 108 centimeters in weight, and in addition to the raised band around its edge it shall show on the obverse side the figures of three volcanoes, one after another, and at the foot of same, in figures, the year of coinage, or in other words, 1900. On the reverse side there shall appear its value, one-fourth *real*, and lower down the word 'nickel.'

"ART. 3. The alloy of the metal shall be 75 per cent copper and 25 per cent nickel.

"ART. 4. The weight of alloy, more or less approximate, shall be 20 milligrams for the one-fourth *real* coin, and 30 milligrams for the one-half and 1 *real* coins. The fineness shall be 3 *milesimos* (thousandths) for the different denominations of coins.

"ART. 5. With the limitations established in article 4 of the Legislative Decree No. 455 of March 28 of the present year, the nickel coins shall be legal tender for payments, and consequently their receipt is obligatory."

SANITARY REGULATIONS.

"El Gualtemalteco," official organ of the Republic, in its issue of July 12, 1900, publishes a decree which provides that all ships arriving at the ports of the Republic shall bring certificates of sanitation from the ports of embarkation, as well as from all those ports which may be touched in transit.

These sanitary papers must be certified to by the Consular Agent of Guatemala at the ports of embarkation, or at the port or ports that may be entered while in transit. The certificates shall be considered invalid when the ship proceeds from an infected port or ports, or when the document is defective or not properly vised.

No ship shall be admitted to port until after the visit of the sanitary authorities, who shall make a report immediately upon the sanitary condition of the ship. In doubtful cases, or where there are reasons for suspicion, the ship shall be placed under observation and shall remain quarantined until its true condition is ascertained.

The authorities shall have the power to order the fumigation of the ship, or prescribe any other measures they may deem proper to prevent the spread of disease and conserve the public health.

DEPARTMENT BOARDS OF AGRICULTURE.

The following is an extract of an important decree promulgated by the President under date of July 16, 1900:

"The President states that in order to promote, enlarge, and protect the agricultural industry of the country, there shall be established in each Department a board of agriculture consisting of a president, three directors, and a secretary. The appointments shall be made at the suggestion of the Governor of the Departments and shall continue in force for two years.

"The duties of the boards shall be to propose the improvements that they consider conducive to the development of agriculture, stock raising, and mining; to see that the labor and immigration laws are enforced, and report any irregularities that may be noted; to hold regular meetings every fifteen days, and special ones whenever necessary; to distribute gratuitously to farmers within their jurisdictions the seeds and publications supplied by the Government for that purpose.

"It shall also be their duty to inspect the forests of the nation, and prevent their unlawful destruction. At the close of each year they shall make a report to the Department of Agriculture covering their operations for that period, and shall include in said report, should it be possible to do so, data regarding the extent and principal kind of crops cultivated; they shall also note the extent of unoccupied public lands, their situation, and the kinds of products to which they are adapted; they shall furnish data concerning the cabinet and dye woods, the exploitation of which might result in a revenue to the Government.

"The boards shall be authorized to obtain from the owners of farms, plantations, and lands such data as they may consider of interest to the Government."

UNION OF TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

"El Gualtemalteco," in its issue of August 2, 1900, publishes decree No. 611, incorporating in the Polytechnic Institute the School of Engineering. The Department of War will modify the appropriation of the Polytechnic Institute in accordance with the terms imposed by the incorporation into it of the engineering school. These schools have been combined for objects of economy and better service, and in order to concentrate the work of both into one institution.

BELGIAN COMPANY OF CENTRAL AMERICA.

The Belgian Company of Central America, a society incorporated under the laws of Belgium, has been authorized to transact business within the Republic. For this privilege the company will pay into the Treasury of the nation $1,000 annually.

NEW ISSUE OF BONDS.

"El Gualtemalteco," under date of July 28, 1900, publishes the following important decree:

"Whereas in order to cover the exportation tax on coffee imposed by decree No. 609 of the 5th of the present month, bonds shall be issued to the amount of $4,800,000, and of the following denominations:

72,000 bonds of $50, each	$3,600,000
166,666 bonds of $6 each	999,996
50,000 bonds of $2 each	100,000
100,004 bonds of $1 each	100,004

"These bonds shall be signed by the Secretary of the Treasury and Public Works, and by the auditors and customs administrators, respectively, and shall be numbered and registered in the Department of Accounts."

ESTIMATED PRODUCTION OF COFFEE.

Mr. JAMES C. MCNALLY, United States Consul-General, under date of July 14, 1900, informs the Department of State at Washington that the Government of Gautemala has placed an export duty of 6 *pesos* a quintal ($2.63 per 220 pounds) on coffee, mention of which fact was made in the MONTHLY BULLETIN for August, page 307.

The crop to be picked in September or October, Mr. MCNALLY reports, is the largest in the history of Gautemala. It is estimated that the yield will be between 800,000 and 1,000,000 quintals. The quality is said to be of the best.

MEXICO.

THE STATE OF VERA CRUZ.

The Bureau of the American Republics has received the following interesting official information, relative to Vera Cruz, from Mr. Alexander M. Gaw, special Government Agent for that State:

Population, area, and acres in coffee and cane.

Cantones.	Population, census of 1895.	Area.	Areas planted in coffee and cane.	
			Coffee. *a*	Cane.
		Acres.	*Acres.*	*Acres.*
Acayucam	33,242	1,467,839	296	200
Coatepec	47,837	173,533	7,973	1,881
Córdoba	70,904	433,833	16,742	3,290
Cosamaloápam	28,711	1,518,417	405	1,462
Chicontepec	53,243	1,019,508	16	975
Huatusco	31,077	260,300	7,405	1,267
Jalacingo	60,593	637,735	3,002	1,120
Minatitlan	28,349	2,766,972	185	235
Misantla	17,319	650,750	1,284	608
Orizaba	76,181	433,833	4,094	1,541
Ozuluama	37,715	1,908,867	23	306
Papantla	44,647	1,106,275	378	879
Tantoyuca	52,169	737,517	4	1,177
Túxpam	47,976	1,171,350	39	1,139
Tuxtlas	41,354	563,983	219	749
Vera Cruz	92,222	2,481,472	4	3,067
Xalapa	74,105	772,223	935	1,274
Zongolica	25,576	590,013	2,641	610
Total	863,220	18,694,420	45,645	21,780

a Comprising only plants that have obtained the age of 3 years.

Railroads in operation.

Name of road.	Terminals.		Length.
			Kilometers.
Mexican Railway	Vera Cruz	Maltrata	153.000
Alvarado and Anton Lizardo	Vera Cruz	Alvarado	70.000
Mexican Central	Moralillo	Tulillo	52.000
Interoceanic	Veracruz	Limón	222.000
Orizaba Railway	Orizaba	Nogales	7.550
National Rwy. Tehuantepec	Coatzacoalcos	Juile	87.000
Vera Cruz and Pacific	Córdoba	Tetzonapa	49.000
Vera Cruz and Boca del Rio	Vera Cruz	Boca del Rio	11.504
Xalapa and Tescelo	Xalapa	Las Puentes	17.000
Xalapa R. R. and Power Co	Xalapa	Teocelo	29.700
Pearson & Son	San Juan Evangelista	Juile	27.000
Total			725.754

THE SUGAR INDUSTRY.

According to an article appearing in the "Nouveau Monde," by Mr. Charles Stephans, a member of the French Board of Trade, residing abroad, the Mexican sugar industry is in a most prosperous condition.

At the present time there are nearly 1,800 sugar-cane plantations, 70 of which own factories equipped with modern machinery. The

coarse and refined sugar, molasses, and alcohol produced by these plantations amount to from $26,000,000 to $30,000,000 per year. The sugar production of Mexico is not sufficient to supply the local demand, although the Customs House statistics show that sugar and brandy are yearly exported to the United States, while on the other hand foreign sugar is imported to supply the demand for this article.

The principal sugar-producing State is Morelos; then follow in the order of their importance Veracruz, Jalisco, Puebla, Michoacan, and Colima. The greater part of the sugar produced in Mexico comes from the State of Morelos and the large plantations near Cuautla, Tojutla, Yautepec, and Cuernavaca.

A fact which appears singular, but which is nevertheless true, according to Mr. STEPHANS, is that common sugar is sold for more than the refined, because sugar prepared by the old process contains the flavor of the sugar cane and the aroma of the molasses.

Mr. STEPHANS says that the greater part of the machinery used comes from Scotland and France. But the competition of United States firms is very strong. The latter have in Mexico well-established depots where public experiments of the working of their machinery are made several times a week. They send, besides, finely illustrated catalogues and have commercial travelers who are well acquainted with the articles they represent.

The large plantations of Cuahiuztla, near Cuautla, employ more than $700,000 worth of modern machinery. On the other hand, there are mills where the use of steam is unknown, the juice from the sugar cane being extracted by means of mills having only wooden cylinders.

Generally speaking, it can be affirmed that all the coast and warm lands of Mexico are favorable to the cultivation of sugar cane. Everywhere it is cultivated with success in spite of the lack of capital, which has almost prevented the establishment of modern factories. The greater part of the plantations scarcely supply the local demand. This is due to the primitive installation of the factories. But where factories with modern equipment and sufficient capital have been established the progress made has been marvelous. In Morelos, Jalisco, Tepic, etc., the modern factories produce millions of kilograms of excellent refined sugar, which is sold at prices ranging from 7 to 8 *pesos* (silver) per 100 kilograms.

It is estimated that with $51,800, 337,500 kilograms of sugar and 750,000 kilograms of molasses can be produced, which, at the current prices, give $80,000, a profit of $30,000 or more; that is to say, 30 per cent on the capital invested. These prices are maintained by a powerful syndicate of producers, especially in the State of Morelos. They can raise them still more, protected as they are by the customs tariff, which taxes foreign sugar with a duty of 15 per cent per kilogram, and also by the depreciation of silver, which taxes foreign purchases 35 per cent or more.

A hectare produces from 115,000 to 130,000 kilograms of cane, which sells for 19 *francs* per 1,000 kilograms; the yield from a hectare the first year would then be 2,285 to 2,570 *francs*. After the second year the only expense would be for cultivation and gathering and the profits would be about 750 *francs* per hectare when the land was paid for.

The average expenses per hectare are: Purchase of a hectare from the Government in the State of Veracruz, Guerrero, etc., 9.25 *francs;* planting (salaries at 2 *francs*), 80 *francs;* cultivation and gathering, 200 *francs;* total, 289.25 *francs*.

The juice of the Mexican sugar cane is very rich in saccharine matter, and moreover Mexico will always have in its favor the low salaries paid, as well as the small expense for equipment as compared with those of Europe and of the other countries of America. It is due to this condition that Mexico can compete successfully with the sugar from Cuba, where labor is much dearer.

"The principal Mexican refineries being established in the interior of the country there is little profit in exporting, but the refineries situated near the coast, as, for example, on the coast of Sotavento, prosper greatly through exportation.

"In 1899 Mexico exported 9,000 kilograms of sugar cane and 50,000 kilograms of sugar.

"The price of sugar in Mexico now is $2.18 (silver), the *arroba* of 12½ kilograms for the ordinary quality, and from $2.05 to $2.31 for the refined."

PRODUCTION OF COTTON-SEED OIL.

The annual production of cotton-seed oil in Mexico, says the "Nouveau Monde," of Paris, averages 1,500,000 kilograms, and the quantity consumed last year amounted to 14,000,000 kilograms (30,864,400 pounds).

In the United States as well as Mexico the crop has fallen below the average, and it is probable that the next crop will be but little better on account of the extreme drought from which the cotton plantations have suffered.

Cotton-seed oil is absolutely indispensable in soap making, which explains the investigations which have been made to discover a plant producing an oil which could be used in this industry. It has been found that the seeds of *ricimo* and *coyol* can be profitably cultivated, especially on account of their hardness and of the oil which they furnish, and which is particularly suited to the manufacture of soap.

Machinery has recently been imported from the United States with a view to the extracting of the oil from the *ricimo* seed, which is gathered near Durango, where experiments lasting about two years have given very satisfactory results. The *coyol*, which grows wild in

great abundance in the tropical regions, is a shrub or sort of palm tree which produces berries containing 80 per cent of oil, and which are of inestimable value in soap making.

IMPORTANT RAILWAY CONCESSION.

Mr. A. E. Stilwell has been granted a concession by the Government for the construction and exploitation, for ninety-nine years, of a railroad which will unite Presidio del Norte with Chihuahua.

The concessionaire is obligated to commence the survey within twelve months from the date of the contract, and shall build at least 50 kilometers the first year and 50 or more kilometers during each succeeding year, completing the entire construction within a period of four years.

The gauge of the railroad shall be 1 meter 435 millimeters, and the weight of the rails shall not be less than 30 kilograms per linear meter. The grades shall be fixed by the Secretary of Communications and Public Works, and the radii of the curves shall conform with the provisions of article 9 of the General Code for the construction of railways.

The concessionaires are permitted the free importation of construction materials for a period of five years. The passenger tariff has been fixed at 3 cents per kilometer for first-class passengers, 2 cents for second class, and 1½ cents for third class. First-class passengers are allowed to carry free 50 kilograms of baggage, second class 30, and third class 15. Merchandise is divided into six classes, and the freight charges range from 6 cents per thousand kilograms per kilometer for first-class freight to 3 cents per kilometer per thousand kilograms for sixth-class freight.

The railroad shall construct and operate a telegraph line, shall build suitable stations and warehouses, and shall duly provide for the proper equipment and maintenance of the line.

A deposit of $30,000 in bonds of the national consolidated debt shall be made with the National Treasury as a guaranty for the fulfillment of the conditions of the contract.

MEXICO CITY AND CLACO RAILWAY.

Under date of August 9, 1900, the "Diario Oficial," official organ of the Mexican Government, publishes a contract made between the Government and Messrs. Enrique Torres Torrija and César F. de la Reguera, authorizing the latter to construct and exploit for a period of ninety-nine years a railroad which, starting from the capital of the nation, passes, via Xochimilco, to Claco. The concessionaires are required to commence at once a survey of the route, and shall submit plans and a definite tracing of the line within three months.

They must construct 5 kilometers the first year and at least 5 kilometers during each succeeding year, completing the entire line within a period of eight years from the date of the contract. The concessionaires have the privilege of importing, free of duty, materials for the construction and equipment of the line.

GRIJALVA AND GONZALES CANAL.

The contract made between the Mexican Government and the "Compañía Canalizadora Interfluvial" (The Interfluvial Canalization Company), of San Juan Bautista, State of Tabasco, on the 25th of May, 1895, and which authorized the construction of a canal uniting the river Grijalva with the Gonzales River, has been modified so that the work of construction shall be commenced within six months from the date of the approval of the plans. The canal shall be completed at latest by the 15th of March, 1902.

The contract runs for thirty-five years from the 15th of last March, during which time the concessionaires may collect from the owners of vessels using the canal a tonnage charge per thousand kilograms, and a distance charge based upon the number of kilometers traveled. All the conditions of the old contract not affected by the present modifications remain in force. A full text of the modifications appear in the "Diario Oficial" of August 9, 1900.

WITHDRAWAL OF NAVIGATION CONCESSION.

By mutual consent and in consideration of the reasons given by the concessionaire, the contract made between the Government and Señor Sierra Mendez on the 8th of December, 1899, a modification of which was agreed to on the 11th of June, 1900, for the establishment of steam navigation in the Gulf of Mexico and touching the eastern coast of Yucatan, has been rescinded. The Department of Communications and Public Works, on promulgating the rescision of the contract, will give the necessary orders for the return to the concessionaire by the Treasury Department of the $3,000 in bonds of the public debt deposited as a guaranty for the fulfillment of the contract.

PROFIT IN RUBBER CULTURE.

"Modern Mexico," in the course of a recent article on the culture of rubber trees, calls attention to the injury inflicted by thoughtless gatherers of the sap. It says truly that native Indian gatherers, intent only upon present gain, can not be expected to be more thoughtful of the future of a tree than they are of their own future, and they either cut so deep as to injure the woody fiber of the tree or leave it with great gaping wounds that can not heal. It is inadvisable to draw too heavily

from the tree, for other reasons than the direct injury that results from the loss of its life-sustaining fluid. Owing to the soft nature of the tree, a clean incision made in it will drain but a comparatively small area before the swelling wood closes the wound and stops the flow. In order to drain the trees more completely, the short-sighted natives do not stop at making a cut, but chop out a piece of the bark to prevent the wound filling up. Such an injury soon renders the strongest tree a prey to water, fermentation, ants, and beetles that enter the wound and get under the bark.

In a rubber plantation where proper supervision is possible scientific culture will doubtless do much to overcome many of the evil results of the crude methods of the forests. If even a small per cent of the results obtained from isolated trees can be secured in a rubber plantation the investment will be a good one. Those who hold out the bait of 1,000 per cent profits in rubber culture have no means of knowing that such results can be obtained. Experienced planters, who have faith in rubber culture, who are planting rubber trees, and who have no land to sell, are not contemplating any such profits. A conservative planter, who has had years of experience in the tropics of Mexico, figures that at the end of eight years his rubber trees will yield 1 pound of rubber to the tree. With 275 trees planted to the acre, and his estimated profit of 40 cents gold per pound, it is easy to figure out a profit of more than $100 dollars per acre. After eight years, as the trees grow older, the yield will gradually increase until it may reach into the pounds. This many look upon as the limit to which a tree may be tapped without danger of injuring the tree and curtailing its life, or at least the production the following year.

IRRIGATION CONTRACT.

The "Diario Oficial," official organ of the Mexican Government, published in the City of Mexico, contains, in its issue of August 14, 1900, a contract made by the Department of Public Works with Mr. A. J. Streeter, authorizing the use of the waters of the river Fuerte, in the State of Sinaloa, for irrigation purposes.

Under the terms of this concession Mr. Streeter, or the company or companies that he may organize, is granted the use of a quantity of water of the river Fuerte, in the district of the same name, State of Sinaloa, equal to one-half the water of said stream at or near the ranch called "Sufragio." This water is to be used for irrigation purposes, and the concession carries with it the right to construct the necessary hydraulic works for the proper raising and handling of the water in question.

A plan covering the hydraulic works contemplated and showing in detail the irrigation ditches, etc., must be submitted to the Depart-

ment of Public Works, and must be duly approved by the Government before the work of construction is begun. Within two months from the approval of the plans by the Department of Public Works, the concessionaire shall commence construction, and terminate same within a period of five years from that date.

The concessionaire may, with the consent of the Department of Public Works, transfer the concession to a third party. He may also issue bonds, common and preferred stock, and other securities, and dispose of them as he may deem best, but shall never mortgage or transfer the concession to any foreign Government or State.

BANK OF TABASCO.

The "Diario Oficial" (official newspaper), of the City of Mexico, in its issue of August 29, 1900, publishes the contract made by the Government with Messrs. BULNES & Co., authorizing the establishment of a new bank of issue at San Juan Bautista, in the State of Tabasco.

The bank will be called the "Banco de Tabasco," and its capital stock for the present shall be 1,000,000 Mexican dollars. It shall have authority to establish branches outside of the State with the permission and consent of the Government.

As a guarantee for the fulfillment of the terms of the contract, the concessionaires shall deposit in the Treasury of the nation the sum of $100,000 in 3 per cent interest-bearing bonds of the consolidated debt. The concession can not be transferred without the approval of the Treasury Department.

STAMP-CANCELING MACHINES.

The post-office in the City of Mexico has inaugurated the use of stamp-canceling machines in Mexico. A provisional order was recently given Mr. CHARLES V. FIKE, of Kansas City, Missouri, for one of the machines of which he is the inventor. The test trial was highly satisfactory to the postal authorities, the machine having canceled more than 30,000 stamps in less than an hour. A register will be placed on the machine, and further experiments will be made in the near future.

STREET-RAILWAY SYNDICATE.

The "Electrical Review" for July 25, 1900, states that the promoters of a street-railway syndicate, controlling electric railway systems in six different cities in Mexico, with a capital stock of $2,000,000, have been successful in their efforts. The headquarters of the syndicate are to be in Cleveland, Ohio, where the greater portion of the stock is owned. The six Mexican cities are not named by the "Review," but each of them is said to have over 100,000 inhabitants. None of them as yet have electric railways, but have roads operated by horse power.

IMPORTANT INVENTION.

Among the exhibits sent to the Paris Exposition from Mexico was an air compressor invented by a mechanic of very limited means, residing in the city of Toluca. This invention has attracted much attention and is said to be of great economic value, as it can be used for the transmission of all kinds of motor force. The inventor has been appointed honorary member of the National Academy of Agriculture, Commerce, and Manufactures, of Paris.

EXHIBITS AND AWARDS AT PARIS.

The total exhibits from Mexico at the Paris Exposition numbered nearly 700. They were mainly mineral and agricultural products and wines and liquors. The number of mineral exhibits was 190, which received 3 first prizes, 11 gold medals, 21 silver medals, 18 bronze medals, 2 special gold medals, and 2 special silver medals, besides 26 which received "honorable mention." There were 400 exhibits of agricultural products, which were accorded 6 first prizes, 22 gold medals, 62 silver medals, 100 bronze medals, 1 special gold medal, and 2 special silver medals, in addition to "honorable mentions" for 100 other displays. In the category of "wines, liquors, etc." there were 108 exhibits; these received 8 regular and 1 special gold medals, 17 silver medals, 42 bronze medals, and 28 were "honorably mentioned."

MEXICAN CLAY-MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

The New York "Commercial" reports that the Mexican Clay Manufacturing Company was formed in New Jersey on August 10, 1900, with a capital stock of $1,000,000. The company proposes to establish in the City of Mexico a sewer-pipe industry for supplying the Mexican market.

The bulk of the sewer pipe used in Mexico is made in the United States, and the promoters of the new company thought there was a good field for the establishment of such an enterprise.

NEW BRITISH MINISTER.

Mr. George Greville, British Minister Resident at Bangkok since 1896, has been appointed British Minister to Mexico, in succession to Sir Henry Dering, recently appointed British Minister to Brazil.

CONTRACT WITH PEARSON & SON.

The Secretary of the United States Legation in the City of Mexico, under date of July 10, 1900, forwarded to the Department of State at Washington copy of the contract between the Mexican Government

and S. PEARSON & SON (of London) relating to the Tehuantepec Railroad and the ports of Coatzacoalcos and Salina Cruz, which is published in the Consular Reports. This transcontinental railroad crossing the Isthmus of Tehauntepec, says the Secretary, promises to become a most important means of transportation when the improvements on the line are made and the port works completed.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

The "Diario Oficial" of August 16, 1900, contains an interesting report made by the Vice-Consul of the Republic of France upon the subject of agriculture in Mexico. The report dwells at some length upon the great agricultural possibilities of the country, gives particular attention to some of the most favored portions of the nation from an agricultural point of view, and shows the advantages that agricultural immigrants would derive by settling in the Mexican Republic.

La Union Brick Company, of Monterey, has bought $60,000 worth of machinery from the American Clay Manufacturing Company of Bucyrus, Ohio. The plant will be located about 3 miles from the city of Monterey, and will be one of the most complete and best equipped installations for the manufacture of brick that has yet been established in the Republic.

The Mexican Consul at Berne, Switzerland, reports a great increase in the demand for cabinet woods. A number of orders have recently been sent by Swiss manufacturers to Mexico for such woods, the consumption of which is constantly increasing in Switzerland.

Messrs. RICHARDS, SCANLAN, and SOTO have applied for a patent on a grain drill of their invention. This drill can be attached to plows, so that the plowing and sowing can take place at the same time.

In Mexico the yield of wheat this year is said to be unusually heavy and the grain of good quality. It is also reported that there was a large increase in the area devoted to the cultivation of this grain.

PARAGUAY.

BUREAU OF INFORMATION—NEW PUBLICATION.

A communication from Señor CARLOS R. SANTOS, Director-General, dated Asunción, July 19, 1900, states that recently a reorganization of the general office of the Bureau of Information, Department of Immigration, had taken place, whereby its scope has been enlarged and its

efficiency increased. A "Monthly Review" is now being issued by the Department and will be regularly published in the English and the French languages. Señor SANTOS says whenever any special information regarding Paraguay is desired that it will be cheerfully furnished by the Bureau of Information. As there is just now considerable interest manifested by citizens of the United States in the products and commercial affairs of Paraguay, the publication to which Señor SANTOS refers is especially timely. Through the courtesy of the Director-General, the Bureau of the American Republics will hereafter receive the "Monthly Review," which will be added to the library files and will be available for reference to any person interested in Paraguayan affairs.

CULTIVATION OF YERBA MATÉ.

Mr. JOHN RUFFIN, United States Consul, reports that a stock company was recently organized in Asunción to cultivate *yerba maté* in Paraguay. The company has a paid-up capital of $100,000 paper, or about $13,000 gold, and was to have started in business in June, 1900. So far as is known, this is the first attempt that has been made to cultivate maté on a large scale, as heretofore the product has been obtained from the *yerbales* where it grows wild. The production of yerba maté promises to become a paying industry. The consumption of the tea made from the leaves of this herb has attained enormous proportion in the River Plate countries.

NUMBER OF INHABITANTS.

"La Democracia" (The Democracy) of Asunción, under date of July 18, 1900, publishes a table which has just been compiled from the census returns of last year, and which shows the number of inhabitants of the Republic to have been 655,571 in 1899. Included in this number are 100,571 Indians.

THE MERCANTILE BANK.

The "Banco Mercantil del Paraguay" (Mercantile Bank of Paraguay) at Asunción has an authorized capital of $5,000,000. The subscribed capital is $2,500,000, and the net reserves amount to $389,-110.12. Interest at the rate of 4 per cent is paid on 90-day deposits, 5 per cent on 120-day deposits, and 6 per cent on deposits for a longer period.

TOBACCO AND YERBA MATÉ SAMPLES.

The Consul of Paraguay at Philadelphia has requested information from his Government respecting tobacco and *yerba maté* (Paraguayan

tea). Samples of these products and data concerning same will be sent him.

It is well known that the tobacco of Paraguay, prepared in the manner in which it is now placed upon the market, is of a superior quality, and can well compete with that of Bolivia, or even with the celebrated Havana tobacco.

The quality of the *yerba maté* produced in Paraguay, when due attention is given to its preparation, is unexcelled anywhere in the world. The consumption of this plant is increasing yearly, and its cultivation is destined to become one of the most important industries of the Republic.

PERU.

ANNUAL MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT.

The following paragraphs are extracts from the message of the President, delivered at the opening of the regular session of Congress at the national capital in Lima on July 1, 1900:

PARTICIPATION IN THE PAN-AMERICAN CONGRESS.

The President says that "acting upon the recommendation contained in the last message of President McKinley to the Congress of the United States, the Peruvian Government accepts the invitation to take part in the Pan-American Congress to be convened in the City of Mexico in the fall of 1901, and believes that much good will result from the holding of such an important convention and that it will greatly stimulate commerce between the two continents.

SATISFACTORY ECONOMIC CONDITIONS.

"Notwithstanding the internal difficulties with which the Republic has had to contend, and which necessarily affected the credit of the country and restricted its trade, the economic conditions of the nation remain satisfactory. During the year 1898 the commerce of Peru amounted to 82,052,621.40 *sols*, and in 1899, 79,762,413.87 *sols*, or a decrease in 1899 of 2,290,207.53 *sols*. This difference has affected only the coastwise trade, which has diminished to the extent of 2,179,019.21 *sols*.

"The exportations, which in the year 1898 amounted to 30,274,775.89 *sols*, were in 1899, 30,725,910.99 *sols*, or a gain of 451,135.10 *sols*. The importations in 1898 were valued at 19,297,272.13 *sols*, while those of 1899 were 18,734,948.71 *sols*, or a decrease in the importations of 1899, as compared with those of 1898, of 562,323.42 *sols*."

The foregoing figures do not include the commerce of Iquitos, which in 1899 amounted to 5,384,634.89 *sols*.

THE MINING INDUSTRY.

"The exportation of minerals shows the mining industry to be in a flourishing condition. The value of the ores exported in 1899 was 10,667,012.32 *sols*, against 9,481,214.44 *sols* in 1898, or an increase in 1899 of 1,185,798.88 *sols*. Such wonderful development in the mining industry is the more evident when compared with the shipments from the port of Callao made during the first half of the present year. During the first six months of the previous year the exports of ore amounted to 3,363,245.26 *sols*, while those of the same period of the present year reached the sum of 6,823,041 *sols*, or a difference in favor of the first half of the year 1900 of 3,459,795.74 *sols*.

THE SUGAR INDUSTRY.

"The sugar industry is developing with rapid strides. In the exportation of this product there was an increase of 882,537.09 *sols* over the exports of 1898.

INCREASED TRADE WITH THE UNITED STATES.

"The increase of trade with the United States is especially noticeable. The exportation of sugar to that country, which in 1898 amounted to 14,196,352 kilograms, was, in 1899, 38,388,876.50 kilograms, or an increase of 24,192,524.50 kilograms.

"The movement of the general commerce of the Republic with the United States during the last four years has been as follows: In 1896, 3,089,134.21 *sols;* in 1897, 3,040,150.41 *sols;* in 1898, 4,951,902.43 *sols*, and in 1899, 7,329,641.52 *sols*.

THE GOLD STANDARD.

"The gold standard has been permanently established. Many and various have been the services rendered the nation by the eminent statesman who occupied the Executive Office during the preceding Presidential term, but the fact alone of his having placed the monetary system of the country upon a solid basis is enough to render that period famous. During the last six months the importation of gold into the country has increased about 80 per cent over the quantity imported previous to the year 1896. Taking into account the amount on hand in the banks, the total amount of gold which has come into the country during the last three years has been about six millions *sols*.

INCREASED INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY.

"The nation has entered upon a period of industrial activity worthy of emulation, protection, and encouragement. Under the benign influ-

ence of peace all the old associations of credit and the industrial and mining enterprises have prospered, and new companies with large aggregations of capital at their disposal are constantly being formed. There is confidence in the stability of the Government, and public wealth is rapidly increasing.

"In the region of the Amazon great activity has been awakened and numerous enterprises have been organized to explore that virgin district and exploit its rich and varied products.

"New roads are being opened in all directions and among them are some of the greatest importance, such, for instance, as the one that leads to the Santo Domingo mines, the one which unites the Port of Pongo with that of Mansericlie, distant a few days, voyage from Iquitos, and the important highway from Sicuaní to Imbari.

TERRITORIAL COLONIZATION.

"The Government is giving due importance to the question of colonizing its eastern territory, and has willingly cooperated with all those enterprises that have for their object the promotion and development of those abundant and varied sources of wealth with which nature has so lavishly endowed this portion of the Peruvian Republic.

CONSTRUCTION OF DOCKS.

"The new docks at Casma, Salaverry, and Tambo de Morra are being rapidly constructed. The material that is to be used for the wharf at Huacho is now in transit, and a concession has been granted to construct a wharf at Chimbote. The wharves at Pisco and other ports, which are now in bad condition, will soon be repaired in conformity with recommendations already made.

WATER SUPPLY FOR CUZCO.

"The Government has ordered a detailed investigation regarding the bringing of water to the city of Cuzco, which has at present an insufficient supply of this precious liquid.

IMPROVEMENTS OF THE PORT OF MOLLENDO.

"There is now under consideration the construction of a breakwater at Mollendo, a work authorized by Congress in 1895, and regarding the importance of which it is not necessary to dwell. The inadequacy of that port—the second of the Republic—and which is also used by Bolivia as the seaport for a large section of that country, is well known. By the erection of a breakwater the difficulties and inconveniences attending the use of this port will be avoided, and a part, at least, of the traffic which has been diverted to other roads will be secured by the southern railroads."

NEW PRESIDENTIAL CABINET.

Hon. IRVING B. DUDLEY, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the United States near the Government of Peru, has informed the Department of State at Washington of the formation of a new Presidential Cabinet on August 9, 1900. The several Cabinet officers named in the Minister's communication were—

Minister of Interior and Police, Señor ENRIQUE CORONEL ZEGARRA.

Minister of Justice, Religion, and Instruction, Dr. PEDRO CARLOS OLAECHEA.

Minister of War and Marine, Capt. M. MELITÓN CARVAJAL.

Minister of Finance and Commerce, Señor RAFAEL QUIROS.

Minister of Public Works, Dr. JOSÉ GRANDA.

Minister of Foreign Relations, Dr. E. DE LA RIVA-AGÜERO.

The Associated Press correspondent at Lima, in a dispatch dated August 31, reports the following changes:

Minister of Finance and Commerce, Señor JOSÉ V. LARRABURE.

Minister of War and Marine, Col. PEDRO A. D. CANSECO.

Minister of Public Works, Dr. MIGUEL A. ROJAS.

RECEPTION OF THE MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY AT WASHINGTON.

The official reception by President MCKINLEY of Don MANUEL ALVAREZ CALDERON, the new Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from Peru to the United States, took place on August 18, 1900, at the White House, Washington. Mr. ADEE, Acting Secretary of State, introduced the Peruvian diplomat, who made the following address:

"Mr. PRESIDENT: His Excellency the President of Peru wishing to cultivate and to strengthen the bonds of good feeling and friendship which fortunately exist between this noble nation and my country, has done me the honor of appointing me Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the United States of North America. I shall consider myself more than happy if in the discharge of such pleasant duties I have the fortune to meet with the good will of Your Excellency and the enlightened collaboration of your Secretary of State.

"On presenting to Your Excellency these, my credentials, allow me to convey to you the most sincere wishes which the people and Government of Peru make for the continued prosperity of the United States and for the personal welfare of Your Excellency."

President MCKINLEY replied as follows:

"Mr. MINISTER: I receive with pleasure at your hands the letter whereby the President of Peru accredits you in the character of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary near the Government of the United States.

"In all that tends to maintain and strengthen the friendly relations existing between the United States and Peru I shall be happy to give you my hearty cooperation. I most cordially reciprocate the good wishes of the people and Government of Peru and hope that the blessings of peace and prosperity may long continue to be enjoyed by them."

SALVADOR.

RAILROAD DEVELOPMENT.

The "Diario del Salvador," an important daily newspaper published at the capital of the Republic of Salvador, states in its issue of July 5, 1900, that Mr. GLOVER, the contractor for the construction of the Union and San Miguel Railroad, is due to arrive in the Republic on his return trip from the United States. On the arrival of the contractor he will deliver to the Government the £5,000 which, according to the concession, he must deposit with the National Treasury, the contract referred to thus becoming a public document. The contractor will commence work shortly after his arrival, and within a few months thereafter the road must be completed as far as San Miguel, so that without unnecessary delay the section between that city and La Union may be opened to the service of the public. On the termination of this line the construction will be continued to the capital, in accordance with the terms of the contract.

The indications are that the railroad line between San Miguel and La Union will soon be open to public traffic, and in the near future it will be possible to journey by rail from La Union to Santa Ana, crossing in this manner almost the entire territory of the nation.

The value of this railroad as a factor in the material progress and development of the Republic of Salvador can scarcely be estimated, but that it will be very great, and perhaps even phenomenal, is generally conceded by every well-informed person who has carefully studied the situation. The country traversed by the railroad system of the Republic is exceedingly rich in natural wealth, and is capable, under favorable conditions, of a wonderful development.

One of the most encouraging features, and that which lends the greatest hope to the prophecy that the progress of this enterprising Central American Republic will within the next few years be exceptionally great, is the fact that native labor is comparatively abundant, and is of the most effective and productive class to be found in Latin America. The Government is disposed to cooperate in an active and practical manner with all those enterprises which tend to the development of the resources of the country, and that very progressiveness

on the part of the authorities is of itself a powerful incentive to the production of wealth.

These railroads when completed and properly managed will be of wide and far reaching benefit to the people of Salvador, and to all kinds of business within the Republic, and especially will it tend to develop the latent natural wealth and boundless resources of this immensely productive and fertile region.

PRODUCTION OF TOBACCO.

The Department of Agriculture recently received from Cuba seeds of the most famous tobacco raised on that island. These have been distributed to farmers and planters, together with a pamphlet of instructions respecting the planting, cultivation, and curing of tobacco. This action on the part of the Government has caused considerable enthusiasm among agriculturists, and a desire is everywhere manifested to increase the production of this important article. The indications are that the acreage devoted to the cultivation of this plant this season will be greatly in excess of that of previous years.

PARTICIPATION IN THE BUFFALO EXPOSITION.

Director-General BUCHANAN, of the Pan-American Exposition, has received a cablegram from the agent of the Exposition in Salvador, announcing that that country has definitely decided to make an exhibit. It was announced previously that Salvador would not be represented.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

The net profits of the "Banco Occidental" (Western Bank) of Salvador for the six months of the present year ending June 30, 1900, were $21,103.23.

The tax upon liquors during the month of July, 1900, brought a revenue to the Government of $28,727.56. Fines were imposed for the violation of the law to the amount of $327.

Rubber seeds of a superior quality, purchased by the Government for distribution, have been given to a number of agriculturists interested in the cultivation of this important plant.

SANTO DOMINGO.

COMMERCE IN 1899.

The following information has been obtained from a recent report of the Consul of Belgium at Santo Domingo:

The total of the trade of the Republic amounted in 1899 to 6,396,887

piasters, of which 1,857,702 *piasters* represents the value of the importations and 4,539,185 *piasters* the exportations. These figures were divided as follows between the various custom-houses of the country:

Custom-houses.	Importations.	Exportations.
	Piasters.	*Piasters.*
Santo Domingo	533,122	792,397
Puerto Plata	481,364	752,654
San Pedro de Macoris	498,472	1,590,418
Sanchez	215,061	748,675
Samana	24,472	105,842
Monte Cristy	28,962	126,734
Azua	76,249	422,465
Total	1,857,702	4,539,185

In detail, the principal products exported in 1899 were: Sugar, 101,926,422 pounds; cocoa, 2,326,169 pounds; coffee, 1,962,287 pounds; tobacco, 7,997,044 pounds; beeswax, 268,133 pounds; resin, 3,140 pounds; tortoise shell, 122 pounds; divi-divi, 1,496,600 pounds; old copper, 2,530 pounds; oxhides, 224,549 pounds; mangrove wood, 80 pounds; logwood, 1,864,040 pounds; lignum-vitæ wood, 439,175 pounds; labera wood, 112,520 pounds; mulberry wood, 282,500 pounds; vegetable fiber, 80 pounds; mahogany (in logs), 736,768 feet; mahogany (in branches), 50,015 feet; larch wood, 15,686 feet; cedar wood, 23,610 feet; paloma wood, 14,000 feet; abei wood, 3,200 feet; quiebra hacha wood, 1,540 feet; honey, 64,506 gallons; molasses, 47,886 gallons; rum, 51 gallons; wax candles, 1,332 boxes; palm nuts, 389,600 clusters; fur skins, 83,563; oxen, 277 head; goatskins, 33,000; starch, 31½ barrels.

UNITED STATES.

TRADE WITH LATIN AMERICA.

STATEMENT OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The following is the latest statement from figures compiled by the Bureau of Statistics, United States Treasury Department, showing the value of the trade between the United States and the Latin-American countries. The report is for the month of July, 1900, with a comparative statement for the corresponding month of the previous year, also for the seven months ending July, 1900, compared with the corresponding period of the calendar year 1899. It should be explained that the figures from the various custom-houses showing imports and exports for any one month are not received at the Treasury Department until about the 20th of the following month, and some time is necessarily consumed in compilation and printing, so that complete returns for July, for example, are not published until some time in September:

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

Articles and countries.	July—		Seven months ending July—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Logwood (*Palo campeche; Páu campeche; Campeche*):				
Mexico	$1,020	$2,100	$11,565	$14,244
Coal, bituminous (*Carbón bituminoso; Carvão betuminoso; Charbon de terre*):				
Mexico	15,451	5,671	136,503	48,668
Cocoa (*Cacao; Coco ou cacao crú; Cacao*):				
Central America		1,423	809	12,846
Brazil	46,094	38,815	250,460	729,287
Other South America	272,035	294,106	995,760	1,000,935
Coffee (*Café; Café; Cafe*):				
Central America	249,735	176,662	4,818,734	3,857,271
Mexico	138,437	173,585	2,352,639	2,673,771
Brazil	2,063,865	1,716,050	22,906,297	20,605,327
Other South America	515,602	649,218	4,682,877	3,156,624
Cotton, unmanufactured (*Algodón en rama; Algodão em rama; Coton, non manufacturé*):				
South America	19,550	4,026	104,854	217,160
Sisal grass (*Henequen; Henequen; Hennequen*):				
Mexico	449,587	508,207	4,923,418	7,761,162
Bananas (*Plátanos; Bananas; Bananes*):				
Central America	207,302	241,300	1,191,234	1,474,759
South America	126,135	70,371	634,432	578,010
Oranges (*Naranjas; Laranjas; Oranges*):				
Mexico	4,699	43	8,625	2,591
Fur skins (*Pieles finas; Pelles; Fourrures*):				
South America	19,482	23,740	107,208	55,796
Hides and skins (*Cueros y pieles; Couros e pelles; Cuirs et peaux*):				
Central America	41,399	36,403	185,414	315,491
Mexico	138,616	93,004	1,276,077	1,508,522
South America	809,123	634,733	6,592,134	6,513,845
India rubber, crude (*Goma elástica; Borracha crua; Caoutchouc brut*):				
Central America	56,840	54,532	563,032	499,880
Mexico	12,010	10,882	113,377	126,933
Brazil	536,103	413,086	12,029,081	11,432,696
Other South America	75,259	41,684	558,750	305,644
Lead, in pigs, bars, etc. (*Plomo en galápagos, barras, etc.; Chumbo em lingnados, barras, etc.; Plombs en saumons, en barres, etc.*):				
Mexico	181,407	237,377	1,197,767	1,488,665
Sugar, not above No. 16 Dutch standard (*Azúcar, no superior de la escala holandesa; Assucar não superior ao No. 16 de padrão hollandez; Sucre, pas au-dessus du type hollandais No. 16*):				
Central America	25,398	433	161,364	50,302
Mexico	17,322	26	64,042	11,106
Cuba	2,000,274	2,656,730	15,061,704	16,214,829
Brazil		63,283	681,865	1,766,871
Other South America	494,948	532,796	2,918,988	2,895,471
Tobacco, leaf (*Tabaco en rama; Tabaco em folha; Tabac en feuilles*):				
Mexico	3,834	680	20,419	35,494
Cuba	278,037	392,176	4,025,565	4,736,658
Wood, mahogany (*Caoba; Mogno; Acajou*):				
Central America	1,727	138,566	163,973	273,215
Mexico	5,755	27,477	248,025	278,130
Cuba	8,129	28,979	34,600	186,640
South America	434	936	9,921	12,848
Wool (*Lana; Lã; Laine*):				
South America—				
Class 1 (clothing)	2,583	15,753	464,276	2,190,543
Class 2 (combing)	101		101	48,499
Class 3 (carpet)	67,255	62,463	357,506	570,819

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE.

Articles and countries.	July—		Seven months ending July—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Agricultural implements (*Instrumentos de agricultura; Instrumentos de agricultura; Machines agricoles*):				
Central America	$176	$297	$1,244	$2,494
Mexico	27,341	58,574	172,251	353,720
Santo Domingo	147	219	716	848
Cuba	9,879	12,964	46,872	111,449
Argentine Republic	105,218	180,124	786,878	639,305
Brazil	923	1,615	22,756	19,613
Colombia	135	86	445	762
Other South America	34,103	28,523	137,544	111,814
Corn (*Maiz; Milho; Mäis*):				
Central America	3,588	1,256	25,281	19,087
Mexico	37,506	56,359	85,143	169,245
Santo Domingo	51	5	315	327
Cuba	57,832	90,921	290,417	414,946
South America	4,699	1,246	17,008	10,180
Wheat (*Trigo; Trigo; Blé*):				
Central America		2,750	13,944	11,261
Mexico			609	118
South America	357	119,809	67,876	423,945
Wheat flour (*Harina de trigo; Farinha de trigo; Farine de blé*):				
Central America	50,304	70,933	555,548	513,209
Mexico	11,409	6,674	90,256	78,603
Santo Domingo	3,643	22,349	95,973	116,440
Cuba	182,776	202,724	1,173,996	1,188,191
Brazil	122,851	231,784	1,696,305	1,773,061
Colombia	28,163	15,236	288,323	108,113
Other South America	157,644	122,000	913,924	836,581
Carriages, cars, etc., and parts of (*Carruages, carros y sus accesorios; Carruagens, carros e partes de carros; Voitures, wagons et leurs parties*):				
Central America	714	4,124	11,654	24,293
Mexico	189,548	97,148	507,802	551,245
Santo Domingo	293	1,667	11,414	15,222
Cuba	8,764	40,340	84,697	125,631
Argentine Republic	17,400	152,088	147,711	275,056
Brazil	39,614	20,705	104,601	34,725
Colombia	1,227	140	8,887	10,602
Other South America	8,142	7,259	25,655	42,694
Cycles, and parts of (*Bicicletas y sus accesorios; Bicyclos e accessorios; Bicyclos et leurs parties*):				
Central America	573	101	3,414	786
Mexico	3,839	1,878	29,740	9,912
Santo Domingo	170	1	298	128
Cuba	11,803	1,870	32,476	61,564
Argentine Republic	7,712	4,696	174,747	59,994
Brazil	2,664	931	19,498	13,512
Colombia	205	58	4,951	3,297
Other South America	7,786	2,394	34,545	27,501
Coal (*Carbón; Carvão; Charbon*):				
Central America	2,174	5,788	9,202	23,648
Mexico	125,069	113,134	851,598	1,182,514
Santo Domingo		29	5,880	10,475
Cuba	26,812	59,945	443,328	566,173
Brazil	22,948	670	85,830	92,744
Colombia	3,000	6,748	43,390	25,719
Other South America	10,570	17,225	43,955	133,591
Copper (*Cobre; Cobre; Cuivre*):				
Mexico	8,497	860	178,902	450,821
Cotton, unmanufactured (*Algodón no manufacturado; Algodão não manufacturado; Coton, non manufacturé*):				
Mexico	3,107	59,076	414,076	594,554
South America				6,375
Cotton cloths (*Tejidos de algodón; Fazendas de algodão; Coton manufacturé*):				
Central America	60,745	62,923	354,319	450,849
Mexico	36,222	28,289	301,583	226,892
Santo Domingo	11,566	23,697	132,912	113,137
Cuba	99,579	13,812	488,628	140,498
Argentine Republic	6,718	4,054	78,620	52,372

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	July—		Seven months ending July—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Cotton cloths (*Tejidos de algodòn; Fazendas de algodão; Coton manufacturé*)—Continued.				
Brazil	$38,612	$43,683	$246,820	$178,804
Colombia	45,141	13,876	253,836	123,229
Other South America	74,250	115,800	708,090	852,165
Wearing apparel (*Ropa de algodón; Roupa de algodão; Vêtements en coton*):				
Central America	22,153	20,592	166,403	255,072
Mexico	32,841	26,968	260,214	310,509
Santo Domingo	517	3,875	12,882	28,754
Cuba	13,759	3,786	108,767	72,903
Argentine Republic	3,990	1,272	31,536	6,792
Brazil	2,148	6,108	17,300	21,999
Colombia	4,717	3,272	24,132	25,819
Other South America	13,490	8,264	43,122	39,238
Electric and scientific apparatus (*Aparatos eléctricos y científicos; Apparelhos electricos e scientificos; Appareils électriques et scientifiques*):				
Central America	5,041	2,032	36,845	40,487
Mexico	29,697	25,402	273,393	198,951
Argentine Republic	21,868	8,345	156,844	95,624
Brazil	5,680	8,093	58,956	128,416
Other South America	9,592	18,062	77,151	168,097
Steel rails (*Carriles de acero; Trilhos de aço; Rails d'acier*):				
Central America	1,246	29	13,281	959
Mexico	10,895	139,218	293,630	670,075
South America	4,948	160,781	88,845	264,968
Builders' hardware, and saws and tools (*Materiales de metal para construcción, sierras y herramientas; Ferragens, serras e ferramentas; Matériaux de construction en fer et acier, scies et outils*):				
Central America	8,601	16,277	51,508	71,158
Mexico	52,288	32,361	267,269	301,422
Santo Domingo	1,009	1,332	6,211	10,657
Cuba	28,617	22,957	227,027	172,685
Argentine Republic	24,002	19,319	131,731	164,975
Brazil	25,636	21,946	138,255	140,534
Colombia	8,715	3,078	66,596	25,395
Other South America	16,729	30,050	136,209	171,061
Sewing machines and parts of (*Máquinas de coser y accesorios; Machinas de coser e accessorios; Machines à coudre et leurs parties*):				
Central America	2,631	1,753	11,099	21,163
Mexico	22,367	25,200	199,877	200,472
Santo Domingo	64	1,015	1,355	4,081
Cuba	4,028	14,356	15,529	76,787
Argentine Republic	7,899	22,623	90,604	116,778
Brazil	8,488	15,331	79,222	77,678
Colombia	2,526	495	35,578	5,414
Other South America	20,298	13,944	79,048	92,741
Typewriting machines and parts of (*Máquinas de escribir y accesorios; Machinas de escribir e accessorios; Machines à écrire et leurs parties*):				
Central America	221	398	1,213	2,009
Mexico	1,719	7,623	34,367	46,367
Santo Domingo	59	387	137	735
Cuba	1,375	2,315	16,297	24,412
Argentine Republic	514	2,515	18,728	17,057
Brazil	1,210	906	5,026	5,798
Colombia	60	88	1,818	1,359
Other South America	1,504	3,133	18,960	20,186
Leather, other than sole (*Cuero, distinto del de suelo; Couro não para solas; Cuirs, autres que pour semelles*):				
Central America	1,149	1,126	6,411	21,597
Mexico	2,137	1,399	6,962	22,300
Santo Domingo	265	1,703	1,057	4,219
Cuba	3,209	3,076	16,966	22,893
Argentine Republic	6,342	13,745	26,217	55,303
Brazil	9,425	4,960	44,077	68,404
Colombia	460	416	3,141	1,172
Other South America	5,685	1,404	24,403	25,993

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	July—		Seven months ending July—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Boots and shoes (*Calzado; Calçados; Chaussures*):				
Central America	$7,234	$14,480	$67,639	$84,171
Mexico	29,644	23,790	178,431	201,003
Colombia	3,716	1,436	22,247	27,452
Other South America	3,352	3,391	14,225	29,661
Rosin, tar, etc. (*Resina y alquitrán; Resina e alcatrão; Résine et goudron*):				
Central America	1,960	1,372	8,258	7,261
Mexico	200	791	5,500	3,682
Santo Domingo	347	329	2,954	1,578
Cuba	923	740	7,077	8,436
Argentine Republic	17,200	12,086	53,822	47,721
Brazil	9,263	27,619	134,217	75,595
Colombia	126	988	6,496	6,019
Other South America	5,864	5,428	35,026	43,777
Turpentine, spirits of (*Aguarrás; Agua-raz; Térébenthine*):				
Central America	318	395	2,856	5,311
Mexico	553	446	3,045	2,474
Santo Domingo	10	162	385	415
Cuba	4,024	4,630	32,314	22,467
Argentine Republic	6,499	8,992	39,154	107,494
Brazil	8,046	7,097	32,716	50,267
Colombia	476	106	4,258	1,863
Other South America	5,280	15,139	36,488	56,611
Oils, mineral, crude (*Aceites minerales, crudos; Oleos mineraes, crús; Huiles minérales, brutes*):				
Mexico	74,502	43,950	314,982	305,949
Cuba	19,121	18,392	128,007	274,953
Oils, mineral, refined or manufactured (*Aceites minerales, refinados ó manufacturados; Huiles minérales, raffinées ou manufacturées*):				
Central America	18,200	8,157	88,428	101,518
Mexico	13,406	18,421	132,719	132,206
Santo Domingo	444	5,257	17,884	41,772
Cuba	3,240	10,080	80,295	42,603
Argentine Republic	77,863	157,059	571,152	798,249
Brazil	164,380	282,899	835,776	1,353,307
Colombia	8,103	20,163	76,954	103,418
Other South America	99,106	147,896	698,771	955,379
Oils, vegetable (*Aceites vegetales; Oleos vegetaes; Huiles végétales*):				
Central America	158	484	3,433	3,977
Mexico	47,348	34,187	310,274	617,578
Santo Domingo	1,995	8,744	19,057	49,714
Cuba	3,824	2,223	21,014	9,583
Argentine Republic	1,587	5,444	24,022	46,816
Brazil	31,391	28,519	119,596	207,817
Other South America	6,919	15,301	70,663	98,844
Beef, canned (*Carne de vaca en latas; Carne de vacca em latas; Bœuf conservé*):				
Central America	1,365	1,899	11,982	15,527
Mexico	1,057	2,212	12,854	12,260
Santo Domingo	3	21	88	78
Cuba	274	357	10,005	2,036
Argentine Republic	----	----	1,119	1,007
Brazil	809	920	8,819	12,066
Colombia	485	156	3,665	4,743
Other South America	2,315	1,832	9,031	10,351
Beef, salted or pickled (*Carne de vaca salada ó en salmuera; Carne de vacca salgada ou em salmoura; Bœuf, salé ou en saumure*):				
Central America	2,222	3,577	21,505	23,597
Mexico	55	349	573	1,322
Santo Domingo	503	911	3,797	2,711
Cuba	339	877	19,089	10,923
Brazil	63	165	1,117	1,200
Colombia	1,506	2,500	10,675	14,406
Other South America	21,235	14,930	93,043	114,123
Tallow (*Sebo; Sebo; Suif*):				
Central America	8,098	10,660	57,255	58,722
Mexico	5,613	4,720	20,005	14,767
Santo Domingo	1,568	23	13,070	8,250

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued

Articles and countries.	July—		Seven months ending July—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Tallow (*Sebo; Sebo; Suif*)—Continued.				
Cuba		$2,161	$1,580	$3,476
Brazil	$5,898	3,520	19,026	54,279
Colombia	1,167	970	12,152	3,063
Other South America	5,947	23,749	28,011	55,051
Bacon (*Tocino; Toucinho; Lard fumé*):				
Central America	2,328	3,845	10,466	17,553
Mexico	2,005	990	11,622	11,516
Santo Domingo	283		1,387	1,252
Cuba	87,211	66,580	530,569	384,892
Brazil	14,226	12,969	127,153	69,329
Colombia	412	95	1,484	1,826
Other South America	1,438	1,169	10,437	11,189
Hams (*Jamones; Presunto; Jambons*):				
Central America	2,268	2,450	13,974	16,754
Mexico	3,584	2,935	18,477	22,219
Santo Domingo	280	1,499	4,525	7,077
Cuba	69,651	53,609	428,258	366,810
Brazil	364	111	1,885	3,083
Colombia	1,289	1,850	11,212	12,793
Other South America	9,196	6,372	50,163	35,498
Pork (*Carne de puerco; Carne de porco; Porc*):				
Central America	5,672	8,860	37,862	56,045
Santo Domingo	251	1,725	3,684	5,688
Cuba	6,996	65,076	35,293	322,745
Brazil	1,056	156	2,880	1,490
Colombia	20,877	1,951	27,060	11,592
Other South America	233	19,901	110,970	136,821
Lard (*Manteca; Banha; Saindoux*):				
Central America	14,619	14,592	102,627	123,100
Mexico	19,414	13,425	119,390	224,135
Santo Domingo	1,937	4,882	16,544	23,953
Cuba	155,007	230,041	1,078,740	1,526,976
Argentine Republic	162	630	2,904	5,177
Brazil	90,848	117,789	622,908	487,655
Colombia	7,794	6,528	72,241	74,095
Other South America	79,282	72,393	417,095	466,756
Butter (*Mantequilla; Manteiga; Beurre*):				
Central America	4,113	3,316	27,197	27,034
Mexico	2,454	2,196	30,572	25,471
Santo Domingo	330	2,595	5,606	17,428
Cuba	4,266	1,185	78,329	21,597
Brazil	23,169	21,300	127,808	89,716
Colombia	1,886	496	10,168	8,303
Other South America	21,954	5,514	106,325	48,584
Cheese (*Queso; Queijo; Fromage*):				
Central America	1,279	1,721	10,168	14,206
Mexico	1,673	1,744	13,810	12,348
Santo Domingo	254	690	3,029	6,431
Cuba	3,877	1,509	46,397	23,516
Brazil	17	18	209	48
Colombia	610	408	4,652	4,181
Other South America	1,866	634	7,799	4,559
Tobacco, unmanufactured (*Tabaco no manufacturado; Tabaco não manufacturado; Tabac non manufacturé*):				
Central America	511	2,061	14,976	22,977
Mexico	16,593	14,134	82,991	97,372
Argentine Republic		3,170	17,372	21,511
Colombia	342	734	4,106	9,844
Other South America	10,881	6,930	59,084	64,368
Tobacco, manufactures of (*Manufacturas de tabaco; Manufacturas de tabaco; Tabac fabriqué*):				
Central America	5,061	775	30,042	31,296
Mexico	437	1,439	13,698	5,923
Cuba	14,042	16,031	129,719	138,918
Argentine Republic	70	103	3,563	6,765
Brazil				105
Colombia	661	190	4,577	3,526
Other South America	6,666	2,705	45,887	49,315

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	July—		Seven months ending July—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Wood, unmanufactured (*Madera no manufacturado; Madeira não manufacturado; Bois brut*):				
Central America	$1,122	$3,443	$18,507	$24,645
Mexico	21,022	15,226	96,518	204,342
Cuba	7,315	664	34,623	34,721
Argentine Republic	5,120	.....	12,848	12,693
Brazil	.....	.....	240	17,992
Colombia	1,640	.....	10,520	1,604
Other South America	22,928	3,889	35,260	19,542
Lumber (*Maderas; Madeiras; Bois de construction*):				
Central America	5,186	3,347	34,879	27,814
Mexico	76,538	114,394	548,235	788,593
Santo Domingo	316	2,653	23,444	24,064
Cuba	59,657	82,258	561,343	804,843
Argentine Republic	118,893	51,435	590,650	675,814
Brazil	50,570	9,893	265,744	108,131
Colombia	1,949	3,294	30,559	33,048
Other South America	47,491	63,309	335,963	293,028
Furniture (*Muebles; Mobilia; Meubles*):				
Central America	4,519	4,012	21,534	29,484
Mexico	27,046	22,957	169,365	247,428
Santo Domingo	156	1,595	6,181	10,773
Cuba	17,424	44,235	98,595	510,854
Argentine Republic	5,489	5,254	51,989	48,049
Brazil	3,504	3,111	19,798	16,182
Colombia	2,038	1,758	19,756	10,210
Other South America	5,213	6,173	37,190	34,096

IMPORTS OF COFFEE IN 1900.

In the fiscal year which ended June 30, 1900, the United States imported more coffee than any other nation in the world, though the amount was much below that of the previous year. The grand aggregate for the twelve months was 787,983,611 pounds, valued at $52,466,993. This was 43,833,452 pounds less in quantity and $2,808,477 less in valuation than the imports of 1899, when the aggregate weight was 831,827,063 pounds and the valuation $55,275,470.

The greater part of the imports of coffee come directly to the United States from Latin American countries, though undoubtedly some of the coffees credited as imported from European countries were produced in South America. In 1900 the total number of pounds imported from Latin America was 748,546,777 pounds, valued at $47,329,851. The previous year the totals were, respectively, 803,074,992 pounds and $51,472,005, showing a diminution of 54,528,215 in the number of pounds imported and a valuation less in the aggregate by $4,142,154.

In 1900 the purchases of Mexican coffee by United States importers were greater than ever before, or 35,327,921 pounds, against 27,324,827 pounds in 1899. The aggregate value of these purchases in 1900 was $3,312,608, against $2,686,248 in 1899. The average valuation per pound in 1900 was about 9.39 cents, against an average of 9.83 cents in 1899.

The total number of pounds of West Indian coffees imported by the United States in 1900 was 9,249,729, against 11,701,202 pounds in 1899. The value of the coffees from the West Indies was $731,323 in 1900, against $941,622 in 1899. The average price per pound was 7.91 cents, against 8.08 cents in 1899.

The Bureau of Statistics of the Treasury Department does not make separate returns from each of the Central American countries, but takes Central America as a whole. The number of pounds of coffee imported from these countries in 1900 was 43,786,494, valued at $4,356,407, or about 9.93 cents per pound on an average. The imports in 1899 from Central American Republics and British Honduras amounted to 45,298,800 pounds, valued at $5,368,711, or an average of 11.85 cents per pound. The decrease in the number of pounds was 1,512,306 and was mainly of the higher-priced varieties.

From South America, in 1900, the total number of pounds of coffee received was 660,182,633, against 718,750,163 in 1899. The value of the imports of coffee from South America in 1900 was $38,929,513, or an average of about 5.90 cents per pound, against a grand total of $42,471,424 in 1899, or an average valuation per pound of about 5.89 cents.

From Brazil alone the purchases of the United States were 601,520,169 pounds of coffee in 1900, at a total valuation of $34,333,762. This was an average price per pound of about 5.71 cents. The purchases in 1900 from the other South American countries aggregated 58,662,464 pounds, valued at $4,595,751, or at an average price of a slight fraction less than 7.84 cents per pound. In 1899 purchases from Brazil were 628,417,812 pounds, valued at $35,253,834, or an average of nearly 5.61 cents per pound. From other South America during that year the aggregate receipts were 90,332,351 pounds, valued at $7,217,590, or about 8 cents per pound.

IMPORTS OF TROPICAL PRODUCTS.

The increased demand in the United States for tropical and subtropical products forms nearly as striking a feature of its commerce as does the growth of imports of manufacturers' materials. The one is largely correlative of the other since a large proportion of the manufacturers' materials imported are of tropical or subtropical production, while to this must be added the increasing imports of sugar, tea, coffee, cocoa, spices, and other food supplies. The people of the United States are paying nearly a million dollars a day for these tropical products; in the fiscal year 1900 such imports amounted to $351,353,246. Many of the articles imported from foreign countries into the United States to be used in manufacturing show a large increase in cost within the past two years. Thus, in raw sugar, the

increase is about 25 per cent; in india rubber, about 25 per cent; in raw silk, 33 per cent; in tin, 50 per cent; in sisal, more than 100 per cent; even coffee showing signs of an increase.

The total value of the tropical products which are or can be produced in Latin America (including the Antilles), imported by the United States during the fiscal year 1900, was $228,890,404, against $218,370,199 for the same products in 1899. Instead, however, of all these products coming from Latin America direct, over $91,000,000 worth came from other countries. These products include coffee, sugar, india rubber, cocoa and cacao, bananas, oranges, cocoanuts, spices, tobacco, ixtle, sisal, logwood, and mahogany, taking no account of the furs, hides and skins, tin and other mineral substances, cotton, etc., which, with the possible exception of cotton, are not tropical products.

The value of the articles enumerated imported into the United States from Latin America in 1900 was $137,222,403, against $126,759,323 for the previous year.

The aggregate valuation of the coffees imported into the United States in 1900 was $52,466,993, of which $47,329,851 represent the imports from Latin-American countries. The sugar imported was valued at $100,250,797, of which $36,756,526 worth was from Latin America. Cocoa and cacao were imported to the value of $5,970,845, of which the proportion credited to Latin America was $4,527,594, against $4,258,848 in 1899. The United States consumed bananas to the value of $5,877,835 in 1900, against $5,665,588 worth in 1899, the imports from Latin America being $5,557,819 in 1900 and $5,373,481 in 1899. The imports of oranges decreased in value in 1900, being worth $1,087,035, against $1,097,596 in 1899; while there was a decrease in the total value, the imports of this fruit from Latin America (including Jamaica) increased, being $800,506, against $686,495 in 1899. The value of cocoanuts imported in 1900 was $702,947, against $625,789 in 1899, the entire product being credited to Latin America. Mexico is the only country in America proper which is credited with exporting spices, the imports by the United States in 1900 from that Republic being $48,256, against $38,144 in 1899. There were, however, $354,631 worth of spices imported from the West Indies. The United States imported $3,401,255 worth of spices in 1900, against $2,882,301 in 1899. Over one-half the leaf tobacco imported by the United States in 1900 came from Latin America, as was also the case in 1899, the imports for 1900 amounting to $13,296,834 and for 1899 to $9,900,253. Of these values the imports from Latin America represented respectively $7,703,536 and $5,194,303.

All of the ixtle imported by the United States in 1900 and also in 1899 came from Latin America, Mexico being the principal producer. The import value of this product was $476,000 in 1900 and $284,177 in 1899. Sisal to the value of $11,792,263 was imported in 1900, against $9,211,377 in 1899. Nearly the whole of both amounts came

from Mexico, or $11,506,350 in 1900 and $8,902,213 in 1899. Logwood was imported in 1900 to the value of $628,464, against $546,274 in 1899. The imports from Latin America increased, being $628,214 in 1900, against $546,274 in 1899. The mahogany imports were worth $1,572,269 in 1900, against $1,244,921 in 1899, the Latin-American countries contributing to the amount of $1,000,854 in 1900 and $884,908 in 1899.

One of the most important tropical products is india rubber, of which the imports by the United States in 1900 amounted to $31,376,867, against $31,707,630 in 1899. Of these totals the Latin-American countries supplied $19,829,289 in 1900, against $18,958,200 in 1899. Thus it can be seen that while there was a decrease in the total value, there was a substantial increase in the proportion furnished by Latin America.

It is a noteworthy fact that the United States collects no duties on most of the tropical and subtropical products so largely received from Latin-American countries, while those countries collect import duties on the greater part of the goods taken from the United States. No duty is collected on coffee by the United States, a concession granted by no other country except Holland. Part of the sugar, all of the crude cacao, the bananas, cocoanuts, crude india rubber, ixtle, sisal grass, mahogany, and logwood are admitted into the United States markets free of duty. On the other hand, duties are only collected on a greater part of the sugar, the oranges, most of the spices, and all of the leaf tobacco.

While the official statistics of the value of the imports from Latin America by the United States show that the trade in many of the items is increasing and that international commercial relations are being extended, it is a source of mutual regret that transportation facilities, especially between the South American Republics and the United States, are entirely inadequate. With direct steamship service from United States ports to the principal ports of South America, the import and export trade of all the countries interested would undoubtedly be materially augmented. Likewise, when an Isthmian canal has been completed, the trade with Central America and western South America will be greatly benefited.

OPPORTUNITY FOR TEA GROWERS.

The disorganization of the trade with China gives to the experimental tea growers in the United States a chance to prove the practical value of their efforts at producing this plant. In South Carolina there is a tea farm where a very high grade of tea is raised. Its product sells in the markets of the United States on its merits and brings $1 per pound, which is a higher price than most of the Chinese

teas command in this country. To successfully produce tea in the United States, special care and study and highly trained skill in curing the leaf is necessary, and this is one reason given for the few attempts made to produce the plant in those portions of the South where the soil is favorable.

The continued diminution in the tea imports from China may be the opening so long desired for the introduction into the United States, as a substitute, the yerba maté, produced so extensively in the River Plate regions and especially in the Republic of Paraguay.

THE MANUFACTURE OF PORTLAND CEMENT.

Attention has recently been called to the manufacture of hydraulic cements in the United States. A hydraulic cement is one which has the ability to set or harden under water. It is extensively employed in the construction of bridge piers, docks, the foundations of buildings, in the making of pavements, and in an increasing variety of other work. Cement is rarely used pure, and is generally mixed with sand and gravel, the compound being known as concrete. If the cement is properly chosen and the proportions of the sand and gravel are not too great, concrete will prove as hard and serviceable as granite almost, besides being much cheaper.

The lime used in the preparation of mortar for ordinary building purposes is derived from a limestone containing only a little impurity, from 3 to 6 per cent; the rest is carbonate of lime. Such a stone, being burned, yields a product which, when water is poured upon it, is reduced to a powder, with the evolution of much heat. This operation is known as "slaking" the lime. Such a quality of limestone as that described will not make a good hydraulic cement without the addition of other substances. The stone originally used for making cement at Portland, England, contained only from 78 to 80 per cent of carbonate of lime and from 20 to 22 per cent of clay. But this clay itself was a mixture. It was composed of about 1½ or 2 parts of silica to 1 of alumina. When the stone was burned the silica and alumina combined so thoroughly with the lime that none of the latter was left free to slake. Any cement made artificially after that formula in Europe or America is a Portland cement. One which is nearly the same, but contains a certain per cent of magnesia, is called Rosendale cement.

The development and future prospects of Portland cement manufacture in America is the subject of an elaborate article in a recent number of the "Engineering News." From this it is learned that, although England was the birthplace of the industry, that country no longer has a monopoly of it. The annual production of Portland cement in England is now between 7,000,000 and 8,000,000 barrels;

that of France barely 3,500,000 barrels, while Germany's output is from 18,000,000 to 20,000,000 barrels. Moreover, the quality of the German product is considered to be superior to the English.

A diagram in the "News" strikingly illustrates the growth of the use of cement in the United States since the year 1883. In that year the consumption was about 500,000 barrels, and nearly that amount was imported; that is to say, the domestic product was extremely small. Seven years later, in 1891, the quantity used in the United States was 3,500,000 barrels, of which 500,000 barrels, or only one-seventh, was produced in the country. Then the industry took upward bounds, until in 1897 the number of barrels of the home product used exceeded the number of barrels imported by one-half; that is to say, out of 5,000,000 barrels used over 3,000,000 barrels was manufactured in the United States. In 1899 the United States produced 5,200,000 barrels of Portland cement and imported 2,300,000 barrels. While these figures show that the production of cement in the United States has increased enormously within the last few years the consumption, owing to the many new uses to which the article is being put, has also rapidly increased. The "News" ventures the opinion that so great is the demand that the mills of the United States will not catch up with the needs of the country for several years.

However, the United States not only has an inexhaustible supply of raw material but has adopted methods and apparatus which enable it to make cement more rapidly than the manufacturers of Europe, and in the quality of this article the United States already leads all other countries.

VALUE OF COTTON SEED.

In a recent article in the "Forum" a writer asserts that cotton seed has advantages over wheat commercially. It is stated that there was a time "when the cotton seed was the least of all seeds in the public estimation, but it bids fair to become in the future by its merit the greatest of all." Comparison by analysis is then made of this so-called by-product with the greatest of cereals—wheat—as follows:

	Protein.	Carbo-hydrates.	Fat.	Value.
Wheat	11.87	73.69	2.09	$1.00
Cotton seed	17.57	10.82	20.19	1.39

The above table gives the number of pounds of food components and the analytical value of 100 pounds each of wheat and cotton seed according to the methods in use by the agricultural experiment stations. It shows the surprising fact that, pound for pound, cotton seed has a greater intrinsic value than wheat. Neither is the bulk of

the cotton-seed crop by any means insignificant as compared with wheat. There are raised in the Southern States alone five-sevenths as many bushels of cotton seed as there are raised bushels of wheat in the whole of the United States.

Although the cotton seed crop has been almost obscured by the far more showy cotton crop, it has nevertheless been proved by recent investigations to have an intrinsic value half that of the cotton crop when fully and properly put to such uses as are already known for it. "There is a known latent value in the cotton-seed crop of $200,000,000, equal to 4 cents per pound on the entire cotton crop, which is still annually lost."

TREATY WITH GREAT BRITAIN.

On August 18, 1900, the Department of State at Washington made public a treaty between the United States and Great Britain. This related solely to the tenure and disposition of real and personal property. The instrument was signed in 1899, but ratifications were not exchanged until July, 1900. The treaty is a long document of seven articles, and provides in detail the manner of distributing the property of deceased citizens of either country who die in the other country.

OWNERSHIP OF WATERWORKS, GAS AND ELECTRIC-LIGHT PLANTS.

Among the great mass of interesting statistical matter that is to be found in the recently published report of the Commissioner of Labor of the United States is the following with reference to the municipal and private ownership of waterworks, gas plants, and electric-light stations: Of the 3,326 waterworks in the country, it was found that 46.27 per cent were owned and operated by private individuals, firms, and corporations, while 53.73 per cent were owned and operated by the cities, towns, and villages in which they were located; of the 965 gas works, 98.55 per cent were owned by private corporations, while but 1.45 per cent belong to municipalities; of the 3,033 electric-light plants, 84.83 per cent belong to private owners, and 15.17 per cent were under municipal ownership.

The Commissioner's report covers 24.37 per cent of the private waterworks in the United States and 36.88 per cent of those under municipal ownership and control; 37.43 per cent of the private and 78.57 per cent of the municipal gas works, and 24.57 per cent of the private and 69.57 per cent of the municipal electric-light plants. Of the 1,539 privately owned waterworks, about 32 per cent were located in towns or villages which had less than 1,000 population at the census of 1890, while about 25 per cent of the 1,787 municipally owned plants were so located. Of the 951 gas works owned by private indi-

viduals or corporations, about one-third of 1 per cent were located in towns and villages which had less than 1,000 population, while of the municipally owned plants none were located in such small places. So far as the electric-light plants are concerned, about 9 per cent of the 2,572 private plants were located in towns and villages of less than 1,000 population and about 9 per cent of the 460 plants owned by municipalities were so located. About one-fourth of all the water-works in the United States are located in small towns, while a very small proportion of the gas works and about one-tenth of the electric-light plants are so located.

MANUFACTURE OF CARBON POINTS.

One of the new industries in the United States that have followed in the train of the electric light is that of carbon making. The first electric arc lamps used carbon points sawed out of the dense, almost metallic looking carbon deposits that slowly formed on the inside of the clay retorts used in making coal gas. This material was scarce and soon became expensive, and, being both exceedingly hard and more brittle than glass, was very difficult to work. It was therefore found necessary to manufacture the carbon points, and the making of these has in recent years become a considerable industry. The larger cities of the country consume several hundred thousand carbon points every week.

The carbon points now used are made of a mixture of petroleum coke and tar, which is baked for a long time at a high temperature. The coke is first ground as fine as possible in a specially designed mill and is thoroughly mixed with the tar in a mixing machine. A cake of the resulting dough is placed in a strong steel cylinder having a hole of the proper diameter at the bottom. A massive steel plunger worked by hydraulic power descends upon this mass and forces out the dough in the shape of a rod. This is cut into proper lengths, packed tightly in powdered coke in iron boxes and baked at a red heat for a week or more. The product, when cooled and smoothed on an emery wheel, is the carbon point of the arc lights.

TRADE IN FLOWERS.

There are more than 9,000 commercial florists in the United States, representing an invested capital of $11,250,000, and an annual trade of $27,750,000. The State of New York has 1,200 establishments, the State of Illinois 800, and the State of Ohio 680. The insurance companies carry risks on 13,025,762 square feet of glass employed by the florists on their hothouses. The number of cut roses sold annually in the United States is estimated by the Department of Agriculture at

100,000,000, valued at $9,000,000; there is an equal number of carnations sold, which are worth $4,000,000. The number of violets sold each twelve months is 75,000,000, worth $750,000, and the number of chrysanthemums 50,000, valued at $500,000. The capital invested in carnations alone is said to be $2,000,000, while that employed in the production of chrysanthemums is even greater in amount.

PRODUCTION OF IRON ORE IN 1899.

According to the annual report of the United States Geological Survey, compiled by JOHN BIRKINBINE, the production of iron ore in the United States for the year 1899 amounted to 24,683,173 long tons, an increase of 5,249,997 tons, or 27 per cent of the output of 1898. The record for both years represents the maximum annual production in any country in one year, the nearest approach being England's yield in 1880, when 18,062,040 tons were mined.

Of the twenty-four States contributing to the total cited for 1899, Michigan leads with 9,146,157 tons, followed by Minnesota with 8,161,289 tons. Alabama occupies third place with an output of 1,009,327 tons. The Lake Superior region increased its former maximum output of 13,779,308 tons in 1898 to 17,802,955 tons.

The total value at the mines of the iron ore produced, as reported by producers, was $34,999,077, or $1.42 per long ton, an increase of 28 cents, or 24.6 per cent over the average value for 1898. The highest average value placed on the ore at the mines is in the State of New Jersey, where the expense of mining is considerable, and the lowest average cost is in Texas, the cost of mining in that State being only 90 cents a ton.

COMMERCE WITH SPAIN.

Hon. BELLAMY STORER, United States Minister at Madrid, has informed the Department of State at Washington that a treaty of amity, commerce and navigation, and general intercourse has been signed provisionally by the Minister of State for Spain and by himself for the United States. This practically marks the last step in the complete restoration of friendly relations between the two Governments.

Previous to that, however, commercial relations between the United States and Spain had been fully restored. The official figures of the Treasury Department for the fiscal year 1900 show that the exports from the United States to Spain and imports into the United States from Spain were larger than in any other year since 1893, and within a few hundred thousand dollars of the highest record ever made in the commerce between the two nations. The exports from the United States to Spain last year were $13,399,680 against $10,912,745 in 1897,

the last full year preceding the trouble between the countries. In 1900 the imports into the United States from Spain amounted to $5,950,047 against $3,631,937 in 1897. Cotton, breadstuffs, mineral oils, and manufactures of wood are the principal articles taken by Spain from the United States, raw cotton being by far the largest single item. The largest items of imports from Spain into the United States are fruits, nuts, and wine.

THE PAN-AMERICAN EXPOSITION.

The promoters of the Pan-American Exposition, which will be held at Buffalo, New York, from May 1 to November 1, 1901, have recently issued a profusely illustrated folder of about fifty pages giving a general outline of the plans and purposes of the Exposition. Director-General BUCHANAN has issued a circular, in which he states that Mr. MARK BENNITT, of Buffalo, New York, will be Superintendent of the Press Department, and to him all requests for information in regard to the Exposition should be addressed.

URUGUAY.

RESULT OF THE CENSUS.

The Census Commission has published in tabulated form the general results of the National Census. The census of the interior of the Republic was taken March 1, 1900, and that of Montevideo in 1889. The population of the various Departments was as follows, including Montevideo, of which no recent census has been taken:

Department.	Total.	Native born.	Foreign born.
Artigas	23,334	17,212	6,122
Canelones	76,984	64,390	12,594
Cerro-Largo	33,039	27,678	5,361
Colonia	45,185	36,289	8,896
Durazno	33,733	31,155	2,578
Flores	14,431	13,193	1,238
Florida	39,985	36,349	3,636
Maldonado	24,048	22,706	1,342
Minas	32,595	30,111	2,484
Montevideo	215,061	114,322	100,739
Paysandú	38,543	30,052	8,491
Rio Negro	18,574	14,958	3,616
Rivera	22,509	16,816	5,693
Rocha	26,727	24,630	2,097
Salto	40,589	31,340	9,249
San José	37,279	31,067	6,212
Soriano	34,628	30,053	4,575
Tacuarembó	34,424	30,210	4,214
Trienta y Tres	22,757	20,586	1,801
Total	814,425	623,487	190,938

The census, however, is said to have not been complete, and the committee has thought it advisable to add 8 per cent to the population

of each interior Department, which would make a total for the country outside of Montevideo of 647,313. The estimated population of Montevideo on January 1, 1900, was 252,713, making a grand total for the whole Republic of 900,026.

The foreigners in the interior form about 15 per cent of the population, but in the Department of Montevideo they form from 40 to 50 per cent of the whole. The foreigners in the interior are divided as follows: Brazilians, 24,720 (mainly in the northern and northwesterly Departments); Italians, 24,349 (mainly in the eastern and central Departments); Spanish, 23,352; Argentinians, 9,140; French, 4,186; Swiss, 991; Germans, 708; British, 675; other nationalities, 2,078.

With regard to sex the division is as follows: Males, 250,524 Uruguayans and 58,146 foreigners; total, 308,670. Females, 258,641 Uruguayans and 32,053 foreigners; total, 290,694.

FOREIGN COMMERCE, FIRST QUARTER OF 1900.

According to the report of the Statistical Department of the Custom-House the foreign commerce of the Republic for the first quarter of 1900, in comparison with the commerce for the same period in the two preceding years, was as follows:

Classes.	1900.	1899.	1898.
IMPORTS.			
Liquors (drinks in general)	$622,995	$550,345	$764,888
Provisions, cereals, and spices	1,254,205	1,145,996	1,144,863
Raw material and machinery	1,630,002	1,402,862	1,439,619
Textile materials	1,446,295	1,454,349	1,562,959
Ready-made clothing	401,126	435,870	416,092
Live stock	147,785	319,597	393,943
Tobacco and cigars	57,541	61,051	55,627
Miscellaneous	650,977	624,507	659,884
Total	6,210,926	5,994,577	6,438,175
EXPORTS.			
Slaughterhouse products	8,513,707	11,466,472	9,114,869
Live stock	207,507	164,295	139,758
Country produce	505,936	989,692	2,035,009
Other produce	85,686	62,821	52,335
Provisions for ships	32,989	25,592	19,485
Miscellaneous	3,492	1,813	50
Total	9,349,317	12,710,155	11,361,506

ESTABLISHMENT OF ARBOR DAY.

The Government of Uruguay, in view of the great damage caused the country by the wanton destruction of its natural and artificial forests, realizing that laws and decrees, while they prevent evil, do not remedy damage already done, and recognizing that trees are powerful forces in the regulating of atmospheric currents, equalizing the temperature, purifying the air, rendering fertile the action of rains and preventing to a considerable extent the dangers of inunda-

tions, and knowing that vegetable life is disturbed and stunted in those countries which have no forests, and believing it to be necessary and imperative to devote one day in the year to the planting of trees, the President of the Republic has promulgated the following decree:

"ARTICLE 1. That one day in each year be designated, during a suitable season, for the planting of trees.

"ART. 2. That the 18th of September, 1900, be selected as the date for the first celebration of this kind.

"ART. 3. With this object in view the Department of Public Works is authorized to appoint such honorary commissions as it may deem desirable.

"ART. 4. That this decree be promulgated and duly observed."

AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS.

Considerable interest is being manifested throughout the country regarding the holding of fairs, and great preparations are being made respecting the stock exhibits. On October 3, 4, and 5 a cattle fair will be held at Paysandú; on November 25 a similar fair will be inaugurated at Durazno, and from December 24 to 27 there will be a cattle exposition at Minas.

VENEZUELA.

CONCESSION FOR PEARL, SPONGE, AND TURTLE FISHING.

On the 17th of July, 1900, the Government entered into the following contract:

"ARTICLE 1. The Government grants to SEBASTIAN CIPRIANI, for the term of 25 years, the exclusive right to take mother-of-pearl, pearls, sponges, turtles, and products of the sea, except fish, in the maritime zone included between Costa Firma and Margarita Island, and between the latter and the adjacent islands. Said fishery shall be conducted by means of submarine apparatus, the present pearl fishers being free to work according to the methods they at present employ.

"ART. 2. In compensation for the right granted to SEBASTIAN CIPRIANI the latter cedes to the Government 10 per cent of his net earnings.

"ART. 3. SEBASTIAN CIPRIANI agrees to commence work within six months from the date of this contract.

"ART. 4. The Government grants to SEBASTIAN CIPRIANI the right to import free of duty the apparatus, machinery, and accessories necessary for obtaining the products specified in article 1.

"ART. 5. The Government agrees not to grant an equal concession to any other person or company during the term of this contract.

"ART. 6. The Government agrees not to burden the enterprise or its products with taxes.

"ART. 7. This contract may be transferred to any other person or company, but in no case to a foreign government.

"ART. 8. All questions and controversies arising as to the interpretation or execution of this contract shall be decided by the courts of the Republic, according to its laws, and in no case shall become the subject of international reclamation."

Regarding these fisheries the "Venezuelan Herald" states that at the present time there are about 400 boats engaged in the service, employing from 1,200 to 1,800 men; that the annual yield amounts to about 2,000,000 *bolivars*, and that the principal beds are at Coche. Margarita is about 12 miles sailing from Cumaná, and is an island which Columbus visited on one of his voyages.

CONTRACT WITH THE FRENCH CABLE COMPANY.

The "Gaceta Oficial," of Caracas, official organ of the Venezuelan Government, publishes, in its issue of March 3, 1900, an important contract with the French Cable Company, an extract from which reads as follows:

"ARTICLE 1. The Government grants the company permission to lay telegraph wires to unite the submarine cables from their terminals to the offices established or which may be established, allowing the land line which will unite the terminals with the office at Barcelona to follow the railroad which connects that port with the city.

"ART. 2. Being aware of the technical difficulties attending the laying of submarine cables between Carupano and Ciudad Bolivar through the bed of the Orinoco River, the company agrees to lay a river cable between Ciudad Bolivar and Soledad, which shall be the property of the Nation, and which shall unite the cable at Soledad with the national telegraph line which runs from that point to Barcelona, under the following conditions:

"(*a*) The company shall inaugurate a cable service via the national telegraph line which connects Soledad with Barcelona, paying therefor the tariff it now pays on telegrams transmitted to the interior—that is to say, 0.05 of a *bolivar* per word.

"(*b*) The company shall contribute one-half the expenses of keeping in repair the overland line from Soledad to Barcelona, and of the subfluvial line from Ciudad Bolivar to Soledad.

"(*c*) The maximum of repairs to the last-mentioned lines, as per mutual agreement, is fixed at 10,000 *bolivars* annually. The 5,000 *bolivars* annually which the French Cable Company agrees to pay shall be paid by it to the order of the Department of Public Works in quarterly installments, in advance, counting from July 1 last.

"(*d*) Neither the concession nor the contribution to which this article refers shall give any right whatever to the company to interfere with the service of the national line, the company having only the right to officially address the Department of Public Works advising regarding any obstructions which may occur upon the line.

"ART. 3. The company shall not have the authority to increase or diminish the present tariff without the previous consent of the Government. In case of the interruption of one of the cables of the company it may make use of the cables of other companies to secure international service, and shall collect the rates of said companies during said interruption.

"ART. 4. Although the company is exempted from all imposts, not only by its contract made with the Government on the 3d of January, 1895, and approved by Congress on the 2d of April of the same year, but also by article 19 of the International Telegraphic Convention, it shall be obliged to stamp each cablegram transmitted with .25 *bolivars*.

"ART. 5. The Government grants the company until December 31, 1900, in which to lay the subfluvial cable between Ciudad Bolivar and Soledad which shall complete the coast-line system of the company.

"ART. 6. The company acknowledges receipt from the National Government of 34,261.50 *bolivars* due for official cablegrams from the first quarter of 1895 to date, and all claims of the company against the Government are hereby withdrawn.

"ART. 7. All questions and controversies that may arise as to the interpretation and execution of this contract shall be settled in accordance with the laws of Venezuela and by the courts of the Republic, and shall in no case be cause for international reclamations."

SILVER COINAGE.

The "Gaceta Oficial" of Caracas, under date of July 14, publishes the following decree:

"ARTICLE 1. The mint at Paris shall proceed to coin 2,000,000 *bolivars* in silver coin of the class, weight, and fineness specified in the law of July 9, 1891.

"ART. 2. The coinage referred to in the previous article shall be in the following proportions:

"Nine hundred thousand *bolivars* in 5 *bolivar* coins, 900 fine and weighing 25 grams.

"Three hundred and fifty thousand *bolivars* in coins of 2 *bolivars* each, 835 fine and weighing 10 grams.

"Three hundred thousand *bolivars* in 0.50 *bolivar* coins, 835 fine and weighing 2.50 grams.

"One hundred thousand *bolivars* in 0.25 *bolivar* coins, 835 fine and weighing 1.25 grams.

"ART. 3. The circulation of this money shall be obligatory on private persons in the proportion established for silver by article 17 of the said law of the 9th of June, 1891, on national money, and under penalty fixed by article 23 of the said law.

"ART. 4. The Treasury Department shall name the port through which the importation shall be made.

"ART. 5. The Treasury Department is charged with the execution of this decree, and of communicating it to whom it may concern."

EXHIBITION OF EUROPEAN PRODUCTS.

The "South American Journal" reports that the Minister of Fomento of Venezuela has authorized Señor Don FEDERICO BAUDEN to establish in Caracas a permanent exhibition of samples of manufactures and products from Europe. There will also be branches of this exhibition at Valencia, Maracaibo, Ciudad Bolivar, and Marquisimeto. The concessionaire will be accorded the right of importing samples, catalogues, etc., free, and the museums will also be free from local taxation.

EXPORTS OF RUBBER.

The "India Rubber World" of September 1, 1900, reports an increasing interest in Venezuela rubber. The District of Amazonas is reported to be very rich in rubber of the hevea species, of which about 100 tons annually have been exported in recent years. The territory referred to in western Venezuela finds an outlet through the unique river system which connects the head waters of the Orinoco with the Rio Negro, which discharges into the Amazon near Manaos. The Brazilian Government is reported to be anxious to develop this new trade route, and it is proposed to employ small steamers between San Fernando de Atavapo, the capital of the Province of Venezuela, and the city of Manãos, from which latter port ocean steamers ply direct to the United States and Europe. Already much rubber-yielding forest land in Venezuela is under private ownership or control. Through the efforts of General Don JUAN ANSELMO, a former Territorial Governor in Venezuela, the various landed proprietors have become associated as the "Sociedad del Gremio Gomero del Alto Orinoco" with a view to the systematic employment of Indian labor and the buying and selling of merchandise to barter for the rubber gathered.

NATIONAL BANK OF BOLIVAR.

A contract has been entered into by the Government and a representative of United States capitalists for the establishment of a bank in Caracas known as "Banco Nacional Bolivar," with a capital of fif-

teen millions of gold *bolivars*. It will be a mortgage bank and also a bank of issue. The bank has the privilege of coining 2,000,000 *bolivars* in silver. A full text of the contract is published in the "Official Gazette," No. 7,608.

SALE OF ASPHALT DEPOSITS.

The "Venezuelan Herald" states that the Pedernales asphalt mines, situated at the mouth of the Orinoco on the Pedernales Island, have been sold to a German syndicate for 250,000 *bolivars*. These mines have at different times belonged to Venezuelan and French companies. The quality of the asphalt is said to be excellent, and contains a large percentage of petroleum, but the output is limited, owing to the depth of the mines.

IMPROVEMENTS AT SAN CRISTOBAL.

The Government has appropriated 200,000 *bolivars* to be used at San Cristobal in the construction of the State capitol building, repairing of the jail, and the erection of two iron bridges, one of which will span the Torbes River on the road from San Cristobal to Táriba, and the other the Quinimarí River between San Cristobal and Santa Ana. These improvements will greatly benefit that part of the country, and the erection of the bridges mentioned will facilitate transportation in that fertile region.

CLOTH FOR CLOAKS.

The "Leipziger Tageblatt," of July 27, 1900, says:

"Cloaks and capes of *friez* (baize) are much worn by the country people and soldiers of Venezuela. The cloth from which these capes are made is either red or dark blue in color and can be purchased almost everywhere throughout the country. This cloth is imported exclusively from Great Britain. As the demand for these goods is quite brisk, Venezuela should be a good market for German manufacturers to dispose of some such materials."

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

The Government has confirmed the concessions and privileges of the New York and Bermudez Company. This company is largely interested in asphalt properties, and is one of the largest and most important American companies doing business in Venezuela.

The customs tariff laws are being revised. The duties on several articles have been increased, while those on other articles will be

diminished. It is reported that the war tax, imposed during the last internal troubles, will be repealed.

The Government has just granted a definite title to the asphalt mine called "Inciarte," comprising 300 hectares, situated in the District of Maracaibo, and belonging to Dr. PEDRO GUZMÁN.

INTERNATIONAL AMERICAN CONFERENCE.

The Department of State of the United States furnishes the Bureau of the American Republics with the following correspondence in which the Government of the United Mexican States, through its Ambassador at Washington, extends invitation to take part in the International American Conference to be held in the City of Mexico in October, 1901. A similar communication has been addressed to the Governments of the several States of the International Union of American Republics, comprising all the nations on the American Continent.

[Translation.]

No. 113. EMBASSY OF MEXICO,
Spring Lake, N. J., August 31, 1900.

His Excellency JOHN HAY,
Secretary of State.

SIR: I have received from the Secretary of Foreign Relations of my Government a communication addressed to Your Excellency, inclosing the invitation from the Government of Mexico to that of the United States of America to participate in the Second International American Conference, which will be held in the capital of the Republic of Mexico in October, 1901.

I have the honor to send Your Excellency said document, and am pleased to reiterate to you the assurances of my distinguished consideration.

M. DE AZPIROZ.

[Translation.]

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS,
Mexico, August 15, 1900.

His Excellency JOHN HAY,
Secretary of State.

MR. SECRETARY: The Mexican Ambassador, as well as all the American representatives in Washington, received from your Excellency's Government a circular proposing a meeting, as soon as practicable, of a second International American Conference similar to that

which was held in the year 1889, but not in said city, but in some other of the capitals of the New World. Shortly afterwards your Excellency stated to our Ambassador in a conversation the pleasure it would give your Government should the City of Mexico be selected as the place for holding the proposed conference. On being advised of that conversation I complied, in the name of the President of the Republic, with a plain duty, manifesting that if the majority of the interested Governments selected this capital for the conference it would cause us the greatest pleasure and we would consider as an honor the visit of the delegates which our sister Republics of America might send, but that if some other city was designated, whichever it might be, for the holding of such an important congress, we would, with pleasure, send our delegates there.

At last the majority of the accredited American representatives in Washington, following the instructions of their respective Governments, chose the capital for the object referred to—a designation that we appreciate as an honorable distinction, and which, though not solicited, was received with the greatest satisfaction and with truly fraternal sentiments.

I shall say but little respecting the object of an assembly of such great importance, because its transcendental purposes were fully explained in 1889, as well by the convocation as by the acts and numerous publications which it originated. In addition, permit me to hand you the programme of the subjects that will be discussed, approved by the same persons to whom I have before referred and of which your Excellency will have already received some information. It is sufficient to say that the subjects of which it treats are, without doubt, of the greatest importance for the good understanding and fraternal relations of the Republics concerned.

It is certain that the next conference can not discuss all and each one of these subjects, at least, if besides those designated as principals it should be desired to embrace only those alluded to, and which refer to all those left unsettled at the first conference, or which for any account remained pending after its adjournment. But few as were those which now remain settled, the decisions of the assembly on being faithfully followed will constitute so many more advanced steps on the road of harmony between the peoples of the world of Columbus—moral advancement that will serve as an example to the other nations, showing them the benefits of a true and until now purely ideal human fraternity.

Notwithstanding that discouraging pessimism declares vain the efforts directed for the realization between men of the predominance of justice and the proscription of force as a substitute for right, it is necessary to agree that the constant affirmation of sound theories and their official sanction by Governments by means of mutual agreements,

of declarations which are morally binding, even though there may be lacking the means of compelling their observance, will continue to produce such a pronounced opinion that the result will be the extirpation of the most fixed abuses, as has been the case with slavery and other evils that seemed to be impregnable bulwarks against reason and philosophy. And, in truth, in order to arrive at the common understanding to sanction those agreements, or to prepare at least for their approval, there are no other means more adequate than conferences or congresses in which discussion is free, and in which all and each one of the delegates with equal privilege can defend their opinions, bringing their contingent of wisdom and knowledge in favor of the general welfare.

On the other hand, in an assemblage like that proposed, there will be cultivated and strengthened anew the sympathies mutually inspired by similarity, whether of language and race or of political institutions to-day substantially identical among the nations of this hemisphere; and without the pretensions of forming a separate world, not forgetting that civilization came to us from Europe and that the great interests of humanity are one, we must confess that in America there are special interests and closer bonds between her inhabitants, with fewer international complications to secure the welfare of her peoples. This consideration prudently applied will carry us to results that can offend no one, nor will it place us in conflict with the rights of anyone, because we shall be inspired by the dictates of justice and the most complete ideas of liberty, far from all exclusivism on account of language, religion, or origin.

Hoping that these ideas may find an echo in the sentiments of that enlightened Government, I have the honor to address your Excellency, by instructions of the President of the United Mexican States, inviting the Government of the United States of America to send delegates to the Second International American Conference, which will convene in this city on the 22d of October, 1901, assuring you that your delegation will receive the most cordial welcome.

I take this opportunity of reiterating to your Excellency the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

IGNACIO MARISCAL.

THE DEMAND FOR COAL.

The report of the Geological Survey gives the production of coal in the United States for the calendar year 1899 as anthracite, 60,514,201 tons; bituminous, 172,608,917 tons; total, 233,123,118 tons. The total production of the United Kingdom for 1899 was 220,085,303 tons, or 13,037,815 tons less than the United States.

The exports of coal from the United States for the calendar year 1899 were 1,707,796 tons of anthracite and 4,044,354 tons of bituminous. Taking the two together, the exports were 2.46 per cent of the production. Taking the fiscal year ending with June 30, 1900, the exports of anthracite were 1,775,168 tons; of bituminous, 5,413,438 tons, or a total of 7,188,621 tons. This was an increase for the two varieties of 2,136,688 tons, or more than 42 per cent over the exports of the fiscal year 1899, when the number of tons of anthracite shipped abroad was 1,571,581 tons and of bituminous 3,480,352, or a total of 5,051,933 tons.

The exports of coal from Great Britain in the calendar year 1891 aggregated 41,180,300 tons, or 18.71 per cent of the total production. It is the consumption of coal, however, rather than the export of it that indicates the manufacturing activity of a country, and in this particular the advantage rests with the United States. Practically all the coal produced that is not exported is consumed at home. This would make the British consumption of coal for 1899 178,905,000 tons and that of the United States 227,370,960 tons, or 48,465,960 tons more than Great Britain.

In the month of July, 1900, the export coal trade of Great Britain was fairly well maintained, notwithstanding the agitation with regard to the supply and the higher prices demanded. The total exports for the month were 3,981,021 tons, against 3,993,942 tons in July, 1899. The exports for July, 1900, to Russia, Norway and Sweden, Denmark, Portugal, the Azores and Madeira, Spain and the Canaries, Italy, Turkey, Egypt, Gibraltar, Malta, British East Indies, and Brazil show a decline as compared with the exports in July, 1899, but an increase is noted in the quantities dispatched to France, Germany, and Holland.

The report of the Geological Survey says that anthracite coal is being steadily supplanted by soft or bituminous coal under boilers and for manufacturing in the United States, which is becoming, more and more every year, an article of domestic consumption. In 1899 anthracite constituted 25.95 per cent of the whole product, and it is probable that for the next fifty years at least 20 per cent of the coal product of the United States will be made up of Pennsylvania anthracite.

All Europe is more or less agitated by the coal situation. It is felt that a shortage in the supply of those countries from which it has been customary to purchase is among the alarming possibilities of the near future. How best to avoid the results is one of the important questions of the day in the Old World.

In England there is grave anxiety. Consumers are already confronted by a serious advance in price, and there is apprehension that the cost is tending to become prohibitive and that English manu-

factories will be heavily weighted as compared with other countries, the United States in particular, where coal is more abundant and of easy access. The production in Great Britain, it is true, has increased from about 190,000,000 tons in 1895 to over 220,000,000 tons in 1899, but the present annual home consumption is estimated in the neighborhood of 180,000,000 tons. England's productive capacity may doubtless be further enlarged, but only at increased cost. This is due to the depth at which coal is obtained in the mines of that country. It appears, from a paper recently read before a geological society in regard to coal mining, that one mine in England is worked at a depth of 1,903 feet from the surface, another at 1,740 feet, another at 1,688 feet, and another at 1,630 feet. Comparing this manner of mining with the drift mining in the States of Pennsylvania and West Virginia, where the seams sometimes run up to 10 feet in thickness, the English dread of industrial competition by the United States is easily accounted for.

In Germany prices are also abnormally high. This is attributable, in part, to an increased demand resulting from the great activity of manufacturing establishments and, in part, to a combination of coal dealers. Germany produces 102,000,000 tons of coal and 34,000,000 tons of lignite, but this is insufficient for the requirements, and that country has been recently importing 450,000 tons per month from England. The United States Consul at Frankfort recently reported that Germany wants and is ready to pay a fair market price for United States coal.

France, although purchasing coal from England more freely than ever before, recognizes the wisdom of finding out how cheaply coal can be procured elsewhere. The United States Consul at Bordeaux reports that there is a desire to introduce United States coal if the cost will permit. He says to his personal knowledge the French railways belonging to the Government and another railway which is one of the greatest consumers of coal in that country have each an agent in the United States at this time investigating the subject.

In Russia, Austria, and Italy the demand for coal is active, and all these countries are anxiously looking toward the United States. A want of coal, indeed, seems just now to be characteristic of every country in Europe. Advices from Belgium say that the rolling mills are compelled to quit work for one or two days each week because of the scarcity of this article. The glassworks have also been consuming smaller quantities, and some of them have been closed altogether. A number of other Belgian industries are likewise suffering from the high price of coal, and their managers talk of suspending operations in consequence.

It would appear that there has never before been so favorable an opportunity for making known in Europe the merits of the coal of the

United States. Already there have been shipments of more or less importance to the Mediterranean regions and elsewhere, but there is room for a vast deal more being done. There is, in fact, but one difficulty in the way, and that is transportation. It seems, however, that this in a measure will be remedied. The superintendent of floating equipment of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company is in Europe looking over the foreign field. He will visit the chief ports of Great Britain and the Continent and carefully note those that afford the best facilities for handling coal. Extensive docks are being built at Curtis Bay, on the Atlantic coast, and it is announced that they will be completed before September 15. These docks and approaches are about 1,200 feet long and are the largest on the Atlantic seaboard. There is also talk to the effect that the Baltimore and Ohio road may build a fleet of its own if it fails to make satisfactory terms with independent companies.

The secretary of the Anthracite Cooperators' Association is also in Europe investigating the possibilities of increasing the export of anthracite coal from the United States. It is understood that his trip is for the purpose of arranging additional facilities for carrying coal to and handling it at various Mediterranean ports. This association has also secured bids for the construction and equipment of ocean-going steamships of large capacity from American shipbuilding companies and from companies in England, Belgium, and Norway.

A dispatch from London under date of September 9, 1900, says that the South Metropolitan Gas Company has made a preliminary test with 3,700 tons of Pennsylvania coal, which has shown that this coal is superior to the British article in the amount of gas it yields per ton in illuminating power and in the quantity of coke. While at its present price it is dearer than English coal, the test shows that its superior quality more than compensates for the difference in cost. If a full test gives the same result and the high prices of British coal continue, it is probable that the company will buy largely in the United States.

The "Mining Journal," of London, in its issue for August 25, 1900, says: "Notwithstanding the prospects that coal rates will shortly shrink, the present figures are by no means satisfactory from the point of view of the country's (England's) interests. Without stopping to state the truism that coal is the very basis and support of all our manufacturing industry, the high level of coal rates is reflected in almost every department of enterprise. * * * The possibility of neutralizing this evil by raising the prices is not common to all manufacturing concerns, and many have simply to grin at and bear the changed circumstances in which they find themselves placed. Investors in almost every class of stock have thus found themselves face to face with lower dividends, and though they may properly console themselves

with the reflection that the evil is, after all, only temporary, it is none the less for the time being severely felt. Another disquieting phase of the matter is the opening which is afforded for American (United States) competition, which did not require this advantage to make itself invidiously felt." * * *

A dispatch from Bremen, Germany, dated August 31, 1900, says that the scarcity of coal has become so alarming that the Government has invited foreign importation and reduced the tariff rates on coal to a level with those on cotton and other raw stuffs. A direct statement from the coal syndicate says that it will not be possible to increase the output during the winter.

A dispatch from Berlin, dated September 2, 1900, says the coal scarcity continues. An advance of 1 *mark* per ton has been made in Silesia. The burning of peat has begun in Berlin on a large scale. The "Berlin Tageblatt" says: "It would be singular if the enterprising Americans should let the present favorable opportunity pass without a powerful effort to increase their coal exports."

A dispatch from Vienna, Austria, to the "Chicago Record," under date of September 3, 1900, states that the Austrian Manufacturers' League has memorialized the Minister of Railways on the subject of the high price of coal, informing him that while this increased cost is seriously affecting industries as a whole, it is gravely threatening the very existence of the smaller manufacturers. The league therefore asks the Government to encourage the development of new coal fields, as well as to prevent for the future all damaging speculation in the coal market. The same dispatch tells of the arrival of 10,000 tons of United States coal at Trieste, and that it had been declared by experts to be equal in quality and cheapness to Welsh coal.

An export duty of 5 *shillings* per ton on English coal was advocated by Prof. Edward Hill, a scientist, in a recent address before the Victoria Institute, in London. Last year, he said, the exports amounted to over 40,000,000 tons, or one-fifth of the product of the British mines. He warned his countrymen that there was a practical exhaustion of the coal supply, while the earth still contained vast stores. "Practical exhaustion may be reached when, owing to increased depth and expense of mining and to actual diminution of supply, and other causes, the cost of coal will tend to become prohibitive, and English manufacturing industries will be heavily weighted as compared with other countries, such as America, where coal is more abundant and easy of access."

If it should prove necessary to keep the product of the British mines at home by the imposition of an almost prohibitive export tax, such as is here advocated, then, indeed, would the greater part of the world have to look to the United States for it fuel supply.

THE WORLD'S GOLD SUPPLY.

The phenomenal commercial record of the year for nearly all countries, and especially that of the United States, has been accompanied by an equally striking record with reference to gold production. The Chief of the Bureau of Statistics in a recent report calls attention to the interesting fact that the present gold production of the United States surpasses the record established in 1853, when the mines of California produced $65,000,000. In 1899, according to the estimates of the Director of the Mint, the gold production of the United States was $72,500,000. The annual average gold product of the United States is at present double that of ten years ago, though in this particular the growth in this country has been no more rapid than that of many other countries.

The world's production in the last fifty years is nearly ten times that of the preceding fifty years and more than double the amount produced in three and one-half centuries preceding. If the business of the world has increased very greatly in the past fifty years, it is equally true that in the same period it has made great progress in the use of substitutes for gold, not for want of that metal, but for reasons of safety, economy, and convenience, thus permitting nearly the whole current production to be added to the money supply. The use of gold in the arts is sometimes regarded as encroaching upon the supply of money material, but it should be remembered that very little of the mechanical use of gold is imperative. In fact, most of it is entirely optional, depending upon the ability of the people to purchase jewelry, etc. If the world were in pressing need for money, more gold would go into coin and less would be put into watch cases and smaller quantities would be employed in gold plating and for dental and other purposes.

The very rapid increase in gold production during the past few years brings the total product of the half century now ending to the enormous sum of $6,665,631,000. The gold production of the world from the time of the discovery of America (1492) to the year 1850 amounted to but $3,129,720,000. Taking the figures by half-century periods from the year 1500 down to and including the year 1899, the gold production of the world is shown in the following table, compiled from the estimates by Mr. George E. Roberts, Director of the United States Mint, and Dr. Adolph Soetbeer.

1501–1550	$225,580,000
1551–1600	245,580,000
1601–1650	281,840,000
1651–1700	324,440,000
1701–1750	587,580,000
1751–1800	677,240,000
1801–1850	787,460,000
1851–1899	6,665,631,000

The additions to the world's supply of gold by the United States and by the world in general for the past four years have been as follows:

Year.	United States' total.	World's total.
1896	$53,088,000	$202,251,000
1897	57,363,000	238,812,000
1898	64,463,000	287,428,000
1899	72,500,000	315,000,000
Total	247,414,000	1,043,491,000

THE SILK INDUSTRY.

The Bureau of the American Republics is indebted to Mr. FRANKLIN ALLEN, secretary of the Silk Association of America and member of the International Jury of Awards at the Paris Exposition, for a copy of his report of the awards granted the silk manufacturers of the United States. Embodied in this report are the results of Mr. FRANKLIN's observations at the capital of the great Republic of France, from which much of the appended information is obtained.

France continues to be the greatest silk-manufacturing country in the world in the amount of its annual production, leaving out the oriental countries, about which no reliable information is obtainable. In silk production France has a great advantage over other nations, because Paris, its capital, is the principal center of the fashionable world. For generations Paris has regulated and controlled what women shall wear and the materials which shall compose their best gowns in all the capitals of Europe and America. The fact that this fashion center is in their midst is no small advantage to the manufacturers of France. While France is the greatest silk-manufacturing country, it now produces but 3.8 per cent of the raw silk of the world, whereas it was formerly a much larger factor in this branch of the industry.

The city of Lyons is the birthplace and the home for centuries of the silk weaving in Europe. The annual production of the factories of this city is 400,000,000 *francs*, being two-thirds of the entire product of the French Republic. This includes, however, a considerable proportion of silk and cotton mixtures (*mélangé*) and the *foulards* imported from Japan and China, which are only printed in Lyons. The silk-ribbon industry of France is confined almost wholly to St. Etienne, where the product amounts to 100,000,000 *francs*, or 10,000,000 *francs* less than the value of silk ribbons manufactured in the United States.

The countries other than France and the United States making exhibits of silk manufactures and raw silk at the Paris Exposition were Greece, Bulgaria, Roumania, Servia, Algiers, Portugal, and Russia (outside of Moscow), which displayed manufactures designed

for use within the borders of their own countries only, and Japan, Russia (Moscow), Germany, Switzerland, Austria, England, Italy, Spain, and Canada, which manufacture both for domestic consumption and export.

Japan's manufactures of silk are mainly for home consumption, but, nevertheless, the Japanese are annually exporting over 1,000,000 dozens of silk handkerchiefs and 30,000,000 yards of piece goods to Europe and the United States. Russia in 1899 and in 1900 to April produced 12,000,000 *archines* (pieces of 28 inches in length) of manufactured silk. The products of the other countries, aside from those which manufacture for domestic markets only, are well known, many of their fabrics being noted for their beauty and excellence.

The exhibits of the silk manufactures of the United States at the Paris Exposition were hampered for lack of space. However, notwithstanding all embarrassments, it is gratifying to be able to say that there was no class of award of merit given by the silk jury to any country, from "grand prize" to "honorable mention," that United States manufacturers did not receive. The number of gold medals awarded to the United States was 4, in addition to 1 silver and 4 bronze medals, and 2 honorable mentions. The jury which made the awards was composed of 27 members, of whom 15 were citizens of France, 2 each of Switzerland and Italy, and 1 each of Germany, Austria, Russia, Spain, Greece, China, Japan, and the United States. A member was appointed for Great Britain but did not serve.

Mr. FRANKLIN reports that a most admirable series of charts, prepared by Monsieur MARIUS MORÁND, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of Lyons, and exhibited at the Paris Exposition, indicates the annual production of silk manufactures in the principal countries where such industries are located. This estimate, modified in a few instances by the more correct figures of the members of the silk jury, and with the value in *francs* reduced to the actual corresponding valuation in United States currency (19.3 cents instead of 20 cents per *franc*), are as follows:

Country.	Francs.	Dollars.	Per cent.
France	610,000,000	117,730,000	33.425
United States	425,000,000	82,025,000	23.288
Germany	250,000,000	48,250,000	13.700
Switzerland	190,000,000	36,670,000	10.411
Russia (in Europe)	105,000,000	20,265,000	5.753
Austria	85,000,000	16,405,000	4.657
Great Britain	75,000,000	14,475,000	4.109
Italy	65,000,000	12,545,000	3.561
Spain and Portugal	20,000,000	3,860,000	1.096
Total	1,825,000,000	352,225,000	100

According to Mr. Franklin, the raw silk supply of the world is contributed in about the following proportions and amounts by the several countries named:

Country.	Per cent.	Pounds.
China	41.5	14,330,000
Japan	20.7	7,100,000
Italy	20.0	6,900,000
France	3.8	1,330,000
Austria	1.8	620,000
Spain	.5	175,000
India	1.7	600,000
The Levant	10.	3,400,000
Total	100.	34,455,000

The growth of the silk-manufacturing industry in the United States has been most remarkable, and, though one of the most recent countries to engage in such enterprises, it now ranks as the second largest producing nation in the world for fine silk textiles. While as yet there is comparatively no raw silk produced in the United States, it is thought that even this product can be supplied in paying quantities in the future by the State of California, where experiments in the raising of cocoons are to be inaugurated.

It does not appear that Mexico was represented by any silk exhibits at the Paris Exposition, but it is nevertheless true that the silk industry is slowly growing in that Republic. The climatic conditions of Mexico are unexcelled by those of any other country in the world for the raising and development of cocoons, although the greater part of these are now raised in and near the city of Oaxaca. Several years ago there were four silk factories established in the Republic, but statistics of their product are not available. There is one silk manufactory in the City of Mexico which produces a fair grade of goods for the domestic trade. The silk industry will no doubt share in the general forward trend of the Republic and the production of fine fabrics will be developed, perhaps for exportation.

WHEAT CROP OF THE WORLD.

From the statements issued by the Department of Agriculture, which gives in detail reports of the condition of the crops in every country that produces breadstuffs, the following table gives the estimated crop of wheat for 1900 in comparison with the crops of 1899 and 1898, the years, owing to the different months for harvesting in the Northern and Southern hemispheres, being approximated:

Division.	1900.	1899.	1898.
	Bushels.	*Bushels.*	*Bushels.*
North America	567,000,000	622,264,000	758,303,000
South America	122,000,000	112,331,000	66,603,000
Europe	1,440,000,000	1,499,604,000	1,579,758,000
Asia	360,000,000	399,196,000	434,771,000
Africa	41,000,000	35,800,000	46,630,000
Australasia	50,000,000	56,212,000	34,980,000
Total	2,580,000,000	2,725,407,000	2,921,045,000

The London "Statist" for August 11, 1900, in speaking of the production and supply of wheat, says:

"The crops in most of the European countries are now sufficiently advanced for some approximate estimate of their extent being possible. In the United Kingdom there is little doubt that the yield will be below the average, which is regarded as 30 bushels per acre. Last year the average was 32.75 bushels; this year it may not exceed 28 bushels, giving a total of about 7,000,000 quarters (1,750,000 tons), against 8,250,000 quarters in 1899. In France the most recent official report indicates a yield of about 7,000,000 quarters below last year, and in Germany it is also considered that the crop will be 2,000,000 quarters below last year's abnormally large yield. Austria-Hungary will have a crop not exceeding 22,000,000 quarters, against 24,000,000 quarters last year, while Spain and Italy will harvest, according to all accounts, about the same as last year. Roumania and Bulgaria, as well as Turkey, have been, perhaps, more blessed in the matter of their wheat crops than any other European countries, and their aggregate production is expected to reach 17,000,000 quarters, against 10,000,000 quarters last year. In Russia, on the contrary, the latest reports show that the crop is a disappointing one, so that it may not exceed 46,000,000 quarters, which is about the same quantity as is believed was harvested last year." * * *

The European wheat crop seems therefore likely, in the aggregate, not to exceed 175,000,000 quarters, against 182,000,000 quarters in 1899. The estimated amount required for consumption in Europe for the year is 209,000,000 quarters, leaving a deficiency of 34,000,000 quarters to be supplied by other grand divisions.

Continuing, the "Statist" says that the deficiency has, of course, to be supplied by the United States, the Argentine Republic, India, and Australasia; that the crops of the United States and Canada taken together are about 12,000,000 quarters less than in 1899, when the total was about 80,000,000 quarters; that India will have practically nothing to spare until next April or May, while the Australasian and Argentine crops will not be ripe until the end of 1900.

"With a 'balance' required in Europe 8,000,000 quarters greater than last year, and with 12,000,000 quarters *less* produced in America

and Canada, it is very natural that opinions should sway in favor of a higher range of prices than in the past season, and this opinion we believe to be justified."

Beerbohm, in his "List," says that the visible supply of wheat in the world on August 1, 1900, was 7,410,000 quarters in Europe and 8,000,000 quarters in America, or a total of 15,410,000 quarters, against 7,485,000 quarters in Europe and 6,500,000 quarters in America, or a grand aggregate of 13,895,000 quarters on August 1, 1899.

The estimate of the Minister of Agriculture for Hungary, Dr. Ignatius de Darnyi, of the world's crops, according to a dispatch from Buda-Pesth under date of September 2, 1900, shows that the crops of that country have improved since the statement of July 31 was issued. The quality of wheat has improved owing to favorable weather while the grain was ripening and during its harvest. The yield is now estimated at from 4 to 5 per cent less than that of 1899. The same authority estimates the world's crop of wheat for 1900 at from 870,000,000 to 890,000,000 hectoliters. The average yearly consumption is estimated at from 926,000,000 to 953,000,000 hectoliters.

EXPOSITION OF LATIN-AMERICAN PRODUCTS.

An exposition has recently been held in the Royal Botanical Museum of Berlin of the results of the expedition to Central and South America. It consisted of a collection of all kinds of cocoa plants, as well as of their fruits, and is said to have been the most complete collection that was ever shown in Europe. Most interesting were the descriptions of the various processes employed in obtaining Peruvian balsam. There was also a collection of the different kinds of caoutchouc. From Mexico came the celebrated vanilla, which product is exported entirely to the United States, since Europe will not pay the high price which is demanded for it. The exhibition of fibers and their products was very extensive.

TRADE WITH SPANISH AMERICA.

The Consul-General of Uruguay at Baltimore, Maryland, writes that the value of the exports from the United States to the Republic of Uruguay for the first six months of the present year amounted to $765,423.53, as against $628,202.42 exported during the same period of 1899, or an increase in 1900 of $137,221.11. A great proportion, or $62,207.30 of this increase, was from the port of New York, the balance being distributed among the other ports of the country.

The importations from January 1 to June 30, 1900, were $1,194,271.47, as against $1,198,585.28 during the same period of 1899. The decrease of $4,313.81 is unimportant and is due to a falling off in the imports of jerked beef, which in 1899 amounted to $301,348.71, shipped in bond to Cuba, while the imports of the same article covering the same period in 1900 were only $16,528.40, due to the fact that the Cubans are now producing their own jerked beef and are also using much fresh beef. Deducting the exports, $765,423.53, from the imports, $1,194,271.47, leaves an excess of imports over exports of $428,847.94. Subtracting from this excess the value of jerked beef shipped to Cuba, $16,528.40, leaves the remarkable increase of imports over exports during the first six months of 1900 of $412,319.54. These semiannual reports have for some time shown a continued increase in the exports from Uruguay to the United States.

The Acting Consul-General of Mexico at New York reports the imports from Mexico through that port during the month of July last as follows: Henequen, 17,552 bales; coffee, 5,801 sacks; hides, 2,820 bundles; hides, loose, 2,828; ixtle fiber, 1,851 bales; goatskins, 521 bundles; deerskins, 103 bundles; rubber, 132 bales; tobacco, leaf, 2,248 bales; cigars, 187 boxes; broom root, 2,453 bales; chicle gum, 834 bales; fustic, 15,197 pieces; Tecali marble, 120 pieces; hair, 57 bales; lead bullion, 33,789 bars; metals, 421 boxes; ores, 57,449 sacks; sarsaparilla, 144 packages; vanilla, 23 boxes; alligator skins, 126; heron plumes, 14 boxes; bones, 745 packages; honey, 198 barrels; cedar, 962 logs; mahogany, 594 logs; jalap, 15 sacks; copper, 5,320 bars; dyewood, 7,441 packages; peas, 1,816 sacks; beeswax, 1,517 kilos.

During the same month 14 ships, carrying 181,270 packages, were cleared, and 15 steamships, bringing 163,278 packages, were entered.

The Mexican Consul at San Diego, California, announces the exports to Mexico through his consulate during the month of July, 1900, to have been 6,076 packages, valued at $13,841.79, an increase over the amount of the previous month of $3,098.29. The imports into the United States during the same month were valued at $10,983, made up of the following items: Gold bullion, $4,398; stone ballast, $3,156; cattle, $1,690; beeswax, $408; sundry products, $1,331.

The Consul-General of Venezuela at New York reports that during the month of August, 1900, there were exported from that port to Venezuela 58,372 packages, weighing 3,096,515 kilograms, valued at $410,334.70. These figures show an increase in the value of exportations, as compared with the same month of the previous year, of $77,237.81.

The Mexican Vice-Consul at Pascagoula, Mississippi, announces the exports to Mexico during the month of August from the port of Pascagoula to have been as follows: To Progreso, lumber valued at $1,011;

to Veracruz, lumber valued at $4,786, making a total exportation of $5,797.

Advices from the Consul of Nicaragua at Boston, Massachusetts, show that during the month of August, 1900, the only exports from that port to Nicaragua consisted of machinery valued at $278.

TRADE OPPORTUNITIES IN LATIN AMERICA.

The Bureau of the American Republics is indebted to the courtesy of Mr. CHARLES PAGE BRYAN, Minister of the United States to Brazil, for a list of the dealers in crockery, porcelain, etc., of the city of Rio de Janeiro. The list comprises the names and addresses of 56 firms, and a copy of same will be sent to anyone interested on application to the Bureau of the American Republics.

One of the indications of the progress of the Republic of Peru is the fact that a company was recently established in Lima for the purpose of erecting a large number of improved dwellings for the middle and working classes. The name of this company is La Colmena and it has a capital stock of 500,000 *sols*. The houses, when erected, will be sold upon the installment plan. The president of the new company is Don NICOLAS PIEROLA, ex-President of the Republic. It would be well for manufacturers of building hardware to forward him their catalogues.

At Saltillo, Mexico, the proposed waterworks, sewerage system, and the paving of many streets will, it is stated, create a demand for considerable quantities of manufactured goods for which United States manufacturers may compete. Upward of $500,000 is to be spent in these undertakings very shortly. A new market house, mostly of steel and stone, is also to be built in Saltillo.

The British Consul-General at Valparaiso reports that the Government of Chili has set aside the sum of $20,000 for the president of the National Society of Agriculture in order that he may purchase agricultural machinery in foreign markets and sell the same at cost to the members of the society. Catalogues in Spanish, with prices stated in Chilean currency values, should be sent to the "Presidente de la Sociedad de Agricultura," Santiago, Chili.

A British Foreign Office report states that there is at Brazilian ports a demand for small or middle-sized sailing vessels of from 300 to 700 tons. The scarcity of boats of such a size has obliged exporters to ship by steamers cargoes for which sailers are preferred, as, for instance, salted hides for British and continental ports, entailing very high

freight rates, in some cases as much as 35s. per ton. For coffee, also, for South African ports, extremely high freights are paid, and a very brisk business is expected with these quarters as soon as peace is reestablished. It is further stated that vessels loading 6,000 to 10,000 bags (360 to 600 tons of 1,000 kilograms each) will find employment at freights of £600 to £1,000 or more.

BOOK NOTICES.

Books and pamphlets sent to the Bureau of the American Republics, and containing subject-matter bearing upon the countries of the International Union of American Republics, will be treated under this caption in the Monthly Bulletin.

Sr. Don J. Eduardo Girón, of Guatemala, Republic of Guatemala, has just published an exceedingly interesting and useful book entitled "El Notario Práctico, ó Tratado de Notaría" (The Practical Notary, or Treatise for Notaries). The author is a lawyer of considerable attainments, a magistrate of the court of appeals, and a former director of the Central Real Estate Registration Office. He has had a wide and varied experience in all questions that are constantly presented to notaries for consideration and dispatch, and has proven himself an expert in meeting every exigency and in clothing each class of documents in the proper legal verbiage and in the most approved and acceptable form.

A careful examination of the book shows it to be at once a work of the greatest importance and one that satisfies a demand for an authority upon many difficult subjects which have so often proved vexatious and perplexing to lawyers and notaries, especially as to the manner of redacting and formulating legal documents. The work is peculiarly adapted to Guatemala, and has been compiled and prepared in conformity with the procedure and laws of that Republic. The volume is divided into three parts. The first is a study and history of notarial offices, the functions of notaries, etc. The protocol, public instruments, and nature of same, together with their elementary forms, fiscal and municipal contributions, civil register, and real property are thoroughly discussed. In the second part, contracts which directly affect individuals, such as wills, purchase and sale, insurance, real contracts, mortgages, leases, arbitration, credits, etc., are considered. The third part is a real protocol which contains models or forms for each class of document. The first two parts are redacted in accordance with Guatemalan laws, and are really systematic explanations of legal forms and terms. With the assistance of this book any lawyer can at once compile without trouble or inconvenience any kind of a

legal document. It will be of the greatest assistance to attorneys and business men in Guatemala, and is destined to come largely into use not only in that Republic but throughout all Latin America.

"Cheques Cruzados" (Crossed Checks) is the title of a thesis which has lately received a great deal of attention in judicial circles in the Argentine Republic. The author of this excellent essay is the learned and popular young jurist, Dr. Carlos M. Mayer, of Buenos Ayres. With great clearness and force, and in admirable manner, the author shows that the commercial crossed check was not created with a view of giving greater security to said instrument of credit, but was brought into use by the practice of the banking agents of the London clearing house. He argues that the commission which revised the Argentine Code mistook this secondary attribute for the essential one; that is to say, the non-negotiability of the crossed check (restricting in this way one of the most important functions of its commercial value) was made an obligatory feature, according to article 820 of the Mercantile Code. Señor Mayer contends that the only reasonable sources of Argentine legislation on this subject are the English laws of 1876 and 1882, which he states could well have been copied by the revising commission in place of having been modified in such an inconvenient and unjustifiable manner. In his dissertation he inserts a translation of the English laws on this subject, and compares their clearness and simplicity with the manifest differences and confusion of the Argentine laws. He analyzes articles 820 and 826 of the Commercial Code, and finds them lamentably wanting and inadequate for the objects and demands of commerce. The author has evidently made a most exhaustive study of the subject, has clearly presented the case, and has had the satisfaction of knowing from its reception that his ideas coincide with those of the principal jurists and legislators of the Argentine Republic.

An exceedingly interesting and useful publication has just come from the Nicaraguan press at Managua. The work is entitled "Agricultura" (Agriculture), and the author is Señor Doctor Don David J. Guzmán, a noted Salvadorian scientist and writer, celebrated throughout all Central America for his numerous contributions to literature and to the press of that country. The subject is presented in a clear and concise manner by a far-seeing observer and will be the means of exerting considerable influence in the making of a class of desirable agriculturists in that Republic—men who are practical and who are, at the same time, of such a scientific turn of mind as will enable them to distinguish cause and effect and to profit thereby in their agricultural operations. The work is also suitable for use as a text-book in schools and is so clear that even a child can understand it.

Aside from this book, Doctor Guzmán has recently published a most

entertaining work called "El Libro del Hogar" (The Book of the Fireside). This book has been received in Central America with great enthusiasm and admiration, and could well and justly be called the "Joya del Hogar" (The Jewel of the Fireside), due to its great merit and the noble thoughts contained within its pages. The book is a model of elegance in expression, correctness of style, and clearness of diction, and its perusal can not fail to exert an elevating influence upon the moral and spiritual nature of the reader.

The "Scientific American" for September 1, 1900, contains an article by JOHANNES HROLF WISBY entitled "South America's Dying Races." This title refers, however, to the aboriginal "Fuegianos" and the "Bakaïri" people and not to the civilized, enlightened, and progressive inhabitants of the South American Republics. Both of these Indian tribes together amount to only a few thousand individuals, having decreased rapidly within the past twenty years. Before the next century has ended it is believed that the fact that these people ever existed will have become but a reminiscence. Mr. WISBY describes the customs, the manner of living, the weapons, and the deficient languages of both tribes. The Bakaïri, a branch of the famous Caraïbian race, live in the heart of Brazil, and because of the fact that they are so far distant from the seashore are less known outside of that country than are the Fugeianos. The latter inhabit the island groups in which the South American continent terminates, and are often seen by those on board passing vessels. The Bakaïri are earth eaters, and the Fugeianos are "fire people," or fire worshipers.

The report for 1899 of the United States Commission of Fish and Fisheries, which was but recently issued, contains an interesting article on the feasibility of introducing oysters and other marine species of fish into the Great Salt Lake in Utah. Mr. H. F. MOORE was authorized by the Commission to make a series of experiments, and after having done so he came to the following conclusions: "The main body of the lake and a large part of its shores are entirely unfit for the introduction of marine animals of economic value, owing to the high salinity of the water. The proportional constitution of the saline contents of the waters of Great Salt Lake is not vastly different from all salt water. Great Salt Lake is salt and not alkaline. The physiological effect of its waters upon organisms placed therein probably would not seriously differ from that of sea water were it not for its high density; but to attempt to introduce fishes or other marine animals into water having a specific gravity of 1.168, when they have become adapted by nature to a density of but 1.025, would be an utter failure."

In the August number of "The Forester" there is an article by Mr. JOHN GIFFORD on "Silvicultural Prospectus of the Island of Cuba."

This has been printed in pamphlet form also and is being widely distributed in the hope that the author's theory that trees from the United States should be transplanted in Cuba may find believers who will put it into execution. Mr. GIFFORD advances many arguments why such a venture would be profitable. He says that in no way could the United States better assist in developing Cuba than by aiding in the establishment of an economic botanical garden similar to those in Java and Jamaica. Aside from the tropical and semitropical trees that could be planted in Cuba, he believes that a two-years' growth of willows and poplars would make wood large enough to be profitably used in the manufacture of wood pulp for paper. This product, if it could not be used in Cuba, could be exported to the United States, where there is a great demand for wood pulp in the paper manufactories.

An exceedingly interesting and useful book called "El Azucar de Caña" (Cane Sugar) has just come from the press. It is printed in Spanish and English and is illustrated with numerous engravings. The author of this work is Mr. W. L. BASS, of New York. The book is of especial importance to sugar-cane planters as it contains a large amount of data of great practical value in the proper management of plantations and the manufacturing of sugar, all of which have been collected by an expert and experienced person in every branch of sugar production from the planting of the cane to the marketing of the finished product. Again, the author is thoroughly conversant with every detail of sugar machinery, and has in this book the results and observations of many years of actual experience in every department of this growing and important industry. The book is elegantly bound, is quite attractive, and will be found of the greatest interest to planters.

The MONTHLY BULLETIN is indebted to the courtesy of Dr. Don ESTANISLAO S. ZEBALLOS, Honorary Corresponding Member of the International Union of American Republics at Buenos Ayres, for two interesting brochures edited by himself, one of which was published in 1898 under the name of "Origenes Nacionales" (National Origin) or "Despoblación de Buenos Aires por IRALA" (Depopulation of Buenos Ayres by IRALA). It is an interesting historical essay presented in the ancient Spanish of 1541, and was published in the Bulletin of the Geographical Institute of the Argentine, and has been reproduced by some of the principal scientific publications of Latin America. The other pamphlet was published in 1899, and is entitled "Apuntaciones para la Biografía Argentina" (Notes upon Argentine Biography). It is a useful work of reference upon the biography of the Argentine Republic, is conveniently arranged and artistically compiled in every respect.

"El Tiempo," of the City of Mexico, is authority for the statement that for some months past a European by the name of KANLE has been visiting the richest parts of Mexico for the purpose of collecting data and studying the products, climates, and colonization system of that country—and, in fact, everything that is likely to be of interest in the manufacturing and agricultural industries. This data will be used in the compilation of an illustrated work upon the Mexican Republic, and especially that part which will treat of the opportunities and advantages that the country offers to the immigrant, artisan, and capitalist. The work is intended for circulation in all those countries that are interested in Mexican business, and will appeal with special force to the immigrant and investor. Mr. KANLE has nearly completed his investigations and will soon leave for Europe to superintend the arrangement and publication of his compilation.

The volume of Consular Reports published by the Bureau of Foreign Commerce of the Department of State at Washington, for the month of September, 1900, contains much of interest to merchants and manufacturers and to importers and exporters alike, as well as to any other persons interested in the commercial and industrial development of the world. Many of the reports of the United States Consuls contained in this volume are remarkable for terseness and lucidity, and all are of timely interest. Besides reports from Latin America, there are others from Europe, Asia, Africa, and Polynesia. The subjects treated are questions of finance, showing where capital is invested; commerce and commercial relations, customs laws, resources, etc. The reports of the consular representatives of the United States are unexcelled by those of any other nation in the world, and the technical journals, not only of the United States, but of European countries as well, consider them good matter for republication.

The "British Geographical Journal" for August, 1900, prints a paper prepared and read by Dr. HANS STEFFEN on "The Patagonian Cordillera and its Main Rivers, between 41° and 48° South Latitude." This article was read by the author at a meeting of the Royal Geographical Society of London, on March 19, 1900. It was mainly devoted to a description of the valley of the Puelo and Baker or Las Heras River, taking up only two parts of the work of exploration with which Dr. STEFFEN has been engaged for ten years past. The article is embellished with illustrations reproduced from photographs. The results of these researches in Patagonia, the description of which would fill a large volume, form a valuable contribution to the geography of South America. According to the profile maps sketched by Dr. STEFFEN, the sources and general trend of several rivers in Patagonia, as shown on maps heretofore considered reliable, are much distorted.

An important and interesting historical work entitled "Compendio de la Historia de Mexico" (Compendium of the History of Mexico) has just been published in the City of Mexico. The author is the celebrated Mexican jurist and statesman, Señor Don Luis Pérez Verdía. The work embraces the history of Mexico from the earliest times to the close of the Nineteenth Century, is written in a clear, vigorous, and correct style, and is a literary work of merit. A casual examination of the book shows it to have been prepared with great care, and it is evident that an immense amount of labor has been expended upon the arrangement of the matter into chapters, and the author has successfully presented the subject in an exceedingly attractive and desirable form. The book is handsomely printed, beautifully bound, and will prove a useful ornament to any library.

Under the title "Method of Reckoning Time in Spain" the Bureau of Foreign Commerce of the United States prints a report from Mr. Dwight T. Reed, Vice-Consul at Madrid, under date of August 4, 1900. In this it is stated that the Queen Regent has signed a decree requiring the recognition of Greenwich Observatory time in all railway, mail, telegraph, telephone, and steamship service in the Spanish Peninsula and Balearic Islands, and in all ministerial offices, the courts, and all public works. The computation of the hours after January 1, 1901, will be made from the hour of midnight to the following midnight, numbered from 1 to 24, omitting the words *tarde* (afternoon) and *noche* (night) heretofore in customary use. The hour of midnight will be designated as 24. The interval between 24 (midnight) and 1 o'clock will be designated in this manner: 0.05, 0.10, and so on up to 0.59.

Messrs. J. Bartholemew & Co., of Edinburgh, have recently issued a good general map of South America on a scale of 158 statute miles to the inch. Although this is rather a small scale (1:10,000,000), this map contains much useful information, especially in connection with railways, steamer lines, and navigable rivers. The extent to which a river is navigable for large trading boats is indicated by its course being shown in a broad blue line, while those sections navigable for small boats only are given in dotted lines of the same color. The new Venezuela and British Guiana boundary is delimited, and an attempt has been made at delineating the new boundary line between the Argentine Republic and Chile. Several plans of South American ports are given as insets.

Señor Don Eduardo Lluch Sanchez, of Buenos Ayres, has just published a grammatical epitome or compendium, a casual examination of which shows it to be both useful and practical. The work is entitled "Ortografia de la Lengua Castellana" (Orthography of the Castilian Language), and is distinguished from others of its kind

which have come from the press by having, in addition to a list of the words of doubtful orthography, another list comprising words of incorrect usage. The book contains a large number of paronyms and a considerable collection of Latin phrases of most frequent occurrence. A chapter is devoted to the manner of correcting proof, and the work contains numerous practical suggestions of great usefulness.

The Department of Agriculture has recently issued a bulletin prepared by Mr. L. O. Howard, Entomologist, on "The Mosquitoes of the United States." This publication discusses the structure of these insect pests, as well as their biology, and indicates the difference in all stages of existence between the species that transmit malaria and those which do not, and also discusses the subject of remedies. About 250 species of mosquitoes are known, of which only about 30 have been found in the United States. The reports say that of the remedies in use in houses the burning of pyrethrum powder and the catching of the insects on the walls in cups of kerosene are probably the best, next to a thorough screening and bars about the bed. The remedies for bites mentioned are glycerine, indigo, and household ammonia.

Aside from the general information published in the "Export Implement Age" (Philadelphia) for August 1, 1900, the number of illustrations render it notable. There are 18 pages of half-tone views and reproductions of photographs of the exhibits of the agricultural manufacturers of the United States at the Paris Exposition. The "Age" had much to select from, for no country in the world has exceeded the United States at Paris in the quality and beauty of agricultural machinery and implement displays. This paper, however, is making a specialty of reports of foreign expositions, sending its staff artist abroad to obtain desired illustrations and accurate data, and is, therefore, doubly interesting to the agriculturists.

The War Department of the United States has recently issued a very interesting pamphlet of 51 pages containing the report on the island of Guam prepared by Brig. Gen. Joseph Wheeler. Besides a general description of the geographical features and population of this distant Pacific possession of the United States there are lists of the trees and plants, birds, mammals, reptiles, and insects peculiar to the island. Included in the report are also all of the general orders issued by the Governor since the United States assumed possession, together with the customs tariff rates now in force. The pamphlet is splendidly illustrated with 18 full-page views, and two comprehensive charts accompany it.

"El Mundo de los periódicos-Anuario de la Prensa Española y Estados Hispano-Americanos" (The Newspaper World-Annual of the

Spanish and Latin-American Press). Under the foregoing title a firm in Madrid, Spain, has recently issued an encyclopedic directory of the newspapers and periodicals of all kinds published in Spain and in the Central and South American Republics. This book also contains considerable information about the government, population, finances, present chief executives, etc., of the Spanish-American countries, as well as of Brazil.

The "Forum" contains the following among its leading features for September, 1900: "The Bureau of the American Republics," by Mr. W. W. ROCKHILL; "American Census Methods," by Prof. WALTER F. WILLCOX; "The Republican and Democratic Platforms Compared," by Mr. H. L. WEST; "China Against the World," by Mr. PAUL S. REINSCH; "A Plea for Consular Inspection," by Mr. ALBERT H. WASHBURN; "The Kansas City Financial Resolution," by Mr. G. E. ROBERTS; "The Campaign of 1900 from a Democratic Point of View," by Mr. W. J. STONE, etc.

The special features of the September, 1900, number of the American monthly "Review of Reviews" are an exhaustive presentation of the Chinese problem in its latest aspects, by TALCOTT WILLIAMS; "Missions in China," by JAMES S. DENNIS, D. D.; "Pressing Needs of the Philippines," by Maj. JOHN H. PARKER; illustrated character sketches of the late King Humbert of Italy and the late COLLIS P. HUNTINGTON, a railway magnate of the United States; an illustrated article on "The National Prohibition Party and its Candidate," etc.

"Tarifa de Aduanas" (Customs Tariff) of the Republic of Honduras is the title of a useful book which has just come from the press of "La Gaceta" (The Gazette), official organ of the Hondurian Government, and which embodies the customs laws of the Republic corrected and revised to date. The book is neatly printed, well bound, and conveniently arranged. It is offered for sale at the "Oficina de Hacienda" (Department of the Treasury), Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

"La Revista Industrial" (The Industrial Review) is a new weekly periodical published in Buenos Ayres by Señor G. BREUER, which pays especial attention to matters connected with general South American patent and trade-mark legislation and industrial matters in the Argentine Republic. Each month a list of the patents and trade-marks registered in Buenos Ayres is printed, and it will be of undoubted interest to persons having business with that Republic. The first two numbers issued are exceedingly attractive and well edited, and contain a large variety of interesting matter.

The MONTHLY BULLETIN acknowledges the receipt of a most interesting publication "Der Tropenpflanger" (The Tropical Planter), issued in Berlin. The August, 1900, number contains a series of articles upon subjects connected with tropical agriculture and kindred topics. A special edition of the publication of 190 pages is devoted to the discussion of the geographical distribution of sugar cane, accompanied by a map from the pen of WALTER SUEK.

In the "Canadian Manufacturer" for July 6, 1900, published at Toronto, Canada, are embodied the tariffs of Canada, the United States, and Newfoundland as in force at that date. These are reproduced with official exactness from documents obtained from the respective governments and are indexed in the fullest manner possible. An edition of the "Manufacturer" of this character was issued in 1894 and again in 1897.

The September, 1900, number of the "Century Magazine" has the following special features: "Amusements of the Paris Exposition," by Mr. JEAN SCHOPFER; "A summer holiday in Bering Sea," by Mr. JOHN BURROUGHS; "The influence of the Western World on China," by D. Z. SHEFFIELD, D. D.; "The revolution in China and its causes," by Mr. R. VAN BERGEN; "Responsibility of the leaders of labor," by the editor. There are also the usual drawings, stories, etc.

"El Explorador IBARRETE" (The Explorer IBARRETE) is the title of a pamphlet written by the brother of the unfortunate explorer, ENRIQUE DE IBARRETE from data collected by him and compiled and published at El Ferrol, Spain. It is an interesting history of the expedition, and includes the comments and information which appeared in the American press regarding the voyage.

"Uncle Sam Abroad" is the title of a volume prepared by Mr. J. E. CONNER. In this work the author treats in a comprehensive way of the consular and diplomatic service of the United States. The book will no doubt prove interesting to those who desire to serve their country as diplomats and Consuls. The various subiects are treated with humor, while the illustrations are quaint.

Señor Don MANUEL GOZÁLEZ DE LA ROSA has published in Paris, France, a Spanish encyclopedical dictionary entitled "Diccionario Castellano Enciclopédico." The dictionary comprises one volume of 1,082 pages, is elegantly printed, bound in cloth, and the text contains a great number of engravings. The 1900 edition is published by GARNIER BROTHERS.

"Boletim da Agricultura" (Agricultural Bulletin) is the title of a new review published by the Department of Agriculture of the State

of São Paulo, Brazil, which has recently been received at the Bureau of American Republics. It contains officials acts relating to agriculture, statistical data, and articles on agricultural subjects.

Mr. A. B. Hulit, Jr., who founded the well-known publication "Modern Mexico," has decided to publish a new journal in the city of Chihuahua. This will be known as the "Mexican Farmer," will be published in the Spanish language, and be devoted to the agricultural interests of the Republic of Mexico.

The first number of the "Boletim do Serviço de Estatistica Commercial" (Bulletin of Commercial Statistics) has been issued, edited by Dr. J. P. Willemann, of Rio de Janeiro. This publication is to appear quarterly and is a valuable contribution to the statistics of Brazil.

There has recently been published in Paris, France, a Spanish translation of the historical work entitled "The French Revolution," by Thomas Carlyle. The text has been prepared by the celebrated translator Señor Don Miguel Unamuno.

Erhard Bros., of Paris, France, have recently engraved and printed a "Mapa del Peru" (Map of Peru), prepared by A. Raimondi. The scale is 1:500,000, or 7.9 statute miles to the inch.

LIBRARY ACCESSIONS DURING AUGUST.

Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce: Fifty-first annual report of the Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce. Cincinnati: Ohio Valley Publishing Co., 1900. 321 pp. 4°.

Monsegur, Sylla J.: El Derecho Internacional Privado. Buenos Aires: M. Biedma é Hijo, 1898. 138 pp. 8°.

Zeballos, E. S.: Apuntaciones para la bibliografía Argentina. (12 pamphlets.) Buenos Aires: Imp. "La Buenos Aires," 1897–1899.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS

Belgium.

Recueil Consulaire. Tome 108. Bruxelles: P. Weissenbruch, 1900. 536 pp. 8°.

Costa Rica.

Boundary line between Costa Rica and Nicaragua. Washington: West End Printing Co., 1900. 6 pp. 8°.

England.

Accounts relating to trade and navigation of the United Kingdom. London: Wyman & Sons, 1900. 388 pp. F.

Great Britain, Foreign Office: Treaty of friendship, commerce, and navigation between the United Kingdom and Honduras. London: Harrison & Sons, 1900. 18 pp. 8°.

MEXICO.

Asociación de Ingenieros: Anales de la Asociación. Mexico: Tip. de la Secretaría de Fomento, 1899. 292 pp. 8°.

Boletin Oficial de la Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores. Mexico: Imp. F. Diaz de Léon, 1900. 192 pp. 8°.

UNITED STATES.

BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

Mexico: A Geographical Sketch. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1900. 90 pp. 4°.

PATENT OFFICE.

Official Gazette. Vol. 92, No. 8. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 4°.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

Special Consular Reports. Tariffs of Foreign Countries. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 648 pp. 4°.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

Adjutant General's Office: Notes on China. August, 1900. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 90 pp. 8°.

Translation of mining code in force in the Philippines. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 77 pp. 8°.

Report on the Island of Guam. By Brig. Gen. Joseph Wheeler, U. S. A. June, 1900. (Adjutant General's Office, No. xxviii.) Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. Map. 51 pp. 8°.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

Monthly summary of commerce and finance of the United States. June, 1900. (Prepared in the Bureau of Statistics, Treasury Department.) Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. Square 4°.

PERMANENT LIBRARY FILES.

Persons interested in the commercial and general news of foreign countries will find the following among the official and periodical publications on the permanent files in the Library of the Bureau of the American Republics.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Argentinisches Wochenblatt. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.
Boletín de la Unión Industrial Argentina. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.
Boletín Demográfico Argentino. Buenos Ayres. Monthly.
Bollettino Mensile. Rosario. Monthly.
La Industria Molinera. Buenos Ayres. Semimonthly.
La Nación. Buenos Ayres. Daily.
La Plata Post. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.
La Plata Zeitung. Buenos Ayres.
La Producción Nacional. Buenos Ayres. Semimonthly.
Le Commerce Extérieur Argentin. Buenos Ayres.
Review of the River Plate. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.

BOLIVIA.

El Comercio. La Paz. Daily.
Revista Económica y Financiera. La Paz. Monthly.

BELGIUM.

Bulletin of the Commercial Museum. Brussels. Weekly.

BRAZIL.

Jornal do Commercio. Rio de Janeiro. Daily.
Lavoura (A). Rio de Janeiro. Monthly.
Revista Agricola. Rio de Janeiro. Monthly.
Revista Brazileira. Rio de Janeiro. Monthly.
Revista Industrial e Mercantil. Pernambuco. Montlhy.
Revista Maritima Brazileira. Rio de Janeiro. Monthly.

CHILE.

Chilian Times. Santiago de Chile. Semiweekly.
Diario Oficial de la República de Chile. Santiago. Daily.
Revista Comercial e Industrial de Minas. Santiago. Monthly.

COLOMBIA.

Diario Oficial. Bogotá. Daily.
El Correo Nacional. Bogotá.
Revista de la Instrucción Pública de Colombia. Bogotá. Monthly.

COSTA RICA.

Boletin de la Biblioteca Nacional. San José.
La Gaceta. (Oficial.) San José. Daily.

CUBA.

La Escuela Cubana. Habana. Weekly.
Revista del Foro. Habana. Quarterly.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

El Mensajero. Santo Domingo. Three times a month.
Gaceta Oficial. Santo Domingo. Weekly.

ECUADOR.

Gaceta Municipal. Guayaquil. Weekly.
Registro Oficial de la República del Ecuador. Quito. Daily.

ENGLAND.

Board of Trade Journal. London. Weekly.
British Trade Journal. London. Monthly.
Commercial Intelligence. London. Weekly.
Diplomatic and Consular Reports. London.
Feilden's Magazine. London. Monthly.
Freir's Colonial and Foreign Register. London. Quarterly.
Geographical Journal. London. Monthly.
Journal of the Board of Agriculture. London. Quarterly.
Mining (The) Journal. London. Weekly.
South American Journal. London. Weekly.
Tenders and Contracts. London.
Times (The). London. Daily.
Trade and Navigation Reports. London. Monthly.

GERMANY.

Deutsche Kolonialzeitung. Berlin. Weekly.
Handels-Kammer zu Hannover. Hannover.
Petermann's Mitteilungen. Gotha. Monthly.
Südamerikanische Rundschau. Berlin. Monthly.
Thonindustrie Zeitung. Berlin.

GUATEMALA.

Diario de Centro-America. Guatemala. Daily.
El Guatemalteco. Guatemala. Weekly.
La República. Guatemala. Daily.

FRANCE.

Le Nouveau Monde. Paris. Weekly.
Moniteur Officiel. Paris. Weekly.
Revue du Commerce Extérieur. Paris. Semimonthly.
Revue Générale des Sciences. Paris. Semimonthly.
Revue Politique et Parlementaire. Paris. Monthly.
Tableaux Mensuels de Statistique Municipale de la Ville de Paris. Paris. Monthly.

HONDURAS.

Boletín Legislativo. Tegucigalpa.
Gaceta Judicial. Tegucigalpa.
La Gaceta. Tegucigalpa.

JAPAN.

Japan-American Commercial Journal. Tokyo. Monthly.

MARTINIQUE.

Les Colonies. St. Pierre. Daily.

MEXICO.

American (The) Evolution. Mexico.
Boletín de Agricultura, Minería é Industrias. Mexico. Monthly.
Boletín de Estadística. Mérida. Semimonthly.
Boletín de la Red Meteorológica y Revista Científica. Toluca.
Boletín del Instituto Científico y Literario. Toluca.
Boletín Postal de la Administración General de Correos de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos. Mexico. Monthly.
Boletín Telegráfico. Mexico. Daily.
Diario Oficial. Mexico. Daily.
El Agricultor Mexicano. Ciudad Juárez. Monthly.
El Economista Mexicano. Mexico. Weekly.
El Estado de Colima. Colima. Weekly.
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REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA.

TRATADO DE EXTRADICIÓN CON LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

El 26 de septiembre de 1896 se negoció y firmó entre los Estados Unidos y la República Argentina, en la ciudad de Buenos Aires, un tratado de extradición, para que los prófugos de la justicia sean recíprocamente entregados en determinadas circunstancias.

El Senado de los Estados Unidos lo ratificó el 28 de enero de 1897, haciéndole algunas modificaciones que fueron aceptadas por el Gobierno argentino, y el 2 de junio de 1900 se canjearon las ratificaciones en la ciudad de Buenos Aires, levantándose, al efecto, un acta, que firmaron el Señor Ministro DEL RAMO y el Señor WILLIAM P. LORD, Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario de los Estados Unidos en la República Argentina.

El texto del Tratado, con las modificaciones aprobadas por ambos Gobiernos, es como sigue:

El Presidente de la República Argentina y el Presidente de los Estados Unidos de América, interesados en mejorar la administración de justicia y en prevenir la criminalidad dentro de sus respectivos territorios, han convenido en celebrar un tratado para que los fugados de la justicia sean recíprocamente entregados, en determinadas circunstancias, á cuyo efecto nombraron sus Plenipotenciarios, á saber:

El Presidente de la República Argentina, á S. E. el Señor Doctor Don AMANCIO ALCORTA, Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores, y el Presidente de los Estados Unidos de América, á Mr. WILLIAM I. BUCHANAN, su Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario en la República Argentina, quienes después de haberse comunicado sus plenos poderes,

hallándolos en buena y debida forma, han convenido en los siguientes artículos:

"ARTÍCULO 1°. El Gobierno de la República Argentina y el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos de América, convienen mutuamente en la entrega de las personas que, hallándose acusadas ó convictas de haber cometido en el territorio de una de las altas partes contratantes cualquiera de los crímenes ó delitos que se especifican en el artículo siguiente, se refugiasen ó fuesen encontradas en el territorio de la otra.

"Esto sólo tendrá lugar cuando la evidencia de la criminalidad sea tal, que según las leyes del país donde se encuentre la persona fugitiva ó acusada, justificara legalmente su detención ó sometimiento á juicio, si en él hubiera cometido el crimen ó delito.

"ART. 2°. La extradición se concederá por los siguientes crímenes ó delitos:

"(1) Homicidio (comprendidos el asesinato, el parricidio, envenenamiento, infanticidio, homicidio voluntario, ó la tentativa de cometer cualquiera de estos crímenes).

"(2) Incendio.

"(3) Robo, violación de casas ó negocios, con fractura, robo con violencia ó intimidación, hurto, por un valor de doscientos *dollars* ó más.

"(4) Falsificación de papeles, ó circulación de papeles falsos; falsificación de actos oficiales de Gobierno, de las autoridades públicas ó de tribunales de justicia, ó circulación de lo falsificado.

"(5) Adulteración ó falsificación de moneda, ya sea metálica ó de papel, ó de títulos de alguna deuda nacional, de Estado, provincia, ó municipal, ó de cupones de ella, ó de billetes de banco, ó la emisión ó circulación de éstos; imitación, falsificación ó alteración de sellos de Estados.

"(6) Peculado de caudales públicos, cometido dentro de la jurisdicción de cualquiera de las altas partes contratantes, por funcionarios públicos ó depositarios; malversación cometida por una ó más personas, jornaleras ó asalariadas, en perjuicio de sus patrones ó principales, cuando en cualquiera de estos casos la malversación exceda de doscientos *dollars*.

"(7) Fraude ó abuso de confianza cometido por un depositario, banquero, agente, comisionado, fideicomisario, director, miembro ó empleado público de cualquiera compañía, siempre que sea punible por las leyes de ambas partes contratantes, y que la cantidad de dinero ó el valor de la propiedad, falsamente apropiada, no sea menor de doscientos *dollars*.

"(8) Perjurio ó soborno para conseguirlo.

"(9) Estupro, rapto, robo y secuestro de una persona, ó substracción de niños.

"(10) Cualquier acto hecho con intención criminal y que tenga por objeto poner en peligro la seguridad de una persona que viaje en un ferrocarril ó que se encuentre sobre una vía férrea.

"(11) Crímenes y delitos cometidos en el mar:

"(*a*) Piratería, según las leyes de las naciones.

"(*b*) Insurrección ó conspiración de dos ó más personas que se hallen á bordo de un buque en alta mar, para sublevarse contra las autoridades del mismo.

"(*c*) Echar ilegamente á pique ó destruir un buque en alta mar, ó sus tentativas.

"(*d*) Ataque contra las personas á bordo de un buque en alta mar, con la intención de inferir lesiones ó daño corporal grave.

"(12) Comercio de esclavos, siempre que este hecho sea declarado criminal por las leyes de ambos países.

"En todos los casos de los crímenes y delitos enumerados en este artículo, ó en sus tentativas, se concederá la extradición de los agentes, partícipes ó cooperadores, siempre que la pena fijada por el crimen ó delito sea superior á un año de prisión.

"ART. 3°. En ningún caso la nacionalidad de la persona acusada podrá impedir su entrega en las condiciones estipuladas por el presente tratado, pero ningún Gobierno estará obligado á conceder, de acuerdo con este tratado, la extradición de sus propios ciudadanos, sino que cada Gobierno podrá entregarlos cuando á su juicio juzgue conveniente proceder en esta forma.

"ART. 4°. Los pedidos de extradición se introducirán por los agentes diplomáticos de las altas partes contratantes, ó, en su defecto, por los funcionarios consulares superiores, acompañándose copia legalizada de la sentencia del juez ó del auto de prisión dictado en el país donde se hubiere cometido el crimen ó delito, así como de las declaraciones ú otros testimonios en cuya virtud se dictara el auto.

"Además de la sentencia del juez, ó del auto de prisión, será necesario acompañar el pedido formal de extradición con todas las pruebas que sean necesarias para justificar la identidad de la persona requerida, y la copia auténtica de las disposiciones legales aplicables á dicho acusado, según la legislación ó la resolución judicial respectiva.

"Á los efectos de la extradición las dos altas partes contratantes procederán, de acuerdo con este tratado, con arreglo á las leyes que reglamenten el procedimiento judicial en cada país, y que estén á la sazón en vigencia en el Estado ante el cual sea demandada la entrega.

"ART. 5°. En los casos urgentes, las dos altas partes contratantes podrán solicitar por la vía postal ó telegráfica el arresto provisorio de la persona acusada, y la seguridad de los objetos concernientes al crimen ó delito, invocándose en cada caso la existencia de una sentencia ó una órden de prisión, y determinándose con claridad la naturaleza del crimen ó delito de que se le acusa.

"Este arresto provisorio cesará, y el detenido será puesto en libertad, si los recaudos requeridos para su entrega, en la forma que lo dispone el artículo anterior, no se presentasen en el término de dos meses, contados desde el día del arresto.

"ART. 6°. No se concederá la extradición por los crímenes ó delitos de carácter político, ni los que tengan conexión con ellos. Ninguna persona entregada en virtud de este tratado podrá ser enjuiciada ni castigada por crimen ó delito político, ni por hechos que tengan relación con ellos, cometidos anteriormente á su extradición. En los casos de duda relacionados con el presente artículo, el fallo de las autoridades judiciales del país á que se haga la demanda de extradición, será definitivo.

"ART. 7°. No se concederá la extradición cuando el crimen ó delito de que se acusa ó por el que ha sido condenado el prófugo, se halle prescripto con arreglo á las leyes del país donde se asila.

"ART. 8°. Un individuo entregado no puede en caso alguno ser detenido ni enjuiciado en el Estado al que se haga la entrega por otro crimen ó por otras causas que no sean aquellas que motivaron la extradición, hasta tanto haya regresado, ó haya tenido oportunidad de regresar al Estado que lo entregare.

Esta estipulación no se aplicará á crímenes ó delitos cometidos después de la extradición.

"ART. 9°. Todos los objetos que en el momento de la detención se encontraran en poder de la persona reclamada, ya sean producto del crimen ó delito de que se le acusa, ya sean materiales de prueba para la comprabación del mismo, serán entregados al efectuarse la extradición en cuanto sea practicable y de conformidad á las leyes de ambos países. Sin embargo, se respetarán en órden á dichos objetos los derechos de tercero.

"ART. 10°. Si el individuo reclamado por una de las altas partes contratantes en ejecución del presente tratado también lo fuera por otra ú otras potencias, con motivo de crímenes ó delitos relacionados con sus respectivos territorios, se concederá la extradición al Estado cuya requisición fuese de fecha más antigua, siempre que el Gobierno requerido no esté obligado por tratado á dar preferencia en otro sentido.

"ART. 11°. Todos los gastos relacionados con la extradición de un prófugo estarán á cargo del Estado que la requiera, exceptuándose las compensaciones de los funcionarios públicos que reciben salarios fijos.

"ART. 12°. El presente tratado estará en vigencia treinta días después del canje de las ratificaciones.

"Las ratificaciones del presente tratado se canjearán en Buenos Aires tan pronto como sea posible, y lo estipulado quedará vigente hasta seis meses después de la fecha en que una de las altas partes contratantes notifique á la otra su intención de ponerle fin."

EXPORTACIÓN DE PRODUCTOS AGRÍCOLAS Á INGLATERRA.

"Los siguientes datos acerca de la exportación á la Gran Bretaña de nuestros productos agrícolas," dice La Nación, de Buenos Aires, en su número de julio 9 de 1900, "son significativos, si se tiene en cuenta el considerable aumento que se nota en los más principales de ellos, diferencia importante que resalta de la comparación que se hace de las cifras correspondientes á los cuatro primeros meses del año 1900, con los mismos períodos de 1899 y 1898.

"He aquí el valor de lo que hemos exportado durante dichos períodos:

Productos.	1900.	1899.	1898.
Ganado en pie (vacuno)	521,756	365,332	363,485
Ganado en pie (lanar)	200,267	149,405	181,054
Trigo	1,020,581	231,503	294,443
Otros granos	425,590	125,741	1,303
Carneros congelados	380,472	348,512	292,770
Cueros salados	7,480	3,225	5,133
Grasa y sebo	67,913	42,547	26,336
Semilla de lino	391,259	88,015	157,318

Como se ve por el precedente cuadro, solamente en los granos hay una diferencia de £1,083,927 entre la exportación de los cuatro primeros meses de 1900 y la del mismo período de 1899."

INMIGRACIÓN Y EMIGRACIÓN.

La Dirección de Inmigración de Buenos Aires ha hecho público el informe correspondiente al mes de junio, relativo al movimiento de inmigración en la república. "La Nación," de la capital de la misma, reproduce parte de dicho informe, que se inserta á continuación:

Entre los inmigrantes llegados, figuran 2,173 italianos, 837 austriacos, 812 españoles, 167 sirios y 120 franceses. La Dirección hace observar la gran entrada de sirios, repitiendo consideraciones que ha formulado en otras oportunidades respecto de las desventajas que ofrecen estos inmigrantes.

En el destino que han tenido las personas llegadas al país, figura en el primer término Misiones con 767 personas, debido á la llegada de familias polacas. En la capital quedaron 872, á la provincia de Buenos Aires fueron 380, y á la de Santa Fe 269.

La lista general de profesiones registra 898 agricultores, 403 jornaleros y 634 menores, sin profesión.

El resumen del movimiento habido en el primer semestre del año, arroja una entrada de 22,932 inmigrantes, contra una salida de 18,876. En los años anteriores el movimiento del mismo período fué el siguiente: entradas: 1898, 23,459; 1899, 31,784: salidas: 1898, 18,860; 1899, 25,070.

PRODUCCIÓN DE TABACO.

Existen en la provincia de Salta 1,051 plantaciones de tabaco, que abrazan 2,733 hectáreas. Se calcula que la producción de dicha provincia en este año ascenderá á 2,600,000 kilogramos. En la provincia de Jujuy hay 55 tabacales, que cubren 172 hectáreas, y se espera una cosecha de más de 40 mil kilogramos. Estas provincias quedan al norte de la república y su clima es tropical.

TRÁFICO DE BAHÍA BLANCA.

El Vicecónsul británico en Bahía Blanca ha informado á su Gobierno que este puerto ofrece grandes ventajas para el tráfico, y que es ya uno de los más importantes de la república para la exportación de trigo. Se cree que en 1900 la cantidad que de este grano se exportará va á ser de 300,000 toneladas. También es importante el tráfico de lanas, pues se calcula que en este año se exportarán de 60 á 65 mil pacas.

BOLIVIA.

NOTAS MISCELÁNEAS.

El Señor Don MANUEL V. BALLIVIÁN, miembro correspondiente honorario de la Unión Internacional de Repúblicas Americanas en Bolivia, nos escribe lo siguiente:

"Ha sido nombrado Comisionado Demarcador de Límites con la República del Brasil el distinguido caballero Don ADOLFO BALLIVIÁN, cuyo probable viaje á la realización de su cometido se asegura para el mes de octubre próximo, habiéndose mandado á construir un buque especial para el objeto.

"El día 15 del corriente ha salido una nueva é importante expedición á las regiones del Acre. El coronel Doctor Don ISMAEL MONTES, actual Ministro de la Guerra, ha marchado á su cabeza.

"Se ha creado en el departamento de Oruro un Colegio de Ingeniería Civil y de Minas, cuyo Reglamento ha publicado recientemente el Gobierno por medio de una ley especial.

"El Gobierno acaba de instalar en local especial una imprenta para la publicación de toda la documentación oficial. En ella se publica el nuevo diario oficial 'El Estado,' en el cual se hacen públicos los documentos oficiales, debidamente autorizados por las distintas oficinas del Gobierno."

BRASIL.

TRATADO DE LÍMITES.

El Boletín Oficial de la República Argentina publica el Tratado general de límites celebrado entre aquella república y el Brasil. El artículo primero dice: que la línea divisoria entre la República Argentina y el Brasil comienza en el río Uruguay, frente á la boca del Guareim, y sigue por el Thalweg de aquel río hasta la boca del Pepirí-Guazú. La margen derecha, ú occidental, del Uruguay pertenece á la República Argentina y la izquierda, ú oriental, al Brasil. De la boca del río Pepirí-Guazú la línea sigue por el álveo de ese río hasta su cabecera principal, donde continúa por el terreno más alto hasta la cabecera principal del río San Antonio, y de allí por su álveo hasta su embocadura en el río Liguazú, de conformidad con el Laudo proferido por el Presidente de los Estados Unidos de América. Pertenece á la República Argentina el territorio al oeste de la línea divisoria en toda la extensión de cada uno de los dos ríos, y de la línea que divide el terreno más alto entre las cabeceras de los mismos ríos. Pertenece al Brasil el territorio que queda al este. De la boca del río San Antonio la línea sigue por el Thalweg del río Iguazú hasta su embocadura en el río Paraná, perteneciendo á la República Argentina la margen meridional ó izquierda del mismo Iguazú y al Brasil la septentrional ó derecha.

Las islas del Uruguay y del Iguazú seguirán perteneciendo al país indicado por el thalweg de cada uno de esos ríos. Los comisarios demarcadores tendrán, sin embargo, la facultad de proponer el cambio que juzgaren aconsejado por la conveniencia de ambos países, y que dependerá de la aprobación de los respectivos Gobiernos. Cada una de las Altas Partes Contratantes, canjeadas las ratificaciones de este Tratado, nombrará una comisión demarcadora, compuesta de un primer comisario, de un segundo comisario substituto y de dos ayudantes con el personal auxiliar que juzgue necesario. Las dos comisiones constituidas en comisión mixta, en el plazo de seis meses, contados desde el canje de las ratificaciones, harán la demarcación de la parte de la frontera aun no demarcada, levantando planos circunstanciados de los ríos Uruguay é Iguazú, poniendo hitos donde les fuere determinado en sus instrucciones. En el plano general de la frontera que deberán formar, incluirán la parte comprendida entre aquellos dos ríos, sirviéndose para ello del plano levantado en 1887 y 1888 por la respectiva comisión mixta y por los trabajos de la organizada en virtud del protocolo de 9 de agosto de 1895. Los dos Gobiernos formularán de común acuerdo las instrucciones que fueren necesarias. El presente tratado, después de aprobado por los congresos de las dos repúblicas, será ratificado, y las ratificaciones serán canjeadas en la ciudad de Río de Janeiro en el más breve plazo posible.

CHILE.

ESTABLECIMIENTO DE UNA LÍNEA TELEGRÁFICA.

El Gobierno ha autorizado á Don Luís L. Zegers, representante de la Wireless Telegraph and Signal Company, Limited, para que establezca el servicio de comunicación telegráfica por el sistema Marconi entre Punta Arenas y Ancud ó Puerto Montt. El Gobierno permite al Señor Zegers el uso de los terrenos fiscales necesarios para el indicado servicio, reservándose el derecho de hacer cesar esta concesión previo aviso dado con seis meses de anticipación.

FOMENTO DE PLANTACIONES INDUSTRIALES.

Se ha fijado la suma de $20,000 para el fomento de plantaciones industriales, y con tal objeto se establecerán en los terrenos fiscales de San Fernando y Linares viveros de árboles industriales destinados especialmente á la multiplicación y crianza de árboles y arbustos florestales de ornato y frutales adecuados á la región á que habrán de destinarse. Los expresados viveros dependerán inmediatamente de una junta de vigilancia, y estarán á cargo de un administrador, el cual dirigirá personalmente todos los trabajos que habrán de efectuarse en las diversas secciones del establecimiento.

TRÁFICO DE PUNTA ARENAS.

En un informe publicado por el Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de la Gran Bretaña, se dice que el Territorio de Magallanes, del cual Punta Arenas es el puerto y centro de distribución, reconoce por principal fuente de comercio la cría de ovejas, aunque los descubrimientos de minas de oro en Tierra del Fuego y otros puntos han contribuido al desarrollo de aquella parte del territorio chileno. Los negocios de importación están en gran parte en manos de comerciantes alemanes. Asegura el citado informe que toda clase de mercancías entra libre de derechos. La población de Punta Arenas es de 7,000 habitantes.

LA INDUSTRIA COBRERA.

El Cónsul General de la Gran Bretaña en Valparaíso ha informado á su Gobierno que la exportación total de mineral de cobre de Chile en 1899 excedió á la de 1896 en 15,553,087 kilogramos. La exportación total en 1899 fué de 35,854,439 kilogramos, ó sean 35,290 toneladas. Opinan personas entendidas en la materia que aunque el precio del cobre llegase á bajar considerablemente, la explotación de las minas de este mineral siempre sería lucrativa en Chile, debido en mucho á la corta distancia que las separa de la costa, lo cual hace muy fácil la transportación de dicho producto á los puertos de donde se le exporta.

COSTA RICA.

LEYES MONETARIAS.

"La Gaceta Oficial" de Costa Rica publica tres importantes decretos sobre moneda que, juntos con los que hasta la fecha se han venido reproduciendo en nuestro BOLETÍN, forman el núcleo de la nueva legislación monetaria de aquella república.

DECRETO.

El Congreso Constitucional de la República de Costa Rica, Considerando:

Que la Ley de Moneda de 24 de octubre de 1896, al establecer la paridad de valor entre el colón de oro y el peso de plata de 750 milésimos de fino, fijó provisionalmente entre una y otra moneda la relación de 1 á 26.708 gramos, y á que es de todo punto necesario y conveniente uniformar la ley de ambas monedas, conservando entre ellas más ó menos la relación de valor antes establecida;

En uso de sus facultades constitucionales, Decreta:

"ARTÍCULO 1°. Modifícase el artículo 5° de la ley de moneda de 24 de octubre de 1896 en la forma siguiente. Artículo 5°. La moneda subsidiaria de plata se acuñará con la ley de 900 milésimos de fino, y con el peso y dimensiones que á continuación se expresan:

MONEDAS DE PLATA.

Valor (colones).	Peso (gramos).	Diámetro (milímetros).
50 céntimos	10	29
25 céntimos	5	24
10 céntimos	2	18
5 céntimos	1	15

"ART. 2°. La sustitución de la actual moneda de plata por la que se acuñe en las condiciones expresadas en el artículo anterior, se hará á medida que se proceda al rescate de la primera.

"ART. 3°. No obstante lo dispuesto en el artículo 1°, podrán mantenerse en la circulación las actuales monedas de 10 y 5 centavos con el valor de 10 y 5 céntimos, respectivamente, mientras el Poder Ejecutivo no considere necesario su rescate y reacuñación en las condiciones fijadas por esta ley.

"ART. 4°. El Poder Ejecutivo ordenará la venta en el exterior, por cuenta del fisco, de la moneda de plata en actual circulación, que á su juicio excediere á las necesidades del cambio."

OTRO DECRETO SOBRE MONEDA.

El Congreso Constitucional de la República de Costa Rica,

Considerando, que es indispensable, como medio de obtener la esta-

bilidad en el tipo del cambio internacional, facilitar en lo posible el movimiento de importación y exportación de la moneda de oro, y que, por otra parte, es asimismo necesario, para no alterar la circulación de la moneda de plata de curso limitado por la ley, impedir la importación de este metal; en uso de las facultades constitutionales, decreta:

"ARTÍCULO 1°. La importación y exportación de moneda de oro nacional y monedas extranjeras de igual ley á la de ésta, será libre de todo impuesto de aduana y muellaje.

ART. 2°. Queda desde esta fecha prohibida la importación al país de toda clase de moneda de plata, ya sea nacional, nacionalizada ó extranjera, así como la plata en barras, lingotes ó en cualquiera otra forma. Exceptúase la plata manufacturada en joyería, en objetos de arte ó destinados á cualesquiera otros usos. La plata que se introduzca en contravención á lo establecido por este artículo, caerá en comiso.

"ART. 3°. Los importadores y exportadores de moneda de oro quedan en la obligación de declarar en los pedimentos de embarque ó desalmacenaje respectivos la cantidad de moneda de oro, indicada por su valor legal, con especificación de la clase de moneda ó monedas que la constituyen, del lugar de su procedencia ó de su envío, según el caso, y los pesos brutos y netos de las cajas ó paquetes que la contengan. Cuando el envío ó el recibo se haga por medio de paquetes postales, llenarán igual formalidad ante la Administración General de Correos. Los pedimentos se harán en los mismos tantos establecidos por la ley para el embarque y desalmacenaje de mercaderías en general.

La contravención á lo establecido en este artículo será penada con una multa equivalente al 25 por ciento del valor de la cantidad de moneda que se introduzca ó que se exporte; igual multa se impondrá en los casos en que la declaración del interesado no concuerde con la cantidad, naturaleza ó peso de las monedas.

"ART. 4°. La presente ley comenzará á regir desde la fecha de su publicación."

OTRO DECRETO SOBRE LO MISMO.

El Presidente Constitucional de la República de Costa Rica,

Considerando, que las emisiones de certificados hechas por el Gobierno no tuvieron otro objeto que el de servir como medio para establecer en su oportunidad la circulación de la moneda de oro en el país, y que ordenado su cambio no tiene razón de ser su circulación, ni conviene á los intereses del fisco prolongar por tiempo indefinido su responsabilidad como emisor de dichos certificados, decreta:

"Artículo 1°. Dentro del termíno de 30 días, contados desde la presente fecha, deberán presentarse al Banco de Costa Rica para su cambio por oro, todos los certificados emitidos por el Gobierno existentes en la circulación. Pasado este término, el Gobierno no asume responsabilidad alguna como emisor de dichos certificados, por lo que se refiere

á los depósitos de moneda de oro existentes en el Banco de Costa Rica, para hacer frente á su cambio.

"ART. 2°. Los gobernadores en las ciudades capitales de provincia y de comarca, y los jefes políticos en las cabeceras de sus respectivos cantones, darán publicidad al presente decreto por medio de carteles fijados en los parajes públicos, y ordenarán se promulgue por medio de bandos durante los días festivos del presente mes, en las demás poblaciones menores de su jurisdicción."

CONVOCACIÓN EXTRAORDINARIA DEL CONGRESO.

El Presidente de la república convocó al Congreso Constitucional á sesión extraordinaria á principios del mes pasado con el objeto de tratar muchos asuntos de interés, entre otros los siguientes:

Proyecto de reforma general y parcial de la Constitución.

Contrato celebrado entre la Secretaría de Fomento y la Compañía del Ferrocarril de Costa Rica el 14 de febrero próximo pasado.

Proyecto de ley relativo á la libre importación y exportación de oro y á prohibir la importación de la plata.

Proyecto de ley reformatorio del artículo 5° de la ley de moneda de 24 de octubre de 1896.

Proyecto de ley relativo á la libre exportación del banano.

Proyecto de ley de presupuesto que le presentará el Poder Ejecutivo.

Se espera que el resultado de esta sesión extraordinaria del Congreso costarricense será muy benéfico para la república.

DECRETO SOBRE EL CACAO.

El Congreso Constitucional de la República ha emitido un decreto por el cual se grava la introducción del cacao en grano con 30 céntimos de colón por kilogramo, y la del cacao molido con 50 céntimos de colón por kilogramo.

CUBA.

DISPOSICIÓN RELATIVA Á LA OLEOMARGARINA.

Obedeciendo á instrucciones del Secretario de la Guerra de los Estados Unidos, el Gobernador de Cuba ha expedido una órden relativa al uso de la oleomargarina en aquella isla para evitar que se venda como mantequilla. Se ordena en la citada disposición que toda la oleomargarina que se importe en Cuba lleve en la cubierta su nombre escrito con toda claridad, y que solamente se puedan vender paquetes de oleomargarina que lleven este nombre. La substancia en referencia entra libre de derecho en la isla de Cuba.

IMPUESTOS SOBRE LOS ACEITES.

El arancel de aduanas para Cuba ha sido enmendado, restableciéndose los antiguos derechos sobre los aceites. La ley dispone que los aceites crudos extraídos de esquistos, incluyendo el petróleo crudo y la grasa para ejes de carros y carretas pagarán $1.40 por cada cien kilogramos, y que el petróleo crudo que se use exclusivamente en la fabricación de gas para alumbrado y únicamente en las fábricas de gas de la isla de Cuba y no para otro fin, pagará 70 centavos por los cien kilogramos.

PREMIOS EN LA EXPOSICIÓN DE PARÍS.

A pesar de que Cuba no ha recobrado todavía de sus pasados quebrantos, ha podido figurar ventajosamente en la Exposición de París, como lo demuestra el hecho de que los productos de la Isla obtuvieron 140 premios.

INDUSTRIAS AGRÍCOLAS EN SANTIAGO.

Un despacho de Guantánamo dice que se han reasumido con gran actividad las industrias agrícolas en la provincia de Santiago. El ingenio de "Santa Lucía" ha producido 41,000 sacos de azúcar durante esta estación. La United Fruit Company va á establecer un ingenio de azúcar que producirá 1,100 sacos diariamente. Considerable capital de los Estados Unidos y de Inglaterra se invierte en Baracoa para la exportación de cocos.

ENTRADAS DE ADUANA DURANTE SIETE MESES.

La Sección de Aduanas y Negocios Insulares del Departamento de la Guerra de los Estados Unidos publicó el 1° de este mes un informe comparativo de las entradas de aduana en los differentes puertos de la Isla de Cuba durante los primeros siete meses de 1900 y de 1899. Por él se ve que las entradas totales en los primeros siete meses de 1900 ascendieron á $9,331,832, mientras que en el mismo período de 1899 fueron solamente de $8,112,815.18, lo cual prueba un aumento en este año de $1,219,017.64.

EL SALVADOR.

FERROCARRIL CENTRAL.

El "Diario del Salvador" en su número de 5 de julio de 1900, da la noticia de que Mr. Glover, contratista para los trabajos de terminación del ferrocarril de la Unión á San Miguel, está para llegar al

Salvador de regreso de los Estados Unidos. El Sr. GLOVER entregará á su llegada á la república las 5,000 libras que según contrato habría de depositar, y también elevará á escritura pública el referido contrato.

Los trabajos empezarán á hacerse poco después de la llegada de Mr. GLOVER, y deberán quedar terminados algunos meses después en San Miguel, para abrir al servicio del público el trayecto entre esa ciudad y La Unión. Una vez terminada esa línea, se seguirán los trabajos hacia la capital, de acuerdo con las estipulaciones del contrato. Pronto, pues, estará abierta al servicio público la línea entre San Miguel y La Unión, y algunos años más tarde se podrá viajar por tren entre La Unión y Santa Ana, pudiéndose cruzar de este modo casi todo el territorio del Salvador.

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

COMERCIO CON LA AMÉRICA LATINA.

IMPORTACIONES Y EXPORTACIONES.

En la página 550 aparece la última relación del comercio entre los Estados Unidos y la América latina, tomada de la compilación hecha por la Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Hacienda de los Estados Unidos. Estos datos se refieren al valor del comercio arriba mencionado. La estadística corresponde al mes de julio de 1900, comparada con la del mes correspondiente del año anterior, y también comprende los datos referentes á los siete meses que terminaron en julio de 1900, comparados con igual período de 1899. Debe explicarse que las estadísticas de las importaciones y exportaciones de las diversas aduanas referentes á un mes cualquiera no se reciben en el Departamento de Hacienda hasta el 20 del mes siguiente, necesitándose algún tiempo para su compilación é impresión; de suerte que los datos estadísticos correspondientes al mes de junio, por ejemplo, no se publican hasta setiembre.

COMERCIO EXTERIOR EN EL MES DE JULIO.

Los cuadros estadísticos relativos al comercio exterior de los Estados Unidos durante el mes de julio próximo pasado, muestran las importaciones y exportaciones verificadas en dicho mes comparadas con las que se hicieron en igual fecha del año precedente.

Vese en dichas tablas que el volumen total del comercio realizado en julio de 1900 fué por valor de $164,103,921, habiendo sido para igual mes del año anterior de $155,037,914.

El valor de las importaciones en julio de 1900 fué de $63,656,421, contra $60,101,744 para igual mes del año precedente.

En julio de 1900 las importaciones hechas libres de derechos fueron un 34.49 por ciento del total; en igual mes de 1899 el promedio fué 43.15 por ciento.

Los derechos de aduanas cobrados en julio de 1900 montaron á $19,802,272, contra $16,971,454 cobrados en julio de 1899.

El valor total de las exportaciones en julio de 1900 fué de $100,447,470, contra $94,926,170 en julio de 1899.

Según clasificación hecha por la Oficina de Estadística de la Secretaría de Hacienda, el valor comparativo de las importaciones y exportaciones es como sigue:

Artículos importados.	1900.	1899.
De alimentación y animales	$17,707,320	$17,846,382
En estado crudo para la industria	17,888,762	17,503,742
Artículos en todo ó en parte manufacturados para emplearlos en las artes mecánicas	6,700,444	6,547,611
Manufacturados listos para el consumo	11,125,190	9,728,130
De lujo y fantasía	10,284,735	8,475,879

Artículos exportados.	1900.	1899.
Productos agrícolas	54,641,946	54,710,662
Artículos manufacturados	34,545,042	29,932,034
Productos de las minas	3,533,681	3,234,985
Productos de los bosques	5,486,206	4,772,645
Artículos varios	88,121	65,770
Artículos extranjeros reexportados	1,889,538	1,935,427

SUPREMACÍA COMERCIAL É INDUSTRIAL.

Desde hace largo tiempo se tiene por un hecho indudable que los Estados Unidos están predestinados á ocupar, como país industrial, un puesto preeminente entre las naciones del mundo, aserción que confirman los datos estadísticos correspondientes al año en curso, pues el valor de las manufacturas ascendió á la suma de $12,500,000,000. Comparada esta cantidad con la correspondiente á la producción de Alemania y la Gran Bretaña, que son los más poderosos rivales de los Estados Unidos, se verá que excedió á ésta en $450,000,000 por lo menos.

Dice el Honorable Carroll D. Wright, Comisionado del Trabajo de los Estados Unidos, que el tráfico de hierro debe considerarse como la base de todas las industrias, y como la producción de hierro en lingotes en los Estados Unidos en 1899 fué de cerca de 12,000,000 de toneladas, contra 8,631,151 toneladas, que fué la producción de la Gran Bretaña en el mismo período, la deducción que de estos datos se saca es obvia.

En el campo de la agricultura la supremacía de los Estados Unidos se demuestra con el hecho de que los productos alimenticios exportados de este país sirven para la alimentación de los obreros en las otras naciones industriales que le hacen competencia.

Los datos compilados por el Señor WRIGHT y publicados en la edición correspondiente al mes de julio, de la revista denominada "Century," prueban que el comercio de los Estados Unidos está al nivel de su progreso industrial. Sus exportaciones durante el año de 1899 representaron un valor de $1,252,903,987, mientras que las importaciones en el mismo período fueron de $798,845,571. Por esto se ve que el valor del tráfico total durante el año fué de $2,051,749,558. Aunque este total es algo menor que el correspondiente á la Gran Bretaña y á Alemania juntas, es importante notar que la exportación de los Estados Unidos fué mucho mayor que la de cada una de las naciones mencionadas.

Se demuestra también en el mismo artículo que entre 1870 y 1899 las exportaciones de los Estados Unidos á la Gran Bretaña se han duplicado y á Alemania triplicado. Las importaciones de la Gran Bretaña en los Estados Unidos han disminuído algo durante el período de referencia; pero en cuanto á Alemania sus importaciones en este país han aumentado de $27,015,321 á $84,242,795. El enorme aumento de la exportación de los Estados Unidos se puede apreciar fijándose en lo que ha ocurrido con el Japón. En 1893 las exportaciones de este país al Japón representaron solamente un valor de $3,189,711, y en 1899 había aumentado hasta alcanzar la cifra de $26,000,000. Otro tanto ha acontecido con los denominados "nuevos mercados."

Por lo que hace á la naturaleza de la exportación, el aumento más notable se nota en los instrumentos agrícolas, cereales, carbón de piedra, géneros de algodón, rieles de acero, calzado, y provisiones, incluyendo en éstas carne y los productos de lechería. Según cálculos esmeradamente hechos, los Estados Unidos poseen, por lo menos, el 50 por ciento del área carbonífera del mundo, y su producción total de este artículo es como el 30 por ciento de la producción total del mundo. Dada la extraordinaria demanda de carbón en todos los mercados, se puede predecir con seguridad que el carbón americano está destinado á convertirse en un gran artículo de exportación.

Hace algunos años los Estados Unidos importaban grandes cantidades de acero y hierro, especialmente rieles de acero; éstos, sin embargo, han dejado de importarse, siendo en la actualidad artículo de exportación. En cuanto á la hojalata se importó en 1891 una cantidad de 1,000,000,000 de libras y en el año pasado solamente la décima parte de aquella cantidad fué de origen extranjero, pues el producto doméstico, que es de tan buena calidad como el extranjero, ascendió á 791,371,484 libras. Las herramientas americanas comenzaron desde hace años á substituir á las inglesas en las colonias británicas, debido, principalmente, á su excelente calidad, firmeza y poco peso. Las locomotoras y los materiales para puentes hechos en los Estados Unidos han dado tan satisfactorio resultado en el extranjero, que la demanda de ellos aumenta rápidamente. Á este respecto Lord CRO-

MER, Ministro Plenipotenciario en Egipto, ha dicho que las fábricas americanas producen en menos tiempo que otras, locomotoras relativamente baratas; así es que cuando la cuestión de tiempo y costo merece tomarse en consideración conviene tener presente esta industria americana.

CONDICIÓN DE LA AGRICULTURA.

Según el informe mensual de la Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Agricultura, la condición de las cosechas para el 1° de septiembre, de 1900, comparada con la correspondiente á igual fecha del año anterior, fué como sigue:

Algodón 68.2, contra 68.5 en 1899 y un promedio de 76.6 en los últimos diez años. La condición del maíz fué 80.6, ó sea 4.6 puntos más bajo que en septiembre 1° de 1899, y 1.1 más bajo que el promedio por diez años.

La condición de las cosechas de trigo de invierno y de primavera combinadas está representada por 69.6, contra 70.9 el 1° de septiembre de 1899 y 80.9, el promedio por los últimos diez años.

La de la avena fué 82.9, contra 87.2 en septiembre 1°, 1899, y 79.8, el promedio por diez años.

En el momento de la cosecha, la condición de la cebada era de 70.7, contra 86.7 para septiembre 1°, 1899, y 83.9 el promedio durante diez años.

Por lo que se refiere al centeno de invierno y de primavera, su condición en el momento de la cosecha era 84.2, contra 82 para el 1° de septiembre de 1899 y 86.5 como promedio por diez años. Papas 80, contra 86.3 en septiembre 1°, 1899, y 77.4, promedio por diez años. Los trece estados en donde hay sembrados más de 10,000 acres de batatas, en el momento de hacer el undécimo censo, acusaron una baja en la condición de este fruto durante el mes de agosto, la que se hizo notar más en los estados del sur del Atlántico, donde la fuerte sequía ha afectado seriamente casi todos los productos agrícolas.

Durante el mes de agosto de 1900, la condición de la caña de azúcar en Luisiana mejoró 4 puntos, y para el 1° de septiembre habia llegado á 11 puntos sobre el promedio de los últimos diez años. En los otros estados donde se produce la caña en menor escala, se notó una baja general, siendo su condición inferior á la del promedio de diez años. Todos los estados productores de caña de sorgo acusan una diminución en este fruto durante el mes de agosto. También indica baja la condición del arroz en todos los estados que lo producen, á excepción de Luisiana, que es el centro principal del cultivo del arroz en los Estados Unidos, y en donde la condición de este fruto para el 1° de septiembre alcanzaba á 13 puntos sobre el promedio de la serie de años de los cuales hay estadísticas.

Por lo que se refiere á las frutas parece que las cosechas son abundantes, especialmente en lo que se refiere á manzanas y melocotones ó duraznos. La condición de la cosecha de manzanas en todos los estados productores de este fruto es superior al promedio de diez años y lo mismo puede decirse de la cosecha de melocotones. La condición del tabaco sufrió una baja general durante el mes de agosto. También han disminuído los campos de trébol á causa de la sequía.

MANUFACTURA DE CEMENTO DE PORTLAND.

Se ha hablado mucho últimamente sobre la manufactura de cemento hidráulico en los Estados Unidos. El cemento hidráulico es el que puede endurecerse dentro del agua, y se emplea en la construcción de puentes, diques, cimientos de edificios y en otras muchas obras. Rara vez se usa puro sino que se mezcla con arena y cascajo, lo cual forma una argamasa conocida en inglés con el nombre de *concrete*. Cuando el cemento es bien escogido y las proporciones de arena y cascajo no son demasiado grandes, la argamasa que resulta es casi tan dura como el granito, siendo, además, menos costosa.

La cal que se emplea para la preparación de la mezcla usada en construcciones ordinarias, se obtiene de una piedra caliza que contiene, á excepción de un 3 á un 6 por ciento de otras substancias, carbonato de cal puro. Después que esta piedra ha sido calcinada, deja un producto que, cuando se le mezcla con agua, se reduce á polvo, produciendo una gran cantidad de calor. Esta clase de piedra caliza no puede producir un buen cemento hidráulico sin la agregación de otras substancias. La piedra que se usaba antes en Inglaterra para preparar el cemento de Portland contenía solamente de 78 á 80 por ciento de carbonato de cal y de 20 á 22 por ciento de barro; pero este último era una composición de 1½ á 2 partes de sílica y 1 de alúmina.

Existe otro cemento muy parecido al anterior, que contiene cierta cantidad de magnesia. Se le conoce con el nombre de cemento de Rosendale.

En el último número del periódico titulado "Engineering News" se ha publicado un extenso artículo con este lema: "Development and Future Prospects of Portland Cement Manufacture in America" (Desarrollo y Porvenir de la Manufactura de Cemento de Portland en América). Por este artículo se ve que aunque dicha industria tuvo su origen en Inglaterra, ya aquel país no la monopoliza. La producción de cemento de Portland en Inglaterra es en la actualidad de 7,000,000 á 8,000,000 de barriles por año; en Francia es apenas de 3,500,000 barriles, mientras que en Alemania fluctua entre 18,000,000 á 20,000,000 de barriles. Además, la calidad del producto alemán se considera superior á la del inglés.

El citado periódico pone de manifiesto el aumento que ha habido

en el uso del cemento en los Estados Unidos desde el año de 1883. En ese año se consumieron como 500,000 barriles y casi toda la cantidad fué importada, habiendo sido muy exigua la producción del país. Siete años más tarde la cantidad consumida en los Estados Unidos ascendió á 3,500,000 barriles, de los cuales solamente 500,000 ó sea la séptima parte, fueron producidos en el país. Á esa fecha la industria comenzó á progresar notablemente, y en 1897 el número de barriles de producción doméstica consumidos en el país, fué mucho mayor que el de los importados; pues de los 5,000,000 de barriles que se consumieron, más de 3,000,000 fueron producto de los Estados Unidos.

En el año de 1899 los Estados Unidos emplearon 5,200,000 barriles de cemento de Portland, de los cuales solamente 2,300,000 fueron importados. Estas cifras muestran que la producción de cemento en los Estados Unidos ha aumentado notablemente durante los últimos años, y que el consumo, debido á los múltiples usos á que este artículo se dedica, también ha aumentado rápidamente. Opina el "Engineering News" que en presencia de la gran demanda que hay de este producto, las fábricas de los Estados Unidos no podrán suplirla por algunos años. Sin embargo, además de que la materia prima es inagotable en este país, los métodos y aparatos que se emplean para la fabricación del cemento son más expeditos que los usados en Europa, y en cuanto á la calidad del artículo, los Estados Unidos sobrepujan ya á las otras naciones.

CONSERVACIÓN DE LA HARINA.

En su edición correspondiente al mes de agosto "La América Científica é Industrial" publica un artículo instructivo con el lema que encabeza estas líneas, del que se toman los siguientes párrafos:

"Si los granos son susceptibles de averiarse, dada su composición orgánica, se comprende que sus harinas han de correr mayor peligro en tal sentido, considerando que los componentes de aquéllos, una vez disgregados y desechos, se hayan en contacto con el aire sin la protección de la resistente cascarilla que los envuelve en el grano, y por lo tanto, expuestos á la influencia de la humedad, del calor atmosférico y particularmente del oxígeno del aire, que es el destructor por excelencia de que dispone la naturaleza para verificar, con la ayuda de dichos agentes, la descomposición de toda materia orgánica con que se halla en contacto.

"Por otra parte, abandonada á sí misma una harina, aun en circunstancias normales, sus propios principios constitutivos, obrando unos sobre otros expontáneamente, producen sin cesar en su propia substancia profundas alteraciones, lo mismo que ocurre en los granos, pues contienen aquellos principios, de modo que ya la materia amilácea y sacarina ó bien el gluten, ó mejor dicho, la harina misma, perderá su cualidad dulce é inodora, que es reemplazada por un sabor acre

y un olor jabonoso característico, que se va acentuando cada vez más hasta hacer que las harinas pierdan su condición esencial para producir el pan, pues con la fermentación sobreviene la acidez y el enmohecimiento, efectos del mal olor. Más tarde se manifiesta la aglomeración en varios puntos de su masa y no hay más remedio que vaciar los sacos inmediatamente, apalear el contenido y volverla á cerner, para evitar la pérdida total de la harina, cuyo gluten, descomponiéndose más pronto que ningún otro de sus principios, produce un pan indigesto, menos esponjoso, poco nutritivo y de mal color.

"En los almacenes de harina debe evitarse, en primer lugar, la elevación de temperatura, pues si llega á 14° centígrado, sobre cero ya es peligrosa. Asimismo debe cuidarse de que no ejerzan influencia los vapores pestilentes de fábricas vecinas y, sobre todo, de los basureros. Cuando llueva ó esté húmeda la atmósfera, deben cerrarse las ventanas del almacén, y cuando esté seca abrirlas en las horas de sol durante el invierno y en las mañanas de verano, para la renovación del aire, sobre todo cuando la harina se ha hecho de granos húmedos, y en aquellos climas en que la atmósfera está muy cargada de humedad.

"La limpieza más exquisita de almacenes amplios, con altas ventanas apaisadas, provistas de persianas que eviten la acción directa del sol, de vidrieras para que no entre el aire que no convenga y de buenos entarimados, son condiciones indispensables para un buen depósito de harina.

"Desde luego se cuidará también de destinar al consumo inmediato la harina producida por granos húmedos, pues la de los granos secos es más á propósito para conservarla ó transportala á grandes distancias, sobre todo si el transporte se ha de verificar por la vía marítima, porque en las bodegas de los barcos, especialmente cuando cruzan los trópicos, el excesivo calor y la humedad en tales parajes alteran con frecuencia la condición de las mejores harinas. Para preservarlas se ha propuesto prensarlas fuertemente, de modo que se expulse de entre ellas el aire, constituyendo una especie de pasta endurecida que después, para consumirla, se deshace y se cierne nuevamente; pero la costumbre seguida en este caso consiste, generalmente, en colocar la harina por capas, apisonadas dentro de barriles, y así se transporta en buenas condiciones.

"Otro de los riesgos á que se haya expuesta esta mercancía es la facilidad con que se desarrollan en ella varios insectos y aun vegetales que la alteran profundamente.

"Los sacos deben almacenarse en posición vertical y separados unos de otros, para que circule el aire entre ellos. Por último, no sólo la limpieza más escrupulosa de los almacenes, sino también la de los envases, es la mejor garantía para la buena conservación de la harina."

EL ACERO EN LAS INDUSTRIAS MANUFACTURERAS.

La producción de acero en los Estados Unidos durante el año de 1899 fué de cerca de 10,750,000 toneladas, lo que viene á ser como 4,500,000 toneladas más que la cifra alcanzada por Alemania, y 6,000,000 que la correspondiente á la Gran Bretaña. Se ve pues que la producción de acero de los Estados Unidos es casi igual á la de Alemania y la Gran Bretaña reunidas.

Todo parece indicar que la industria de acero seguirá progresando, y que no está lejano el día en que los ciudadanos americanos harán construir en astilleros americanos todos losbarcos de hierro y de acero que necesiten. La industria de construcciones navales se desarrolla en este país con increíble rapidez, y la supremacía que ya ha alcanzado como productor de hierro y acero le ofrece ventajas especiales al tratarse de dichas construcciones.

Se cree ya generalmente que al paso que los Estados Unidos avanzan pronto volverá á ocupar su marina mercante el lugar prominente que ocupó en un tiempo.

Al igual que la mayor parte de las invenciones, la de los carros de acero comprimido ha sufrido una verdadera revolución, y aunque no ha sido sino durante los últimos años que ha llamado la atención general, no puede decirse que sea una invención. enteramente nueva. Hace cosa de treinta años que se construyó en Francia el primer carro de acero para ferrocarril, el cual se encuentra todavía en muy buen estado. En cuanto á los carros de madera se sabe que su existencia no pasa de quince años. Los modernos carros de acero comprimido se usan ya en casi todos los ferrocarriles. En 1897 no había más que unos pocos centenares en este país, pero hoy la Compañía del Baltimore and Ohio posee más de 6,000; la de Pennsylvania, como 4,500; la de Bessemer and Lake Erie, 2,000; y otras compañías como mil cada una. La desaparición completa de los carros de madera es simplemente una cuestión de tiempo. Casi todos los ferrocarriles del este y del oeste han dado órdenes para la construcción de esta clase de carros, y muchas compañías mineras los emplean con preferencia á cualesquiera otros.

Los carros de madera del tipo ordinario, con una capacidad de 30 toneladas, cuestan unos $725 cada uno, lo cual es más que el costo de los carros de acero de los últimos modelos. Los citados carros de madera pesan 30,000 libras, mientras que los carros de acero comprimido, capaces de llevar 50 tóneladas de carga, pesan solamente 34,000 libras. Las ventajas que ofrece al tráfico el carro de acero comprimido sobre el de madera, hacen que este último esté ya condenado á desaparecer irremediablemente. Las mejoras que sin duda alguna van á introducirse en la construcción de carros de acero van á producir nuevas revoluciones en el tráfico ferroviario de los Estados Unidos.

COMERCIO CON ESPAÑA.

Dice el "Public Ledger," de Filadelfia, que el comercio entre los Estados Unidos y España está completamente restablecido, y que según datos oficiales correspondientes al año económico de 1900, las exportaciones de los Estados Unidos á España y las importaciones de aquel país á este fueron mayores en dicho año que en cualquier otro desde 1893, y que casi llegaron á la cifra más alta que jamás se ha alcanzado. Las exportaciones de los Estados Unidos á España en el año económico de 1900 ascendieron á $13,399,680, contra $10,912,745 en 1897. Las importaciones en los Estados Unidos procedentes de España en 1900 montaron á $5,950,047, contra $3,631,937 en el año económico de 1897.

Los principales artículos que de los Estados Unidos se exportan para España son: algodón en rama, cereales, minerales, aceites y manufacturas de madera. El algodón en rama ocupa el primer lugar. Lo que de España se importa en los Estados Unidos consiste principalmente en frutas, nueces y vino. La importación de mineral de hierro de España en los Estados Unidos también aumentó en el año de 1900, comparado con los años precedentes. Las principales frutas que vienen de España á este país son almendras, naranjas y pasas. El valor total del algodón en rama exportado de los Estados Unidos para España en 1900 fué de $9,481,700. Ocupan el segundo lugar como artículos de exportación la madera y sus manufacturas, tales como duelas, costillas, tapas, etc. Después de estos artículos vienen las provisiones, cuya exportación á España depende en gran parte de la condición de las cosechas en aquel país.

El Honorable Bellamy Storer, Ministro de los Estados Unidos en Madrid, ha informado al Departamento de Estado que se ha firmado, provisionalmente, un tratado de amistad, comercio y navegación por él, como representante de los Estados Unidos, y por el Ministro de Estado de España, como representante de esta nación.

IMPORTACIONES DE CAFÉ EN 1900.

Durante el año económico que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900, los Estados Unidos importaron más café que cualquiera otra nación del mundo, aunque no tanto como en el año anterior.

La importación total ascendió á 787,983,611 libras, cuyo valor fué de $52,466,993. La diferencia entre la cantidad de libras importadas en este último año económico y en el anterior fué de 43,833,452 libras, correspondiendo al valor $2,808,477 menos que en dicho año.

La mayor parte del café que se importa á los Estados Unidos viene directamente de la América latina, siendo muy cierto que mucho del café que se dice ser importado de Europa es cosechado en los países latino-americanos. En el último año económico la cantidad de café

importada de la América latina fué de 748,546,777 libras, con un valor de $47,329,851. En el año anterior se importaron 803,074,992 libras, que representaron $51,474,005, con lo cual se demuestra que hubo una diminución de 108,527,215 libras, que en valor montó á $4,142,154.

El café importado de México en igual período llegó á la suma de 35,327,921 libras, cantidad nunca alcanzada hasta ahora, habiendo sido la importación del año anterior de 27,324,827 libras. El valor de las importaciones de este último año fué de $3,312,608, contra $2,686,248 para el año anterior. El precio medio por libra fué de 9.39 centavos, contra 9.83 centavos para 1899.

De las Antillas se importaron en el último año 9,249,729 libras, con un valor de $731,323, contra 11,701,202 que se importaron en el año precedente, cuyo valor era $941,622. El precio medio de la libra fué de 7.91 centavos, contra 8.08 centavos en 1899.

La Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Hacienda no da por separado datos relativos á las repúblicas centroamericanas, sino que las pone bajo un solo grupo, dando como total de la importación de café de todas ellas juntas la suma de 43,786,499 libras, con un valor de $4,356,407; el precio medio de la libra fué de 9.93 centavos. Las importaciones de la América Central y de Belice en 1899 montaron á 45,298,800 libras, valoradas en $5,368,711. El valor medio de la libra fué de 11.85 centavos.

De la América del Sur se importaron en el último año económico 660,182,633 libras, contra 718,750,163 en 1899. El valor de las primeras fué de $38,929,513; el promedio del valor de la libra fué de 5.90 centavos.

Del Brasil se importaron 601,520,169 libras, con un valor de $34,333,762. El precio medio de la libra fué de 5.71 centavos. En 1899 se importaron del Brasil 628,417,812 libras, valoradas en $35,253,834. El precio medio de la libra fué de 5.61 centavos.

INDUSTRIA DE CARNES.

Dice "El Progreso de México" que el reciente movimiento que en Alemania ha llevado al ganadero y á los representantes de la carnicería y salchichería á hacer causa común para oponerse á la importación de las carnes americanas, llama la atención sobre ciertas cuestiones que interesan á los agricultores del mundo entero. Es un hecho sorprendente que en los Estados Unidos hayan podido desarrollarse los mataderos y fábricas donde se prepara la carne de modo que sus productos vayan á hacer competencia á los mercados extranjeros. Un periódico de Nueva York, el "New York National Provisioner," explica cómo el desarrollo de dichas fábricas, que tuvo por origen una necesidad comercial, dió por resultado gran incremento en la ganadería y en el uso de los mejores métodos para la utilización de las diversas partes del animal.

Esto hizo bajar el precio de la carne de consumo, mientras que el valor de la materia prima y de la mano de obra subía.

Cuando nació la industria sólo la carne de los animales tenía un valor intrínseco; el resto, es decir, cerca de la mitad del peso del animal vivo, se consideraba como desecho, y el comisionista que, por ejemplo, en Chicago, lograba deshacerse de la sangre por medio de un canal hasta el río, tenía que erogar algunos gastos para deshacerse de la cabeza, los pies y las entrañas del animal. Algunas personas que conocían el valor de esos desechos, establecieron factorías cerca de los mataderos, recogiendo los referidos desechos para transformarlos en cola, aceite, cebo y abonos; de modo que el comerciante en animales encontraba pronto compradores para los desperdicios á precios remuneradores. Más tarde, al desarrollarse las fábricas de carne, se explotaron esos desechos, y á partir de ese momento el ganadero se aprovechó de la prosperidad de la nueva industria.

Una vez que el animal ha sido entregado al matadero, y después de muerto, se le quitan los cuernos para transformarlos en peines, botones, objetos de tocador, etc. Las tibias desembarazadas de sus ligamentos y articulaciones, sirven para hacer mangos de cuchillo, cepillos de dientes y otros artículos, pues los huesos duros cuando han recibido un buen pulimento, apenas se pueden distinguir del marfil. Las astillas y desechos de los huesos sirven para templar el acero. De la sangre se extrae la albúmina para fijar los colores en la impresión de las indianas y la preparación de los cueros. Las partes no utilizadas de la sangre, carne y huesos, se emplean como abono, después que se han extraído de ellas en caliente y á alta presión, la grasa y la cola. Las pezuñas y las diversas partes de la cabeza, se utilizan del mismo modo, cuando se les ha sacado grasa, cebo y glicerina. Los pelos y la piel se entregan á las industrias de tapices, fieltros y peletería. Otro producto remunerador es la oleína, que se extrae de la grasa y se envía á Europa en gran parte para preparar la margarina.

Las carnes representan, naturalmente, la mayor parte del tráfico. Buques provistos de cámaras frigoríficas las transportan con destino á todos los países. Otra rama floreciente de esta industria es la fabricación de carnes conservadas en cajas para uso de los ejércitos y las gentes de mar y del campo.

Por lo expuesto se ve cuán íntimamente ligados están los intereses del ganadero al desarrollo de los mataderos y fábricas, y cómo con la organización racional de estos establecimientos en los Estados Unidos se ha podido satisfacer al consumidor y al productor, cosa que todavía no se ha podido realizar en muchos países.

CRECIMIENTO DE LA DEMANDA DE COBRE.

Al mismo tiempo que la producción del cobre en los Estados Unidos aumenta de manera prodigiosa, la demanda de este metal es suficiente-

mente grande para absorver casi el total de la producción universal. La producción de cobre en los primeros siete meses del corriente año fué de 352,990,360 libras, contra 326,736,800 libras para igual período de 1899, demostrando esto haber habido un aumento de cerca del 8 por ciento. Según el "Journal of Finance," la producción de cobre en el extranjero desde el 1° de enero al 1° de agosto de 1900 fué de 113,335,040 libras, contra 114,282,560 libras en igual período de 1899. Ambas producciones, la de los Estados Unidos y la europea, reunidas, forman un gran total de 466,334,400 libras en los siete meses citados, es decir, un aumento de 25,315,040 libras sobre la producción total en igual período del año 1899. El aumento se ha verificado á razón de un promedio de 3,616,434 libras por mes.

La demanda de cobre del extranjero ha aumentado enormemente, viéndose obligados los Estados Unidos á exportar á Europa durante los siete meses señalados un 64.6 por ciento de su producción. Las exportaciones de cobre durante los mismos siete meses alcanzaron la suma de 228,252,720 libras, habiendo sido para igual período del año anterior de 142,508,800 libras.

Las existencias de cobre en Inglaterra y Francia el 15 de agosto de 1900 eran solamente de 32,490 toneladas, donde están incluidas unas 6,200 toneladas que se encuentran en barcos procedentes de Chile y Australia. Las exportaciones que se hicieron de los Estados Unidos desde el 1° al 25 de agosto inclusive pasaron de 1,000,000 de libras por día. El tráfico en cobre se ha desarrollado hasta tal punto, que se cree seguirán las exportaciones gigantescas iniciadas por todo el resto del año.

PRODUCCIÓN DE MINERAL DE HIERRO EN 1899.

Según el informe anual de la Oficina de Estudios Geológicos de los Estados Unidos, la producción de mineral de hierro en este país durante el año de 1899 ascendió á 24,683,173 toneladas, ó sea un aumento de 27 por ciento sobre la producción en 1898. La cantidad producida en los dos años de referencia es el máximum de producción durante un solo año que se ha visto en país alguno.

De los 24 estados que contribuyeron al total mencionado para 1899, Michigan ocupa el primer lugar con 9,146,157 toneladas, y viene en seguida Minnesota con 8,161,289 toneladas. Alabama ocupa el tercer lugar con 1,009,327 toneladas. La región del lago Superior aumentó el máximum que había alcanzado en 1898, que fué de 13,779,308 toneladas, á 17,802,955 toneladas.

El valor total en las minas del mineral de hierro producido fué de $34,999,077, ó sea $1.42 por tonelada, lo cual es un aumento de 24.06 por ciento sobre el promedio de valor en 1898. El promedio más alto de valor en el mineral de hierro corresponde á las minas del estado de

New Jersey, donde su explotación es costosa, y el promedio más bajo corresponde á Texas, donde la extracción de cada tonelada cuesta solamente 90 centavos.

INTRODUCCIÓN DE TRIGOS EXTRANJEROS.

El Jefe de la Sección de Botánica del Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos, Mr. FREDERICK V. COVILLE, ha publicado últimamente un artículo sobre la introducción de trigos extranjeros en los Estados Unidos. Habla en su obra de que el Departamento de Agricultura trata de introducir semillas y plantas valiosas de otros países á los Estados Unidos, y de que, entre otras cosas, está empeñado en obtener las mejores clases de trigo de Europa y África, especialmente las usadas para la fabricación de macarrones.

En años pasados todos los macarrones consumidos en los Estados Unidos se importaban de Europa, pero últimamente se han fundado fábricas de este artículo en diversas partes del país.

Los consumidores prefieren los macarrones importados, que son hechos de un trigo especial que hasta ahora no se ha producido en los Estados Unidos. Los agricultores del país han estado cultivando, naturalmente, el trigo que encuentra mayor demanda en los mercados nacionales, y es el que se usa, principalmente, para la panadería y pastelería. Se cree, sin embargo, que el trigo para macarrones que el Departamento de Agricultura ha importado á fin de hacer con él experimentos, servirá de base para un gran desarrollo de la fabricación de macarrones en los Estados Unidos y acrecentará la demanda de este cereal en aquellas partes del país que se adaptan para su cultivo.

FÁBRICA DE CARBONES PARA LÁMPARAS DE ARCO.

Una de las nuevas industrias nacidas del alumbrado eléctrico en los Estados Unidos es la de carbones para los lámparas de arco. Cuando se comenzaron á usar las primeras de estas lámparas los carbones que se empleaban se hacían de los residuos ó asientos que quedaban en las retortas de barro usadas en la fabricación del gas. Como dicho material escaseara, su precio, naturalmente, se elevó considerablemente. No solamente era muy duro, sino aun más quebradizo que el vidrio, siendo muy difícil de trabajar. De estos inconvenientes surgió la necesidad de hacer los carbones de otra substancia, y se inventaron los usados en la actualidad, cuya industria es de una importancia considerable.

Las grandes ciudades del país consumen centenares de miles de carbones por semana. Su fabricación se hace mezclando proporcionalmente petróleo, coque y alquitrán, masa que luego se cuece al horno á una alta temperatura por largo tiempo. La primera operación con-

siste en moler el coque, reduciéndolo á un finísimo polvo por medio de una máquina construída especialmente para ese objeto. La masa que resulta después de mezclarsele con los otros componentes, se coloca en un tubo de acero, de forma cilíndrica, en cuyo fondo ó base hay un agujero. Un fuerte émbolo de acero, movido por fuerza hidráulica, comprime esta masa, y la hace salir del tubo, por el agujero indicado, en forma de barritas que después se cortan en trozos de cierto tamaño y se empacan enjutamente en unas cajas de hierro en las queya de antemano se había echado coque pulverizado; se someten dichas cajas á una alta temperatura por el espacio de una semana ó más tiempo, y cuando los carbones se han enfriado convenientemente, se pulen por medio de ruedas esmeriladas, después de cuya operación quedan listos para el uso.

EXPORTACIÓN DE MAÍZ.

El aumento en el consumo de maíz en Europa ha sido muy notable y satisfactorio. Durante los últimos cinco años la exportación de este cereal de los Estados Unidos, sin incluir la harina de maíz, ha sido, por término medio, de 173,813,301 *bushels* cada año, mientras que en los cinco años precedentes el promedio anual fué solamente de 49,054,663 *bushels*. Esto demuestra que el aumento en el promedio anual de lo exportado durante los últimos cinco años sobre los cinco años precedentes ha sido algo más del 254 por ciento. El máximum de la exportación se alcanzó durante el año económico que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900, que fué cuando la exportación de maíz llegó á ser de 209,348,273 *bushels*. Las ocho ó nueve décimas partes de las exportaciones van generalmente á Europa.

El periódico "American Agriculturist" ha obtenido de los agricultores de los Estados Unidos varios datos relativos á lo que cuesta el cultivo del maíz, y se ha averiguado que con una producción media de 40 *bushels* por acre el costo es de 12.9 centavos el *bushel*. La ganancia del agricultor es de 6 por ciento sobre el capital invertido, si logra vender el maíz á 21.5 centavos el *bushel*.

EL PETRÓLEO COMO COMBUSTIBLE PARA BUQUES DE GUERRA.

Dice el "Scientific American" que una gran parte de la capacidad de los buques de guerra modernos la ocupan la maquinaria y las carboneras, y que los esfuerzos de los arquitectos navales se dirigen á disminuir el volumen de las máquinas y calderas, para aumentar la cabida de las carboneras. Agrega el citado periódico que en este particular casi se ha tocado el último extremo, haciéndose ya necesario introducir mejoras en la construcción de los cascos y en el uso de la maquinaria que han de llevar. Según puede verse, la tendencia general en la construcción de barcos de guerra es hacer cada día más pesado el

blindaje, y aunque se ha reducido un tanto el peso de las máquinas y calderas, no puede decirse que el resultado en este sentido sea de mucha importancia. Es evidente que cualquier potencia naval que encontrara un medio de aumentar la capacidad de las carboneras de sus navíos de guerra, sin disminuir su eficacia, obtendría una ventaja decidida.

Esto es indudablemente cierto al tratarse de países que pueden disponer de un combustible que no esté al alcance de otras naciones. El petróleo substituído al carbón de piedra es el combustible que aumentaría en grande escala el radio de acción de los barcos de guerra y, hasta cierto punto, su velocidad, y como los más importantes depósitos de esta materia se encuentran en los Estados Unidos y en Rusia, su uso sería de grandísima utilidad para ambos países. En los buques de construcción moderna el uso del petróleo aumentaría en 50 por ciento la cantidad de combustible. El uso del petróleo no implica un cambio material en la maquinaria actualmente empleada en los barcos de guerra, pues puede quemarse en los mismos aparatos que generalmente se usan y aun alternar con el carbón de piedra en calidad de combustible.

PREMIOS EN LA EXPOSICIÓN DE PARÍS.

La lista de premios otorgados en la Exposición de París á los expositores de los Estados Unidos fué publicada el 17 del mes pasado. Se otorgaron en todo 1,981 premios; de éstos, 220 fueron grandes premios, 486 medallas de oro, 583 medallas de plata, 422 medallas de bronce, y 270 menciones honoríficas.

Todas las artes é industrias fueron premiadas. Los productos agrícolas, minerales y florestales de los Estados Unidos recibieron grandes premios y medallas de oro. Otro tanto ocurrió con el algodón, la lana y la seda de este país, así como con la maquinaria para recoger las cosechas, las prensas para imprimir, las máquinas de coser y los medios de transportación. Los efectos de plata, las joyas, las artes y el sistema de instrucción pública ocuparon también un puesto prominente.

EXPORTACIÓN DE HERRAMIENTAS Y MAQUINARIA.

La exportación de ferretería para constructores, sierras y herramientas durante el año económico que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900, fué la más grande que se registra en la historia comercial del país, pues ascendió á $9,646,017, contra $7,842,372 en el año precedente. Antes de 1896 la exportación de dichos artículos jamás había ascendido á $5,000,000 anualmente.

Ha habido también un aumento satisfactorio en la exportación de máquinas de coser y de escribir, maquinaria eléctrica y de otras clases. Comparando las cifras del último año económico con las del anterior,

se ve que el valor de las máquinas de coser exportadas aumentó de $3,264,344 á $4,540,842; el de la maquinaria eléctrica de $2,736,110 á $4,328,917; el de las locomotoras de $3,883,719 á $5,592,403; el de las máquinas de escribir de $2 449,205 á $2,697,544; el de máquinas para labrar metales de $6,491,586 á $7,193,390, y todas las otras clases de maquinaria de $18,722,251 á $21,913,202.

Aunque los principales mercados para la maquinaria americana son los países europeos, una cantidad considerable se exporta ya á australia, Japón y la India. La exportación de máquinas de escribir á estos últimos países aumenta constantemente, así como á la América del Sur á la Gran Bretaña, Francia y á otros países de Europa.

La exportación de clavos y tachuelas ha aumentado durante un año en más de $1,250,000; y la de pipas de envase y sus accesorios ha subido de $5,875,748 á $7,024,888. Por lo que hace á la exportación de manufacturas de hierro y acero, el aumento en un año ha sido casi el 56 por ciento.

OPORTUNIDADES PARA LOS CULTIVADORES DE TE.

La actual perturbación del comercio con China ofrece á los cultivadores de te en los Estados Unidos una ocasión de someter á una prueba práctica sus esfuerzos para el cultivo de esta planta. En la Carolina del Sur existe una plantación de te en la que se produce un artículo de superior calidad, que se vende en los mercados de los Estados Unidos á $1 la libra, que es un precio mayor que el que se paga por la mayor parte de las clases de te que se importan de la China. Se necesita especial cuidado y atención para obtener buen éxito en los Estados Unidos, y, además, mucha experiencia en la preparación de la hoja. Es debido á esto que se han hecho tan pocas tentativas para cultivar la planta en aquellas partes del Sur donde el terreno es favorable.

COSECHA DE ARROZ EN LA LUISIANA.

Las condiciones climatológicas continúan siendo favorables para la cosecha de arroz de Luisiana, que se espera habrá de valer en 1900 próximamente $2,000,000 más que en 1899. Este aumento se debe á que la producción habrá de ser mucho mayor y á que los precios han tenido una buena alza. No hubiera habido tal aumento en el precio de este grano á no ser por el consumo que de él se hace en Puerto Rico, en donde la libra de arroz americano se vende á un centavo más barato que la del arroz de otros países. Los Estados Unidos no importan grandes cantidades de arroz cuando la cosecha en los estados del Sur ha sido buena. El que viene de la China se importa por los mismos chinos para su propio consumo, limitándose su tráfico al litoral del Pacífico. El arroz chino viene en sacos de 100 libras y es de grano tan

pequeño que no merece la aceptación de los comerciantes en provisiones del país.

Los chinos que residen en la parte oriental de los Estados Unidos han adquirido ya gusto por el arroz de Luisiana, circunstancia que hace que la cantidad de arroz que viene de su país á la costa oriental de los Estados Unidos sea insignificante. En los Estados Unidos se importa arroz del Japón y de Java cuando la cosecha nacional ha sido exigua. En 1899 se importaron de la China cerca de 100,000 sacos.

El negocio de arroz de Luisiana se hace, generalmente, por medio de corredores de Nueva Orleans, quienes aseguran que la cosecha que viene será mayor que las anteriores, y que los precios serán más altos. Caso de poderse recoger toda la cosecha, el valor total ascenderá, creen ellos, á $6,000,000 próximamente.

LOS BOSQUES PETRIFICADOS DE ARIZONA.

En la parte noroeste del Condado de Apache en Arizona se encuentra el bosque de árboles petrificados más curioso que se ha descubierto en América y que los biólogos miran como la más notable colección de esta especie que existe en el mundo. Dicho bosque tiene como 8 millas cuadradas de extensión, y en su origen se componía principalmente de abetos. Está situado sobre una meseta que se encuentra á una altura de 5,500 pies sobre el nivel del mar. Está en uno de los parajes más desolados del Oeste, y por muchas millas á su alrededor no existe sino una vegetación muy raquítica. Los árboles, que son de varias formas, se encuentran esparcidos por toda aquella región, y son, en su mayor parte, fragmentos de troncos que yacen en la tierra, aunque algunos conservan su posición vertical. Casi todos están completamente petrificados. Por todo el bosque se encuentran mesetas aquí y allá que contienen grandes trozos de estos árboles; sus tintes varian, y los hay rojos, amarillos, azules y de todos estos colores combinados. Si se les corta por el centro, verticalmente, dejan ver un cambio completo en el interior, que se presenta en forma de ágata, de jaspe y de calcedonia.

Parece indudable que en años pasados los indios que poblaban esta parte de los Estados Unidos se aprovechaban de estos árboles para hacer hachas, cuchillos, etc. La gran belleza de esta madera petrificada ha llamado la atención de muchos industriales que la han usado en lugar de ónix y otros materiales para diversos fines. En la Exposición de Chicago fué muy admirada una colección de artículos hechos de dicho material. También se puede usar como substituto del esmeril. Probablemente lo más notable que existe en el citado bosque es el puente natural, que no es otra cosa que un enorme tronco de árbol que se supone ha permanecido por siglos en el mismo lugar donde cayó. Se han presentado varias teorías acerca de la petrificación

de estos árboles, y una de ellas es que en época muy remota una lluvia de substancias volcánicas sepultó á varias selvas en la parte sudoeste de esta sección de América y que la acción del agua en períodos posteriores produjo los cambios químicos necesarios para efectuar la petrificación.

GRANDES CENTROS DE POBLACIÓN.

Según el censo que en la actualidad se levanta, la población de la ciudad de Nueva York es de 3,437,202 habitantes. El aumento en diez años ha sido, aproximadamente, el 37.9 por ciento. Si se hiciera un censo de los lugares circunvecinos, la población de aquel gran centro ascendería á cosa de 5,000,000 de habitantes. Nueva York es hoy la segunda ciudad del mundo. La población de Chicago es de 1,698,575 habitantes; la de Filadelfia asciende á 1,293,697 habitantes, habiéndose verificado durante los últimos diez años un aumento de 23.57 por ciento. La ciudad de Baltimore cuenta con 508,957 habitantes, y Denver (Colorado) tiene 133,859 habitantes.

AGENCIA NACIONAL DE EMPLEOS.

El Secretario de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos ha establecido una nueva agencia de empleos que dará ocupación á muchos individuos que no la tienen, y que al mismo tiempo, servirá á los agricultores para encontrar trabajadores. Durante los últimos tres años se ha notado escasez de estos trabajadores en las heredades, debido á que muchos de los hombres acostumbrados á los trabajos de campo se han transladado á las ciudades donde hay gran demanda de operarios y donde los salarios son más crecidos. Este estado de cosas ha perjudicado mucho á los agricultores, y el Secretario de Agricultura se ha propuesto salvar la dificultad. Su objeto es fundar una Agencia Nacional de Empleos, á fin de que haya siempre brazos para la labranza. Se ha establecido comunicación con más de 3,000 colegios y escuelas á fin de inquirir respecto del número de estudiantes que están dispuestos á aceptar una colocación en las sementeras durante la cosecha. Se han recibido contestaciones de unas mil instituciones que están dispuestas á facilitar jóvenes para esta clase de empleos.

IMPORTACIÓN DE LANA.

Las importaciones de lana durante el año económico que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900 montaron á 155,918,455 libras, contra 76,736,209 libras en el año económico de 1899.

En los doce meses que terminaron el 30 de junio próximo pasado, se importaron en los Estados Unidos de la América del Sur 22,850,754 libras, contra 10,037,403 libras en el año precedente. Mientras que

las importaciones aumentaron más de un 100 por ciento en cuanto á la cantidad, el valor aumentó más de 200 por ciento. Este gran aumento sólo puede explicarse por la extraordinaria demanda que hubo á principios de año, que dió por resultado el alza de los precios.

En el año económico que terminó el 30 de junio último, los Estados Unidos exportaron 2,200,309 libras de lana, contra 1,683,419 libras en el año precedente.

COMERCIO DE FLORES.

Existen más de 9,000 personas en los Estados Unidos que se dedican al comercio de flores, y el capital invertido en esa industria es de $11,250,000. El estado de Nueva York tiene 1,200 establecimientos, el de Illinois 800 y el de Ohio 680. El Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos calcula que se venden anualmente en este país 100,000,000 de rosas, valoradas en $9,000,000. El comercio de claveles es también muy grande y representa un valor de $4,000,000. En cuanto á las violetas se venden por valor de $750,000 cada año y de crisantemos no mucho menos de $500,000.

LA PRODUCCIÓN DE ALGODÓN EN 1900.

La Convención de los Estados productores de algodón, que se verificó en la ciudad de Raleigh, Carolina del Norte, publicó con fecha 30 de agosto próximo pasado, un informe relativo á la cosecha de algodón para 1900. Según dicho informe, que fué preparado con datos obtenidos de todos los Estados y Territorios que producen algodón, la cosecha de 1900–1901 será como sigue: Alabama, 221,000 pacas; Arkansas, 809,000; Florida, 30,000; Georgia, 1,025,000; el Territorio Indio, 210,000; Luisiana, 603,000; Mississippi, 843,000; Missouri, 30,000; Carolina del Norte, 925,000; el Territorio de Oklahoma, 100,000; Carolina del Sur, 801,000; Tennessee, 285,000; Texas, 3,300,000; Virginia, 13,000; otros lugares 500; gran total, 9,364,500 pacas.

COMBINACIONES INDUSTRIALES.

En el Boletín No. 29 del Departamento del Trabajo de los Estados Unidos se publican los resultados obtenidos de un estudio hecho de las operaciones de esta clase de sociedades. El objeto de este estudio fué averiguar qué cantidad de acciones autorizadas había sido emitida, y su valor con relación al del establecimiento. Asimismo se tuvo en mira descubrir qué sueldos se pagaban antes y cuáles después de la formación de dichas sociedades, comparados con los que se pagan por las Compañías de ferrocarril, agricultores, etc. También se hizo un examen de los precios de muchos artículos, á fin de mostrar hasta qué grado habían sido afectados por la formación de dichas corporaciones. Los datos

obtenidos ponen de manifiesto el hecho de que la combinación de capitales tiende á aumentar los sueldos y á hacer más eficaz el trabajo de los operarios.

LA CRÍA DE OVEJAS.

En un artículo sobre la cría de ovejas, publicado en el "Ainslee's Magazine," el Capitán J. H. McClintock llama la atención al hecho de que esta industria ha pasado de la parte central del oeste á las mesetas que quedan entre las Montañas Roqueñas y la Sierra Madre. El estado de Ohio era antes el primero de la Unión para la cría de ovejas, y ahora ocupa el cuarto lugar, aunque hay cerca de 3,000,000 de cabezas pastando en sus llanuras. El territorio de Nuevo México es el que ocupa hoy el primer lugar, pues contiene más de 4,000,000 de ovejas; el estado de Montana tiene casi igual cantidad; Oregón, California y Texas tienen cosa de 2,000,000 cada uno.

Uno de los hechos más interesantes á que el autor se refiere es que una tribu de indios, los Navajos, es un factor importante en el mercado de lana de los Estados Unidos. La única industria á que se dedican los 22,000 indios que pertenecen á esta tribu es al cuidado de sus rebaños y á la manufactura de frazadas, que gozan de gran reputación.

VALOR DE LA SEMILLA DEL ALGODÓN.

En un artículo últimamente publicado en la revista intitulada "Forum," se asegura que la semilla de algodón es comercialmente más importante que el trigo, y el escritor manifiesta que si bien es verdad que en un tiempo la semilla de algodón tuvo muy poca importancia, hoy por hoy parece destinada á ocupar el primer lugar entre todas las semillas.

La semilla de algodón no ha figurado en los mercados como debería, á pesar de que tiene un valor intrínseco igual á la mitad del del algodón mismo cuando se dedica á ciertos usos.

MANUFACTURA DE LÁPICES.

El centro de la industria de lápices en Alemania es Baviera, que en los últimos tiempos ha estado por completo dependiente de los Estados Unidos para la madera que se necesita en la fabricación de este artículo. El cedro de Virginia y el de Florida son los más á propósito para hacer lápices. Desde que esta industria se ha desarrollado en gran escala en los Estados Unidos, la demanda de cedro ha aumentado rápidamente. Á pesar de que los salarios que se pagan en Alemania son muy bajos, los lápices de segunda clase hechos en los Estados Unidos casi han suplantado por completo al artículo alemán, debido á que los alemanes no disponen de la maquinaria con que cuentan los

americanos. En la manufactura de lápices finos Alemania aun puede competir con los Estados Unidos. El valor de los lápices exportados por Alemania en 1899 fué solamente de $125,000.

INMENSA PRODUCCIÓN DE HARINA.

La ciudad de Minneapolis es el primer centro harinero de los Estados Unidos. Según las estadísticas publicadas en dicha ciudad, la producción en el año que terminó el 1° de septiembre de 1900 ha excedido á cuantas le han precedido. Durante los doce meses que transcurrieron desde el 1° de septiembre de 1899 al 31 de agosto de 1900, la producción total de harina en Minneapolis fué de 14,500,000 barriles, contra 14,291,400 barriles en el año precedente.

UN GRAN FERROCARRIL.

El último informe anual del "New York Central R. R.," que acaba de publicarse, es mucho más minucioso é interesante que los anteriores. Este sistema ferroviario comprende 2,281 millas, sin incluir el Chesapeake & Ohio R. R., que pertenece tanto al Pennsylvania R. R. como al New York Central. El informe versa únicamente sobre este último. Las entradas totales durante el año que terminó el 30 de junio en la parte del sistema que queda al este de Búfalo, ascendieron á $54,562,951, ó sea un aumento de $6,438,935 sobre el año anterior. Los gastos de operación durante el año montaron á $34,051,586, ó sea un aumento de $3,880,429 sobre el año precedente. Las ganancias netas fueron de $20,511,365, lo cual representa un aumento de $2,558,506 sobre el año anterior. Hubo un aumento notable en el tráfico de pasajeros, que se atribuye á la prosperidad general del país. Dicho tráfico este verano fué el más grande que se registra en la historia del ferrocarril, pues, según el informe arriba citado, se transportaron 2,826,336 pasajeros más que en el año precedente. El aumento en las entradas por concepto de pasajeros fué de $1,583,779 más que en el año anterior.

TABACO DE LA FLORIDA.

El tabaco de la Florida es, después del de Cuba y Sumatra, el mejor para la manufactura de cigarros. Existen en Florida dos clases de tabaco: una que fué traída de Cuba y la otra de Sumatra. La semilla traída de Cuba ha conservado la apariencia y tamaño originales después de varias cosechas, pero la de Sumatra ha tomado el aspecto de la semilla cubana. El tabaco de Cuba que se cultiva en la Florida se usa especialmente para tripa, y se parece mucho al importado de aquella isla, aunque no ha sido posible obtener aún el sabor y aroma del buen tabaco cubano. El tabaco de Sumatra que crece en la Florida se

emplea especialmente para capa y se parece mucho al importado en el tamaño de la hoja, en la figura y en su apariencia general. Es muy delgado y elástico, y dos libras bastan para hacer las capas de 1,000 cigarros. Esta clase de tabaco, cuando es escogido, se vende á $3 y hasta $4 por libra.

TRATADO CON LA GRAN BRETAÑA.

El 18 de agosto último el Departamento de Estado dió publicidad á un tratado celebrado entre los Estados Unidos y la Gran Bretaña, que versa sobre la manera de disponer de la propiedad de los ciudadanos de cada una de dichas naciones que mueran en la otra. El tratado fué firmado en 1899, pero las ratificaciones no se canjearon hasta el mes de julio de 1900.

OBRAS HIDRÁULICAS, FÁBRICAS DE GAS Y ESTABLECIMIENTOS PARA ALUMBRADO ELÉCTRICO.

Entre los numerosos ó interesantes datos estadísticos contenidos en el informe presentado por el Comisionado del Trabajo de los Estados Unidos al Gobierno, el cual ha sido publicado recientemente, figuran los referentes á obras hidráulicas, fábricas de gas y establecimientos de alumbrado eléctrico existentes en el país.

De las 3,326 obras hidráulicas existentes, el 46.27 por ciento es propiedad de particulares y de empresas, y el 53.73 por ciento pertenece á las respectivas ciudades, pueblos ó aldeas donde se hallan ubicadas.

De las 965 fábricas de gas que hay en el país, el 98.55 por ciento es de propiedad particular, perteneciendo el resto á los municipios donde se encuentran.

Hay 3,033 fábricas de alumbrado eléctrico, de las cuales el 84.83 por ciento es de propiedad particular, y el 15.17 por ciento pertenece á los municipios donde están instaladas.

Cerca de un 32 por ciento de las obras hidráulicas de propiedad particular se halla en pueblos ó aldeas de menos de 1,000 habitantes, según el censo tomado en 1890, y el 25 por ciento de las 1,787 que pertenecen á los municipios se encuentra también en poblaciones de igual categoría. De las 951 fábricas de gas particulares ó pertenecientes á corporaciones ó empresas, una tercera parte del uno por ciento se encuentra en pueblos y aldeas de menos de 1,000 habitantes, y de las que son propiedad del municipio ninguna se encuentra situada en lugares con el número de habitantes últimamente señalado. En cuanto á los establecimientos para alumbrado eléctrico, el 9 por ciento, poco más ó menos, de los 2,572 de propiedad particular se encuentra en pueblos ó aldeas de menos de 1,000 habitantes, y como un 9 por ciento de los 460 pertenecientes á los municipios se halla en lugares de igual población.

ESCUELA DE COMERCIO.

La Universidad de Nueva York ha resuelto establecer una escuela de comercio, que será la única de su clase en los Estados Unidos y que ocupará, con relación á dicha Universidad, un lugar semejante al que ocupa la Escuela de Derecho de la misma.

Habrá en dicha escuela mercantil un curso de derecho internacional, con objeto de preparar jóvenes para el servicio consular. El establecimiento de esta escuela se debe á la tendencia manifiesta de elevar á un nivel más alto la educación comercial.

SISTEMA DE RIEGO EN IDAHO.

Cada día aumenta más el interés por el establecimiento de un sistema de riego en todos los estados del Oeste, pero en ninguno de ellos se han hecho tantos progresos en este sentido durante los últimos años como en el estado de Idaho. Existen en la actualidad en él más de 400 canales, cuya anchura, en el fondo, varía de 10 á 100 pies, y los cuales miden, en su totalidad, más de 2,000 millas de longitud. Es este estado un ejemplo palpable de lo que se puede lograr mediante un buen sistema de riego. De sus 86,000 millas cuadradas, hay dedicadas á la agricultura más de 25,000. Allí se producen todas las clases de trigo, siendo la producción media de 30 *bushels* por acre. En algunas partes del norte del estado la producción ha alcanzado á 100 *bushels* por acre. También se dan con abundancia avena, centeno y cebada, pero los principales productos son heno, trébol y alfalfa.

Hay muy pocas partes del estado donde no existan obras de riego, ó que no estén, por lo menos, en período de construcción. En el condado de Ada las tierras regadas miden 40,000 acres, y las no regadas 135,000; pero esta última cifra va en diminución cada día, estando para terminarse un gran número de canales. Se ha celebrado un contrato para la construcción, durante el verano actual, de canales que puedan regar 20,000 acres de tierra.

Idaho tiene la ventaja de poseer numerosos lagos que pueden utilizarse como base para diferentes sistemas de riego; por ejemplo, Bear Lake, que mide 18 millas de largo por 12 de ancho, alimenta más de veinte canales, cuya extensión total es de más de 200 millas. También se utilizan de igual manera los ríos del estado; del Snake River, que corre de norte a sur por el condado de Bingham, salen 20 canales, algunos de los cuales tienen 40 pies de ancho, y todos juntos miden 360 millas. Las personas que por algún tiempo han vivido en el estado de Idaho sostienen que una extensión de 5 á 6 acres en la vecindad de los canales de riego es suficiente para el sostenimiento de una familia con toda comodidad, si el terreno es propiamente cultivado.

MINAS DE COBRE EN ALASKA.

Se han descubierto en Alaska antiguas minas de cobre, y en la vecindad de éstas se han hallado instrumentos que demuestran que en tiempos prehistóricos una raza distinta de las que hoy existen habitaba el país. Aquella región es tan interesante para el mineralogista como para el arqueólogo. Debido á su clima, sin embargo, Alaska no debe haber sido nunca un país muy populoso, y no se encuentran en él restos de grandes ciudades, como se han encontrado en el estado de Colorado y en los territorios de Arizona y Nuevo México. Aunque hasta la fecha no se han hecho muchos esfuerzos para encontrar cobre en Alaska, no cabe duda que existe en abundancia y que la explotación de esta clase de minas puede llegar á ser en el porvenir una de las más importantes industrias de la citada península.

VENTAJAS QUE Á CALIFORNIA REPORTARÁ UN CANAL POR EL ISTMO.

En el curso de un largo informe á su Gobierno, el Vicecónsul británico en San Francisco dice que todo parece indicar que habrá gran aumento en la población de California, en previsión de la posible construcción de un canal por el Istmo. Entre otras muchas cosas, el Vicecónsul manifiesta que en Los Ángeles se cree que las frutas de California se podrán llevar á Europa en vapores refrigeradores, pagando por ello como una cuarta parte del flete que ahora tienen que pagar por su transportación al mismo punto.

INMIGRACIÓN PORTUGUESA.

El 5 de septiembre de este año el vapor portugués *Península* llegó al puerto de Nueva York con 561 inmigrantes portugueses. Muchos de ellos proceden de las islas Azores, y los empleados de la Oficina de Inmigración opinan que esta clase de inmigrantes es muy conveniente. Una gran parte de ellos se dirigió á los puertos de los estados del nordeste á ocuparse en la industria de la pesca.

COMERCIO DE LAS FILIPINAS.

La Sección de Aduanas y Negocios Insulares del Departamento de la Guerra publicó el 30 de agosto último un resumen relativo al tráfico de las Islas Filipinas durante los ocho meses que terminaron el 28 de febrero de 1900. Por éste se ve que el valor total de las mercancías importadas en ese período fué de $13,634,764, y que de esta suma las que no pagaron derecho representaron un valor de $633,283. El valor total de los derechos recaudados durante el período de ocho meses fué de $2,734,080.

La exportación de mercancías montó á un valor de $9,523,508. El valor total de los impuestos sobre la exportación fué de $286,636. Durante los mencionados ocho meses se importaron $55,549 en oro acuñado de las posesiones británicas en la India, $57,455 de China, y $25,000 de Hongkong. Se importaron también $718,552 en plata de la China, $473,225 de la India inglesa y $274,100 de Hongkong. La importación total de oro y plata acuñados fué de $1,608,871.

La exportación de oro y plata fué como sigue: mineral de oro á la Gran Bretaña, $1,050; oro en barra á Alemania $1,050, y á China $78,705. Oro acuñado: á España $12,524, á China $534,076, á los Estados Unidos $63,000, á la Gran Bretaña $13,250 y á Hongkong $244,395. La exportación de plata acuñada fué la siguiente: á China $511,931, á la India inglesa $25,135, á los Estados Unidos $50,000, á España $30,511 y á Hongkong $20,750. La plata en barra exportada á China representó un valor de $6,039.

La importación de los diferentes países durante el citado período fué como sigue: de las naciones europeas $5,707,331, de los Estados Unidos $969,669, de los países de Asia $8,055,162, de la Oceanía $510,-462 y de África $1,011, todo lo cual arroja un total, incluyendo el oro y la plata, de $15,243,635.

Las exportaciones fueron las siguientes: á Europa $3,949,278, á los Estados Unidos y el Canadá $2,303,162, á la América del Sur $1,010, á los países del Asia $4,481,016, á Oceanía $316,466, al África $64,992, todo lo cual arroja un gran total, incluyendo el oro y la plata, de $11,115,924. De un examen hecho de la importación se ve que la China ocupa el primer lugar, el Reino Unido el segundo, España el tercero, la India inglesa el cuarto, Hongkong el quinto y los Estados Unidos el sexto. En cuanto á la exportación de las Filipinas la cantidad mayor va á la Gran Bretaña; viene en segundo lugar la China, en tercero los Estados Unidos, en cuarto España, en el quinto Japón y en el sexto Hongkong.

MADERAS DE LAS FILIPINAS.

Las maderas de las Filipinas están llamando la atención como fuente posible de un tráfico lucrativo. Existen en aquellas islas inmensas cantidades de maderas de tinte y de ebanistería. Un corresponsal del "New York Sun" asegura que dichas maderas no tienen rival en el mundo, y asegura que hay más de cincuenta variedades entre ellas, todas susceptibles de ser pulidas con la brillantez del acero. La llamada *acle* por los hijos del país es, según se dice, más hermosa que la caoba ó que el palo de rosa. Hay también ébano y otro árbol á que se da el nombre de *alintato*. Se encuentran cantidades inmensas de maderas suaves ó de mediana dureza, y según el corresponsal ya citado, hay en aquellas islas la mejor madera que se conoce para la construccion de buques.

LA EXPOSICIÓN PAN-AMERICANA.

Los empresarios de la Exposición Pan-Americana que se celebrará en Búfalo, New York, del 1° de mayo al 1° de setiembre de 1901, acaban de publicar un folleto de 50 páginas, profusamente ilustrado, referente al plan general y á los propósitos á que obedece la Exposición. El Director General, Mr. BUCHANAN, ha dado una circular informando que Mr. MARK BENNITT, de Búfalo, New York, es el Superintendente del Departamento de Publicaciones, á quien deben dirigirse todos los que deseen informes acerca de la Exposición.

GUATEMALA.

DOS DECRETOS IMPORTANTES.

"El Guatemalteco," periódico oficial de la República de Guatemala, publica, en su edición de 31 de julio de 1900, los dos importantes decretos que á continuación se insertan:

"La Asamblea Nacional Legislativa de la República de Guatemala, Decreta:

"ARTÍCULO 1°. El Ejecutivo, por el órgano que corresponde, dictará las disposiciones y llevará á efecto los arreglos necesarios á fin de que, sin pérdida de tiempo, se proceda á la acuñación de moneda fraccionaria de níquel, bien sea en la Casa Nacional de Moneda, ó por contratos con particulares ó sociedades nacionales ó extranjeras, en cantidad suficiente para las necesidades del comercio, la industria y la agricultura.

"ART. 2°. La moneda fraccionaria de níquel se acuñará en piezas de un cuartillo, medio y un real, que llevará en el anverso el escudo de armas de la República y en el reverso su valor.

"ART. 3°. El Ejecutivo fijará la aleación de los metales, el tamaño y peso de las monedas, determinando la proporción en que deban acuñarse las de cada valor.

"ART. 4°. Ninguna persona ni oficina fiscal ó municipal está obligada á recibir más de cinco pesos en monedas de níquel en los pagos que no excedan de cien pesos. De esta suma en adelante, será obligatorio recibir el cinco por ciento de la cantidad objeto del pago.

"ART. 5°. Tan pronto como se restablezca el cambio de los Billetes de Banco por plata, el Ejecutivo dispondrá el retiro de la circulación de la moneda de níquel de que trata esta ley, substituyéndola por plata efectiva, ó señalará renta para una amortización que no baje del veinte y cinco por ciento anual de la cantidad circulante en níquel.

"ART. 6°. Se autoriza al Ejecutivo para hacer los gastos que demanda la ejecución de la presente ley."

"El Presidente Constitucional de la República de Guatemala, Considerando:

"Que por decreto legislativo número 455, de 28 de marzo del año en curso, la Representación Nacional tuvo á bien facultar al Poder Ejecutivo para que, ya en la casa Nacional de Moneda, ya por contratos con particulares ó sociedades nacionales ó extranjeras, se procediera á la acuñación de moneda fraccionaria de níquel en la cantidad suficiente para llenar las necesidades de la circulación:

"Que la escasez de la moneda fraccionaria de plata ha venido acentuándose cada día más, entorpeciéndose por tal motivo las pequeñas transacciones necesarias al ensanche del comercio, la industria y la agricultura, y dando lugar á serios abusos que se cometen al favor de la circulación de considerable cantidad de fichas y otros signos representativos de valores que no prestan garantía alguna, ni son convertibles en moneda de curso legal; Por tanto:

"En cumplimiento de lo dispuesto por la Asamblea Nacional Legislativa, Decreta:

"ARTÍCULO 1°. Autorízase por ahora la emisión de dos millones de pesos en moneda fraccionaria de níquel, y en la proporción siguiente: $1,200,000 en monedas de 1 real, $600,000 en monedas de medio real, $200,000 en monedas de cuarto real.

"ART. 2°. La moneda de 1 real tendrá 21 milímetros de diámetro, con peso de 405 centígramos, y con cordoncillo en el canto; llevará grabada en el anverso el escudo de armas de la República, y en números el año de la acuñacion; en el reverso se esculpirá una figura representativa de la 'Libertad,' con leyenda al rededor de la moneda que diga: 'República de Guatemala,' y al pie de la figura el valor de la moneda, es decir, 1 real, y más abajo la palabra *níquel*.

"La moneda de medio real tendrá 18½ milímetros de diámetro y 238 centígramos de peso, y será grabada del mismo modo que la anterior, con la única diferencia de la expresión del valor, ó sea medio real, y más abajo llevará también la palabra *níquel*.

"La moneda de cuartillo real tendrá 13¼ milímetros de diámetro y 108 centígramos de peso, y además de cordoncillo en su canto, presentará grabado en el anverso un adorno de tres volcanes á continuación el uno del otro, y al pie de ellos, en números, el año de la acuñación, ó sea 1900. En el reverso se marcará su valor, cuarto real, y más abajo la palabra *níquel*.

"ART. 3°. La aleación del metal será de 75 por ciento de níquel.

"ART. 4°. La tolerancia de peso más ó menos aproximada será de 20 milígramos para la moneda de cuarto real, y de 30 milígramos para las monedas de medio real y de un real.

"La tolerancia en la ley y finura del metal será de tres milésimos para todas las clases de moneda.

"ART. 5°. Con las limitaciones que establece el artículo 4° del antes citado decreto legislativo No. 455, de 28 de marzo de este año, la moneda de níquel de que se ha venido haciendo mérito será de curso legal en las transacciones, y obligatorio, en tal virtud, su recibo."

MÉXICO.

CONFERENCIA INTERNACIONAL AMERICANA

El "Diario Oficial," en su edición de 18 de agosto próximo pasado publica la circular dirigida por la Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores de México á los Ministros de Relaciones Exteriores de las Repúblicas Americanas. La circular, fechada á 15 de agosto de 1900, es como sigue:

"Señor MINISTRO: El Embajador mexicano, al par de todos los representantes americanos en Wáshington, recibió del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos una circular en que se proponía la reunión, tan pronto como fuera practicable, de una segunda Conferencia Internacional Americana, semejante á la que se tuvo en el año 1889, pero ya no en dicha ciudad, sino en alguna otra de las capitales del Nuevo Mundo. Poco después, el Honorable Secretario de Estado dió á conocer á nuestro Embajador, en una conversación, la complacencia con que su Gobierno vería que la ciudad de México fuese elegida como sitio á propósito para la reunión proyectada.

"Al dárseme cuenta de esa conversación, cumplí con un deber manifestando, en nombre del Presidente de la República, que si la mayoría de los Gobiernos interesados elegía esta Capital para la Conferencia, nos causaría el mayor placer y apreciaríamos como una honra la visita de los Delegados que enviaran nuestras hermanas Repúblicas de América; pero que si para tan interesante Congreso era designada otra ciudad, cualquiera que fuese, con gusto enviaríamos allá á nuestros Delegados.

"Por fin la mayoría de los representantes americanos acreditados en Wáshington, siguiendo las instrucciones de sus respectivos Gobiernos, señaló esta Capital para el expresado objeto; señalamiento que agradecemos como una honrosa distinción, la cual, si bien no fué solicitada, es recibida con el mayor aprecio y con sentimientos verdaderamente fraternales.

"Poco diré acerca del objeto de una asamblea que ofrece tan notorio interés, porque sus fines trascendentales quedaron explicados ampliamente en 1889, así por la convocatoria como por las actas y las numerosas publicaciones á que dió margen. Además, me permito acompañar el programa de los asuntos que en ella han de tratarse, aprobado por las mismas personas á que antes me he referido. Baste decir que todas las materias que en él se tocan son, á no dudarlo, de la mayor importancia para la buena inteligencia y fraternales relaciones entre las Repúblicas á quienes concierne.

"De seguro que la Conferencia próxima no podrá discutir todas y cada una de esas materias, al menos si, fuera de las designadas como principales, se quisiera abarcar las simplemente aludidas y que se refieren á cuantas dejó sin resolver la primera Conferencia, ó que de

algún modo quedaron pendientes después de sus trabajos. Mas por pocas que fueren las que ahora queden resueltas, las decisiones de la asamblea, una vez que fielmente se practiquen, constituirán otros tantos pasos avanzados en el camino de la armonía entre los pueblos del mundo de Colón; morales adelantos que podrán servir de ejemplo á los demás pueblos, mostrándoles de bulto los beneficios de la verdadera y hasta ahora puramente ideal fraternidad humana.

"Por más que un pesimismo desconsolador declare inútiles los esfuerzos dirigidos á realizar entre los hombres el predominio de la justicia y la proscripción de la fuerza como substituto del derecho, es preciso convenir en que la afirmación constante de sanas teorías y su sanción oficial por los Gobiernos, mediante convenios ó declaraciones en común que moralmente los obliguen, siquiera falte el medio de compelerlos á su observancia, irán labrando una opinión tan poderosa que acabe por extirpar los abusos más arraigados, como ha sucedido con la esclavitud y otras aberraciones que parecían baluartes inexpugnables para la razón y la filosofía. Y en verdad que, para llegar á esa común inteligencia, para sancionar esos convenios, ó preparar al menos su sanción, no hay otro medio más adecuado que las conferencias ó congresos en que se discuta libremente, en que todos y cada uno de los delegados, con igual derecho, puedan defender sus opiniones, trayendo su contingente de saber y de sentimiento en pro del bien general.

"Por otra parte, en una reunión como la que se proyecta se cultivarán y fortalecerán de nuevo las simpatías que nos inspiran mutuamente la comunidad, ya sea de lengua y de raza, ya sea de instituciones políticas, hoy sustancialmente idénticas en las naciones de este hemisferio; y sin la pretención de formar un mundo aparte, no olvidando que la civilización nos vino de Europa y que los grandes intereses de la humanidad son unos, nos permitiremos reconocer que en América hay intereses especiales y vínculos más estrechos entre sus habitantes, con menos complicaciones internacionales para alcanzar el bien de los pueblos. Esta consideración, prudentemente aplicada, nos llevará á resultados que á nadie ofendan ni nos pongan en conflicto con los derechos de nadie, porque hemos de inspirarnos en los dictados de la justicia y en la más completa noción de la libertad, lejos de todo exclusivismo, ya sea de lengua, de religión ó de origen.

"Confiando en que estas ideas hallarán un eco en los sentimientos de ese ilustrado Gobierno, tengo la honra de dirigirme á Vuestra Excelencia, por acuerdo del Presidente de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos, invitando al Gobierno de ——— para enviar sus Delegados á la Segunda Conferencia Internacional Americana, que se reunirá en esta ciudad el 22 de octubre de 1901, asegurándole desde ahora que su delegación recibirá la más cordial bienvenida.

"Con este motivo me complazco en protestar á Vuestra Excelencia mi más distinguida consideración.

"Ignacio Mariscal."

LA INDUSTRIA AZUCARERA.

Con este lema aparece en el periódico "El Tiempo," de la capital de México, el siguiente interesante artículo:

"En un lapso de tiempo verdaderamente corto, pues apenas puede estimarse en dos años todo lo más, se ha desarrollado un extraordinario entusiasmo por la industria azucarera y, sobre todo, en estos últimos meses casi no ha pasado una semana sin que se tenga que dar cuenta de la constitución de compañías para emprender en gran escala la fructífera explotación del azúcar en todas las regiones del país que son, por su climatología, favorables á los plantíos de caña, pues aun no se generaliza aquí el empleo de la remolacha, cuyo cultivo requiere determinadas tierras.

"Y no sólo son compañías poderosas las que se están dedicando á la referida explotación, pues que muchos propietarios de haciendas en las zonas adecuadas están impulsando poderosamente esa industria y los antiguos sistemas de trapiches son substituídos por modernas maquinarias.

"En estos últimos días ha estado llegando de los Estados Unidos una magnífica maquinaria, destinada á la Hacienda de San José Purúa, ubicada en el distrito de Zitácuaro, propiedad del conocido capitalista español Don Facundo Pérez.

"Esa maquinaria, según tenemos informes, cuesta al Señor Perez algo más de $100,000 y quedará completamente instalada en estos meses, por manera que llegada la época de la próxima zafra, esto es, en diciembre ó enero, la molienda de esa cosecha se hará ya en la nueva maquinaria."

ESTADÍSTICA FISCAL.

Con este título publica "El Tiempo," de la ciudad de México, un cuadro comparativo de las importaciones efectuadas durante el mes de mayo en los años de 1899 y 1900. Por dicho cuadro se ve que la diferencia á favor de mayo de 1900 fué de $1,011,661. Al tratar del desarrollo que ha tenido en México el comercio exterior, el mencionado diario se expresa de este modo:

"El año fiscal pasado es notable en nuestra historia financiera por los grandes totales que nuestro comercio exterior arroja en la balanza comercial del país; en ningún año de los corridos desde nuestra emancipación política había sido tan considerable el movimiento comercial como en ése, y si dispusiéramos de tiempo, habríamos hecho un estudio de lo que era ese comercio en 1822, primero de nuestra independencia, y de lo que es en éste, último del siglo XIX. De este estudio se hubiera visto gráficamente el largo camino recorrido por nuestra patria durante los setenta y nueve años que lleva de ocupar el rango de nación soberana."

CONCESIÓN DE PATENTES DE PRIVILEGIO DE INVENCIÓN.

El Gobierno ha concedido á la Goodson Graphotype Company una patente de privilegio por veinte años por mejoras introducidas en maquinaria para componer, fundir y parar tipo, invención del Señor GEORGE ARTHUR GOODSON, quien la cedió á la expresada Compañía. Ésta tendrá el exclusivo derecho de usar en toda la república por el período mencionado las expresadas mejoras.

También ha concedido el Gobierno patente de privilegio por veinte años á los Señores JOSEF FRANZ BACHMAN y ADOLF VOGT por un nuevo sistema de "resistencias eléctricas de piedra artificial, que sirven tanto como aparatos eléctricos de calefacción como para regular las corrientes eléctricas." Por dicha patente se asegura á los mencionados señores el derecho exclusivo de usar en toda la república su expresado sistema.

COMERCIO DE TABACO.

Dice el periódico "Las Novedades" que hace tiempo se inició el comercio en grande de tabaco entre México y Alemania, y que la propaganda asume al presente grandes proporciones que prometen mucho para los cosecheros mexicanos. En los últimos informes recibidos se anuncia que las entradas de tabaco mexicano en las aduanas alemanas en los meses de abril y mayo fueron superiores en más de un 30 por ciento á las de febrero y marzo del corriente año. Ha aumentado mucho la exportación de tabaco en rama y la de cigarrillos fabricados especialmente para el gusto de los fumadores alemanes.

NUEVA EMPRESA.

La ciudad de Monterrey cuenta hoy con otra nueva empresa. La Compañía de ladrillos prensados, La Unión, dice la "Gaceta Comercial," acaba de comprar maquinaria por valor de 60,000 pesos de la American Clay Manufacturing Company, de Ohio, y fabricará toda clase de ladrillos para construcción, de lujo, tubos de cloacas, etc. La planta de la Compañía estará situada á tres millas de Monterrey, esperándose esté terminada para principios del otoño.

ESTADÍSTICA POSTAL.

El ingreso total en el ramo de correos en el año económico de 1899–1900 fué de $1,557,539.93. De esta suma $1,532,787.56 corresponden á las ventas de timbres postales. El resto lo componen las sumas parciales correspondientes á apartados, multas, giros postales, etc.

Los ingresos postales del año económico que acaba de terminar han superado á los del año económico precedente en $247,553.25.

MÉXICO EN PARÍS.

"La Semana Mercantil," de la ciudad de México, publica en su número del 27 de agosto próximo pasado un telegrama recibido de París anunciando que los expositores mexicanos en la Exposición han sido en su mayor parte premiados. El número total de premios otorgados fué de 1,078: 29 grandes premios, 112 medallas de oro, 244 medallas de plata, 341 medallas de bronce y 352 menciones honoríficas.

El éxito extraordinario que México ha alcanzado en la Exposición de París viene á demostrar nuevamente que durante la era de paz de que viene gozando ha sabido conquistarse un puesto meritorio entre las naciones civilizadas del mundo, alcanzando un grado de adelanto y cultura envidiables.

NOTICIAS MINERAS.

Anuncia el periódico "El Nacional," que ve la luz pública en la capital de México, que en Chihuahua los avances de las obras de ferrocarriles continúan llevando multitud de exploradores mineros que están altamente satisfechos con las riquezas que á cada paso encuentran en la Sierra Madre. En Durango también el ferrocarril ha atraído muchos exploradores, que con más ó menos suerte continúan en los descubrimientos. En Coahuila las famosas minas de Bajan están llevando á aquella parte del país numerosos capitalistas. Zacatecas, San Luís y Guanajuato siguen produciendo muy bien y dando buenas ganancias. Hidalgo ha entrado también en un período de prosperidad, lo cual hace esperar que pronto recobrará su antigua bonanza.

PERÚ.

MENSAJE DEL PRESIDENTE DE LA REPÚBLICA EN LA INSTALACIÓN DEL CONGRESO ORDINARIO DE 1900.

De este notable documento se toman los siguientes párrafos:

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Acogiendo la recomendación contenida en el último Mensaje presentado al Congreso de los Estados Unidos de América, por el Excmo. Señor McKinley, para la reunión de una segunda Conferencia Internacional Americana, hemos aceptado concurrir á ella en la ciudad de México. Muy provechosos serán, ciertamente, los acuerdos de tan importante asamblea, llamada á extender y á normalizar las relaciones políticas y comerciales entre los Estados del Continente.

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Á pesar del movimiento revolucionario, que ha debido herir necesariamente al crédito del país y limitar las transacciones comerciales, el estado económico de éste no deja de ser satisfactorio.

Durante el año de 1898 el movimiento comercial del Perú fué por valor de S. 82,052,621.40, en 1899 S. 79,762,413.87; saldo á favor de 1898, S. 2,290,207.53. Esta diferencia afecta sólo al cabotaje, que ha disminuído en S. 2,179,019.21, á consecuencia de los trastornos públicos.

La exportación, que en el año de 1898 fué de S. 30,274,775.89, en 1899 llegó á S. 30,725,910.99, dando un saldo á favor de 1899 de S. 451,135.10.

La importación en 1898 fué por valor de S. 19,297,272.13, en 1899 de S. 18,734,948.71; diferencia, S. 562,323.42.

En las anteriores cifras no está contenido el comercio de Iquitos, que subió en el año de 1899 á S. 5,384,634.89.

La exportación de minerales acusa un estado floreciente en la minería. El año de 1899 ha sido por valor de S. 10,667,012.32, en 1898 S. 9,481,214.44, aumento en 1899, S. 1,185,798.88.

Tan poderoso desarrollo de la riqueza minera se hace todavía más patente comparando el movimiento del puerto del Callao durante el semestre primero del año en curso, con igual período del 1899. En el primer semestre de aquel año se exportó metal por valor de S. 3,363,245.26. En igual período del año en curso se han exportado S. 6,823,041; diferencia á favor del semestre de 1900: S. 3,459,795.74.

La industria azucarera progresa también rápidamente. En la exportación de ese producto hay un aumento de S. 882,537.09 á favor de 1899.

Notable es el aumento de nuestro comercio con los Estados Unidos de América. La exportación de azúcar para aquel país fué en 1898 de 14,196,352 kilos; en 1899 subió á 38,388,876.50 kilos, ó sea un aumento de 24,192,524.50 kilos.

El comercio general con la misma gran República fué:

	Soles.
En 1896	3,089,134.21
En 1897	3,040,150.41
En 1898	4,951,902.43
En 1899	7,329,641.52

El patrón oro ha quedado permanentemente establecido en nuestro sistema monetario. Muchos son, sin duda, los servicios prestados á la nación por el eminente hombre de estado que ocupó este elevado puesto en el último período, pero bastaría para enaltecer su período de mando, el haber implantado sobre sólidas bases medida de tanta trascendencia.

En el último semestre la introducción de oro al mercado ha aumentado en casi un 80 por ciento sobre la suma introducida anteriormente desde el año de 1896. Tomando en cuenta las existencias de los bancos, resulta un total de casi S. 6,000,000 que han ingresado en los últimos tres años á nuestro mercado.

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La nación ha entrado en un período de actividad industrial digno de aplauso, protección y estímulo. Á la sombra bienhechora de la paz progresan todas las antiguas sociedades de crédito y empresas industriales y de minas, y se forman otras nuevas con grandes capitales. Hay confianza marcada en la estabilidad del orden, y aumenta rápidamente la riqueza pública.

En la región amazónica se ha despertado gran actividad y se han formado numerosas empresas para explorar aquellas vírgenes regiones y explotar sus ricos y variados productos.

Se abren en todas direcciones nuevos caminos, entre ellos algunos de colosales dimensiones, como el de las minas de Santo Domingo y el que debe unir el puerto de Paita con el Pongo de Mauseriche, distante á pocos días de navegación de Iquitos, y el de Sicuani al Inambari.

El Gobierno, dando al problema de colonización de la región de Oriente su verdadera importancia, ha prestado entusiasta y decidido concurso á aquellas empresas, que en breve han de abrir al país nuevas y abundantes fuentes de riqueza.

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Se halla muy adelantada la construcción de los nuevos muelles de Casma, Salaverry y Tambo de Morra; el material que debe servir para el de Huacho está en camino, y se ha otorgado concesión para construir el de Chimbote. El muelle de Pisco y otros que se encuentran en malas condiciones serán próximamente reparados conforme á los estudios que se han practicado.

El Gobierno ha mandado á hacer estudios detenidos para la obra de conducción de agua potable para la ciudad del Cuzco, que no tiene en la abundancia necesaria tan preciso elemento. Si diferentes circunstancias no han permitido atender á las necesidades de aquella histórica y benemérita ciudad, pido muy especialmente á la Representación Nacional que permita remediar siquiera la más apremiante de ellas, votando en el Presupuesto la suma calculada, ya que su propia Municipalidad carece de los recursos precisos para emprenderla por su cuenta.

Está en estudios la construcción del rompe-olas de Mollendo, obra decretada por el Congreso de 1895, y cuya importancia no es necesario demostrar, desde que son demasiado conocidos, por desgracia, los inconvenientes que presenta el segundo puerto de la República y que sirve también para las importaciones de una sección importante de Bolivia. Con la citada obra no sólo serán obviados los inconvenientes señalados, sino que también se logrará atraer hacia los ferrocarriles del Sur siquiera una parte del tráfico que por otros caminos se desvía.

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NUEVO MINISTRO ACREDITADO EN WÁSHINGTON.

El 18 del mes próximo pasado fué recibido oficialmente por el Presidente McKinley el Señor Don Manuel Alvares Calderón,

Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario del Perú en los Estados Unidos. Al poner en manos del Señor Presidente sus credenciales el diplomático peruano pronunció el siguiente discurso:

"Señor PRESIDENTE: S. E. el Presidente del Perú, deseando cultivar y estrechar los vínculos de amistad que felizmente existen entre esta noble nación y mi patria, me ha hecho el alto honor de nombrar me Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario cerca del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos de Norte América.

"Me consideraré muy dichoso si para el desempeño de tan gratos deberes puedo contar con la buena voluntad de V. E. y con la colaboración de su ilustre Secretario de Estado.

"Al entregarle estas mis credenciales, permítame V. E. decirle que el pueblo y el Gobierno del Perú hacen los más sinceros votos por la prosperidad de los Estados Unidos y por la ventura personal de V. E."

El Presidente MCKINLEY contestó al Ministro de la manera siguiente:

"Señor MINISTRO: Con placer recibo de vuestras manos la carta autógrafa del Señor Presidente del Perú que os acredita en el carácter de Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario cerca del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos.

"Grato me será daros mi más cordial cooperación para todo aquello que tienda á mantener y estrechar las amistosas relaciones que existen entre los Estados Unidos y el Perú. Correspondo cordialmente á los buenos deseos del pueblo y Gobierno del Perú, y espero que continúen gozando de los beneficios de la paz y de la prosperidad."

URUGUAY.

LOS ABONOS QUÍMICOS Y EL PORVENIR DE LA HORTICULTURA.

Con este título publica la "Revista de Agronomía y Ciencias Aplicadas," publicación mensual que ve la luz en Asunción, capital de la República del Paraguay, un artículo muy instructivo, obra del Doctor MOISÉS S. BERTONI, Director de la Escuela de Agricultura de aquella ciudad, de la que es órgano la mencionada revista.

Dice el Doctor BERTONI que el Paraguay dista aún mucho de la época en que sus tierras tendrán necesidad de abonos químicos y en que será conveniente la aplicación de éstos. Apoya su aserción en las razones siguientes: 1ª. Que la gran mayoría de los terrenos de labor posee todavía suficiente fertilidad para resistir largos años de cultivo, agregando que la extensión de los terrenos incultos es tan grande que para muchas generaciones habrán tierras vírgenes con que sustituir á las agotadas. 2ª. Que el precio de los abonos químicos es muy elevado, y los fletes muy altos. Según el autor, si el cultivo de las tierras vírgenes de aquella República se hiciera conforme á los métodos dicta-

dos por la ciencia, podrían conservarse, con su actual fertilidad, por un tiempo ilimitado. Además, muchas tierras medio agotadas pueden recuperar toda ó una buena parte de su antigua exuberancia mediante los aludidos métodos.

He aquí como se expresa el Señor BERTONI, después de haber expuesto lo que antecede:

"Sin embargo, toda regla tiene su excepción. Y existen cultivos en los que la aplicación de abonos químicos es conveniente desde el punto de vista del producto líquido, cuando las circunstancias exigen el aprovechamiento de terrenos de segunda ó tercera clase. Me refiero, sobre todo, á la horticultura y á la arboricultura, no olvidando algún otro cultivo."

Más adelante, al tratar de los abonos químicos, el escritor dice lo siguiente:

"Es cierto que esta clase de abonos no se necesita en todos los terrenos; hay parajes donde sin ellos y mediante los abonos comunes se obtienen productos excelentes. Pero esto no basta. Es preciso que lo que se exporte sea de buena calidad, no sólo en parte, sino en todo."

Omite el Doctor BERTONI entrar en detalles para demostrar cuán grande es la influencia de los abonos químicos sobre la producción, cosa de la cual ya no puede caber duda, y asegura que la introducción de dichas substancias en el Paraguay ha dejado de ser impracticable con tal que se trate de un cultivo remunerador y extenso. El nitrato de soda es, según el citado autor, el más importante y eficaz de los abonos que pueden usarse en el Paraguay, y opina que debería introducírsele directamente de Chile, en lugar de comprarlo en los mercados franceses. Luego agrega: "El uso de esta substancia requiere el de algún otro abono fosfatado, cuya aplicación se hace juntamente ó con anticipación. El más común, las escorias Thomas, no cuestan en Europa más de 35 francos por mil kilogramos. En suma, la cantidad necesaria para abonar una hectárea de hortaliza con los dos abonos químicos indicados, no pasaría aquí de $200 á $400."

Cree el Doctor BERTONI que los abonos arriba citados no solamente aumentan la producción, sino que aceleran casi siempre la madurez, por ser muy estimulantes.

Según parece se ha encontrado nitrato de soda en el Chaco, y lo que falta por hacer es verificar si los yacimientos son de suficiente importancia. En ellos puede tener el Paraguay una inmensa riqueza.

VENEZUELA.

CONTRATO TELEGRÁFICO.

"La Gaceta Oficial," de Venezuela, publica en su número correspondiente al 3 de julio próximo pasado un contrato celebrado entre el Gobierno venezolano y la Compañía Francesa de Cables Telegráficos.

El Gobierno concede permiso á dicha Compañía para tender hilos terrestres telegráficos, á fin de enlazar los cables marítimos desde sus garitas de recalada á las oficinas establecidas ó que se establecieren. En vista de las dificultades que se oponen á la colocación del cable submarino entre Carúpano y Ciudad Bolívar por el lecho del río Orinoco, queda obligada la Compañía á colocar un cable subfluvial entre Ciudad Bolívar y Soledad, que será desde luego propiedad nacional, enlazando dicho cable en Soledad á la línea telegráfica nacional que va desde este punto á Barcelona, bajo las condiciones siguientes:

La Compañía hará su servicio cablegráfico por la línea telegráfica nacional que une á Soledad con Barcelona, pagando por ello la tarifa que actualmente paga por los telegramas que trasmite para el interior; es decir, cinco céntimos de bolívar por cada palabra.

La Compañía pagará la mitad de los gastos de reparación y conservación de la línea terrestre de Soledad á Barcelona, y de la subfluvial de Ciudad Bolívar á Soledad. De común acuerdo se fija en 10,000 bolívares anuales el máximum de los gastos de reparación y conservación de las referidas líneas terrestre y subfluvial. Los 5,000 bolívares anuales que corresponde pagar á la Compañía, deberán pagarse á la orden del Ministro de Fomento en cuotas trimestrales anticipadas y á contar desde el 1° de julio próximo pasado.

Ni la concesión ni la contribución á que se refiere este último artículo dan derecho en modo alguno á la Compañía para intervenir en el servicio de la Línea Nacional, teniendo solamente la Compañía el derecho de dirigirse por oficio al Ministro de Fomento, para participarle las interrupciones que puedan ocurrir en la línea.

La Compañía no podrá aumentar ni disminuir la tarifa vigente sin la previa autorización del Gobierno. En el caso de que por interrupción de uno de los cables de la Compañía ésta hiciere uso para asegurar el servicio internacional de los cables de otras Compañías, cobrará según las tarifas de éstas mientras dura la interrupción.

El Gobierno concede á la Compañía una prórroga que vencerá el día último de diciembre del presente año, para tender el cable subfluvial entre Ciudad Bolívar y Soledad, que completará la red costanera de la Compañía.

La Compañía da por recibida del Gobierno nacional la suma de 64,261 bolívares 55 céntimos, que se le adeudaban por cablegramas oficiales dirigidos desde el primer trimestre de 1895 hasta la fecha, quedando saldada toda cuenta que pudiera tener la Compañía con el Gobierno de la República.

EXPORTACIÓN DE GOMA ELÁSTICA.

El periódico "India Rubber World," correspondiente al 1° de septiembre de 1900, refiere que se ha desarrollado mucho interés en

Venezuela en el comercio de la goma elástica. Se dice que el distrito del Amazonas es muy rico en este producto, del cual se han exportado, anualmente, como 100 toneladas. La exportación de este territorio se hace por el sistema fluvial, compuesto del río Orinoco, el Negro y el Amazonas. Se cree que el Gobierno del Brasil está muy ansioso por desarrollar esta nueva línea de tráfico. Ya existen en Venezuela muchas plantaciones de árboles gomeros, que son propiedad de particulares, y se ha formado la Sociedad del Gremio Gomero del Alto Orinoco.

ESTABLECIMIENTO DE UN MUSEO.

El Gobierno venezolano ha celebrado con el Señor Don FEDERICO BAUDER un contrato para el establecimiento en la ciudad de Caracas de un Museo permanente de manufacturas, artefactos y productos europeos. El tenor de dicho contrato es el siguiente:

"ARTÍCULO 1°. FEDERICO BAUDER se compromete á establecer en el plazo de dos años, á contar desde esta fecha, en la ciudad de Caracas, un Museo ó sea una exposición permanente de manufacturas, artefactos y productos europeos, con el propósito de facilitar al comercio y al público en general el estudio comparativo de las manufacturas de aquellos distintos centros de producción, para que pueda elegir los artefactos del país que más convengan por su calidad como por su precio, y á la vez para hacer la propaganda y venta de artefactos y productos de los manufactureros europeos.

"§ 1°. Esta exposición permanente se denominará 'Museo Comercial de Manufacturas Europeas.'

"§ 2°. El Museo Comercial de Manufacturas Europeas podrá establecer museos sucursales en las ciudades de Valencia, Maracaibo, Ciudad Bolívar, Barquisimeto y en las demás de la república que juzgare conveniente.

"ART. 2°. FEDERICO BAUDER se compromete, antes de establecer en Caracas el mencionado Museo, á presentar al Ministerio de Fomento el Reglamento de dicho Museo, para ser sometido á la consideración y aprobación del gobierno nacional.

"ART. 3°. El gobierno nacional concede á FEDERICO BAUDER:

"1°. Permiso para introducir por la aduana de La Guaira libres de derechos arancelarios, y llenando en cada caso las formalidades legales, los objetos que vengan de Europa destinados para servir de muestras y modelos para dicho Museo, así como también los catálogos é impresos para la propaganda, quedando sujetos al pago de los derechos arancelarios los artículos que fueren ofrecidos al consumo, para lo cual tendrá siempre el gobierno nacional el derecho de inspección, por órgano de un fiscal que tendrá á su cargo un inventario por orden alfabético y con precisión de fechas, de los objetos enviados, para los efectos del pago de los derechos arancelarios, en caso de venta.

"§ En el caso de que en las ciudades de Valencia, Maracaibo, Barquisimeto y Ciudad Bolívar se establecieren las sucursales de que trata el § 2° del artículo 1°, se concederán las correspondientes exenciones de derechos arancelarios, por la aduana respectiva, para los objetos que vengan destinados á cada sucursal, en las mismas condiciones indicadas en el número 1° del artículo 3° de este contrato.

"2°. Exención para el mencionado Museo Comercial y sus sucursales de todo impuesto nacional creado ó que se creare por el tiempo de la duración de este contrato, que será de treinta años á contar desde esta fecha; y

"3°. Que por el Ministerio de Fomento se envíe copia impresa de este contrato á los cónsules y vice-cónsules de Venezuela en Europa, para que presten al contratista ó sus cesionarios el más eficaz apoyo moral para con los industriales y manufactureros de sus respectivas jurisdicciones para el establecimiento del Museo Comercial.

"ART. 4°. FEDERICO BAUDER, ó quien lo represente, se obliga á dar aviso oportuno, en cada caso, al Ministerio de Fomento, siempre que se vayan á ofrecer al consumo público los artefactos y manufacturas que hubiesen sido introducidos libres de derechos arancelarios, para que por el Ministerio de Hacienda se ordene el cobro anticipado de los derechos aduaneros que conforme á la ley hayan causado dichos objetos.

"ART. 5°. El Ministerio de Fomento, en su oportunidad, reglamentará la manera de hacer efectiva la inspección y fiscalización que ha de ejercer el Gobierno Nacional sobre los artefactos y manufacturas que se introduzcan para los museos que son motivo de este contrato.

"ART. 6°. El Contratista ó sus cesionarios podrán traspasar este contrato á otra persona ó compañía, previo consentimiento del gobierno nacional, pero en ningún caso á gobierno extranjero; en caso de efectuarse el traspaso queda exonerado el contratista del pago de derechos de registro.

"ART. 7°. Las dudas ó controversias que puedan suscitarse en la inteligencia y ejecución del presente contrato, serán resueltas por los tribunales de la república, conforme á sus leyes, y en ningún caso serán motivo de reclamaciones internacionales."

CREACIÓN DE UN CONCURSO DE CIENCIAS, LETRAS Y BELLAS ARTES EN HOMENAJE AL LIBERTADOR Y PADRE DE LA PATRIA.

La "Gaceta Oficial," órgano del Gobierno venezolano, da publicidad á un decreto cuyo texto se inserta á continuación:

DECRETO:

"ARTÍCULO 1°. Se crea un concurso de Ciencias, Letras y Bellas Artes, que se verificará anualmente el 24 de junio en homenaje al Libertador y Padre de la Patria.

"ART. 2°. En este Concurso se adjudicará un Gran Premio á la mejor obra literaria que verse sobre ciencias, artes ó industrias, considerándose como medio muy atendible para la obtención del premio, el que dichas obras desenvuelvan sus temas desde un punto de vista interesante, por algún respecto, al progreso y cultura del país.

"ART. 3°. Se adjudicarán sendos premios anuales á la mejor obra artística de escultura, pintura y música, y para el mejor proyecto de arquitectura.

"Sólo los nacionales ó los extranjeros que tengan más de seis años de domicilio en el país pueden ofrecer obras al certamen.

"ART. 4°. Oportunamente se ordenará la construcción de un edificio adecuado para la exhibición de las obras á que se refiere este decreto.

"ART. 5°. La fijación de los gastos y demás reglamentación que exija este decreto, se hará por resoluciones especiales del Ministro de Instrucción Pública, quien queda encargado de su cumplimiento."

ACUÑACIÓN DE DOS MILLONES DE BOLÍVARES EN LA CASA DE MONEDA DE PARÍS.

El Presidente de la República de Venezuela ha emitido un decreto disponiendo la acuñación de 2,000,000 de bolívares en monedas de plata del tipo establecido por ley de 9 de julio de 1891.

El total de la acuñación se compone de monedas de las denominaciones siguientes:

De 5 bolívares	900,000
De 2 bolívares	350,000
De 1 bolívar	350,000
De 0.50 bolívar	300,000
De 0.25 bolívar	100,000

El artículo 3° dispone que la circulación de estas monedas será obligatoria para los particulares, en la proporción que establece para la de plata el Aparte único de la ley de 9 de julio de 1891 sobre moneda nacional, y bajo la pena que señala el Artículo 23° de la misma ley.

PRODUCCIÓN DE ORO EN EL MUNDO.

El crecido comercio realizado durante el último año económico en casi todos los países del mundo y, especialmente, en los Estados Unidos, ha sido acompañado de una extraordinaria producción de oro. La Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Hacienda dice en un informe que acaba de publicar, que es un hecho interesante que la actual producción de oro en las Estados Unidos sobrepuja á la de 1853, que fué cuando las minas de California produjeron $65,000,000. En

1899 la producción de oro en los Estados Unidos ascendió á $72,500,000. El promedio anual de la producción de oro en los Estados Unidos es hoy dos veces mayor que el de hace diez años.

La producción en el mundo entero durante los últimos cincuenta años ha sido casi diez veces mayor que la de los cincuenta años precedentes, y más del doble que la de los tres y medio siglos anteriores. El rápido aumento que ha habido en la producción de oro durante los últimos años arroja un total para el medio siglo que termina de $6,665,631,000. La producción de oro en el mundo desde la época del descubrimiento de América hasta el año de 1850 ascendió solamente á $3,129,720,000. Tomando las cifras correspondientes á períodos de medio siglo, desde el año de 1500 hasta 1899, inclusive, la producción de oro ha sido la que se verá en la tabla siguiente, preparada por los Señores GEORGE E. ROBERTS, Director de la Moneda, y Doctor ADOLPH SOETBEER:

1501–1550	$225,580,000
1551–1600	245,580,000
1601–1650	281,840,000
1651–1700	324,440,000
1701–1750	587,580,000
1751–1800	677,240,000
1801–1850	787,460,000
1851–1899	6,665,631,000

Las cantidades producidas por los Estados Unidos y por el resto del mundo durante los últimos cuatro años son las siguientes:

Año.	Estados Unidos.	Otros países.
1896	$53,088,000	$202,251,000
1897	57,363,000	238,812,000
1898	64,463,000	287,428,000
1899	72,500,000	315,000,000
Total	247,414,000	1,043,491,000

PRODUCCIÓN DE CARBÓN DE PIEDRA EN EL MUNDO.

El informe de la Oficina de Estudios Geológicos de los Estados Unidos dice que la producción de carbón de piedra en este país durante el año de 1899 fué como sigue:

	Toneladas.
Antracita	60,514,201
Bituminoso	172,608,917
Total	233,123,118

La producción total de la Gran Bretaña en 1899 fué de 220,085,303 toneladas, ó sea 13,037,815 toneladas menos que la de los Estados Unidos.

La exportación de carbón de los Estados Unidos en 1899 fué la siguiente:

	Toneladas.
Antracita	1,707,796
Bituminoso	4,044,354
Total	5,752,150

Este total muestra que la exportación representó el 2.46 por ciento de la producción.

En cuanto al año económico que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900, la exportación de antracita fué de 1,775,168 toneladas, y la de bituminoso 5,413,438 toneladas, ó sea un total de 7,188,621 toneladas. Esto representó un aumento en ambas clases de 2,136,688 toneladas, ó sea más del 42 por ciento sobre las exportaciones en el año económico que terminó el 30 de junio de 1899.

La exportación de carbón de piedra de la Gran Bretaña en el año de 1891 montó á 41,180,300 toneladas, ó sea el 18.71 por ciento de la producción total. No es, sin embargo, la exportación de carbón de piedra sino su consumo lo que sirve para apreciar la actividad industrial de un país, y en este respecto los Estados Unidos ocupan el primer lugar. El consumo de carbón de piedra en la Gran Bretaña durante el año de 1899 fué de 178,905,000 toneladas, y el de los Estados Unidos subió á 227,370,960 toneladas.

El informe de la Oficina de Estudios Geológicos dice que el carbón bituminoso se está usando más y más en lugar del antracita, y que cada año aumenta su consumo en usos domésticos.

La cuestión del carbón interesa hoy mucho á las naciones de Europa, porque saben que cada día disminuyen las fuentes de donde obtienen este combustible, y, naturalmente, se alarman cuando piensan en las dificultades que á este respecto pueden encontrarse en lo futuro. En Inglaterra hay verdadera ansiedad. Los consumidores del artículo sienten los efectos del elevado precio, y se teme que éste haya de subir tanto, que las fábricas se encontrarán en situación insostenible respecto á la de otros países, principalmente á la de los Estados Unidos, donde el carbón es mucho más abundante.

La producción de la Gran Bretaña puede aumentarse solamente haciendo grandes gastos, debido á la profundidad de donde hay que extraer el carbón. En un tratado que fué sometido últimamente á una Sociedad geológica, se dice que existe una mina cuya profundidad es de 1,903 pies, y otras tres de 1,740, 1,688 y 1,630 pies, respectivamente. Se comprende que en presencia de estas circunstancias, comparadas con las que existen en los Estados Unidos, Inglaterra tema á la competencia de este país.

También en Alemania es muy alto el precio del carbón, lo cual se atribuye, en parte, á la creciente demanda ocasionada por la gran acti-

vidad fabril. Alemania produce 102,000,000 de toneladas de carbón y 34,000,000 de toneladas de lignito, pero esto no es suficiente para las necesidades del país, y se han importado últimamente de Inglaterra 450,000 toneladas cada mes.

Aunque Francia importa de Inglaterra más carbón que antes, trata de encontrar fuentes más baratas de producción, y según dice el Cónsul de los Estados Unidos en Burdeos, se harán investigaciones relativamente al carbón americano. Tanto los ferrocarriles que pertenecen al Gobierno francés como otros tienen ya agentes en los Estados Unidos haciendo dichas investigaciones.

También Rusia, Austria é Italia, países donde la demanda de carbón es muy activa, piensan en los Estados Unidos. La verdad es que todos los países de Europa sienten la carestía de este combustible. Se dice que en Bélgica las fábricas se ven obligadas á suspender sus trabajos durante unos días cada semana debido á la falta de carbón.

Nunca se ha presentado una ocasión mejor que la actual para hacer conocer en Europa el carbón de los Estados Unidos. Ya se han enviado considerables cantidades á los puertos del Mediterráneo, pero aun queda mucho por hacer. La única dificultad con que se tropieza es la de los transportes, pero esta se evitará hasta cierto punto con las medidas que al efecto se han adoptado. Hay ya varios agentes de diferentes compañías americanas en Europa estudiando las condiciones del mercado de carbón en aquel continente, y se espera que esto dará por resultado un aumento notable en la exportación de carbón.

En un discurso pronunciado ante el Victoria Institute, de Londres, el Profesor EDWARD E. HILL recomendó que se impusiera un derecho de exportación al carbón de piedra de 5 chelines por tonelada. Según esta autoridad, la exportación de Inglaterra ascendió á 40,000,000 de toneladas, ó sea una quinta parte del producto de sus minas. Si llegara á hacerse necesaria la imposición de un derecho de exportación tan alto sobre el carbón inglés, casi todos los países del mundo se fijarían en los Estados Unidos como la mejor fuente de dicho combustible.

El "Mining Journal," de Londres, en su edición del 25 de agosto de este año, se expresa en los términos siguientes:

"Á pesar de que se espera que los precios del carbón bajen muy pronto, las cifras actuales no son satisfactorias desde el punto de vista de los intereses de Inglaterra. Sin tomar en cuenta el hecho de que el carbón es la base y sostén de todas nuestras industrias, el alto precio de ese combustible se hace sentir en la mayor parte de las empresas. Aquellos que inviertan su dinero en cualquier clase de acciones encuentran que los dividendos son ya menores, y aunque pueden consolarse con la idea de que el mal es solamente transitorio, no por eso lo dejan de sentir menos. Otra circunstancia alarmante es la de que la condición actual abre amplio campo á la competencia de los Estados Unidos."

Un despacho de Bremen, fechado á 31 de agosto de este año, afirma que la escasez de carbón ha llegado á tal extremo, que el Gobierno desea que se importe este artículo del extranjero y ha reducido los derechos que se le imponían hasta igualarlos con los que pagan el algodón y otros productos en su estado natural.

Anuncian de Berlín con fecha 2 de septiembre, que la carestía de carbón continúa, y que se ha comenzado á usar turba en grande escala. Un periódico de aquella misma capital dice lo siguiente: "Sería de extrañar que los americanos, con su gran espíritu de empresa, permitieran que se les escapara tan favorable oportunidad sin hacer un gran esfuerzo para aumentar su exportación de carbón."

Un despacho de Viena dirigido al "Chicago Record" con fecha 3 de septiembre actual, manifiesta que la Liga de Fabricantes Austriacos ha dirigido un memorial al Ministro de Ferrocarriles referente al alto precio del carbón, informándole de que esta circunstancia afecta seriamente todas las industrias, y amenaza arruinar las pequeñas fábricas. En consecuencia la Liga pide al Gobierno que fomente el desarrollo de nuevos distritos carboníferos, y que evite que en lo futuro sea este combustible objeto de especulación en el mercado. El mismo despacho comunica la noticia de haber llegado á Trieste 10,000 toneladas de carbón de los Estados Unidos, el cual fué declarado por peritos igual en calidad y en valor al carbón de Gales.

El periódico de Nueva York "The Sun," correspondiente al 9 de este mes, publica un cablegrama de Londres en el cual se le anuncia que la Compañía de Gas Metropolitana del Sur, que acaba de concluir algunos ensayos preliminares del carbón americano, ha resuelto que éste es superior al inglés en la cantidad de gas que produce, en la mayor intensidad de luz del mismo y en la cantidad de coque que puede sacarse de él. Aunque es más caro que el inglés, su buena calidad compensa ampliamente la diferencia del precio. Es probable que la citada Compañía lo importe á Inglaterra en cantidades de consideración.

PRODUCCIÓN DE TRIGO EN EL MUNDO.

El Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos ha hecho un cálculo sobre la cosecha de trigo en el mundo, del cual se sacan los siguientes informes:

La cosecha de trigo de la República Argentina en el invierno pasado fué igual, por lo menos, á la de 1898–99. La exportación en este año hasta el 3 de agosto ascendía á 60,338,000 *bushels*, contra 43,256,000 *bushels* en el mismo período de 1899.

La cosecha del Uruguay, según datos oficiales, montó en 1898–99 á 7,000,000 de *bushels*. La de Australia sufrió considerable diminución. Otra cosecha importante de trigo es la de la India, que se recoge en

marzo y abril, y que ascendió en el último año económico á 182,582,000 *bushels.*

Es difícil averiguar á cuánto alcanza la cosecha total de Rusia, porque hay extensos terrenos sembrados de trigo que no constan en los informes recibidos.

Los informes que se tienen de Suecia anuncian una cosecha muy halagüeña en la parte central del país. De Alemania se anuncia que la producción será mayor que de ordinario, siendo excelente la condición del grano. De Austria no se tienen informes muy satisfactorios. El cómputo oficial hecho para Hungría fija la cosecha total en 135,000,000 de *bushels.*

Los datos que llegan de Rumania son, generalmente, favorables, y se asegura que la cosecha de Bulgaria será muy notable. Otro tanto se dice de la de Turquía europea.

Los informes recibidos de Italia, Suiza y España indican que la cosecha en dichos países no bajará del término medio ordinario. De Francia se anuncia que será de 109,057,650 hectolitros, ó sean 309,173,000 *bushels.* En cuanto á Bélgica y Holanda, las cosechas se presentan bien.

En la Gran Bretaña habrá, según se cree, una cosecha de 58,000,000 de *bushels.*

La cosecha de trigo en la parte septentrional del África fué muy pobre en 1899, pero las condiciones han mejorado mucho en este año.

Con respecto al Canadá los informes que se tienen son escasos. Uno de los últimos cálculos hechos fija dicha cosecha en algo menos de 11,000,000 de *bushels.*

Se asegura que en México la cosecha de trigo este año ha sido extraordinaria, y el grano de muy buena calidad. También se dice que hubo gran aumento en el área señalada para el cultivo de este grano.

En la tabla que á continuación se publica se podrán ver los cálculos hechos por el Departamento de Agricultura relativos á la cosecha total de trigo en 1900, comparados con los de 1898 y 1899:

Países.	1900.	1899.	1898.
	Bushels.	*Bushels.*	*Bushels.*
Norte América	567,000,000	622,264,000	758,303,000
Sud América	122,000,000	112,331,000	66,603,000
Europa	1,440,000,000	1,499,604,000	1,579,758,000
Asia	360,000,000	399,196,000	434,771,000
África	41,000,000	35,800,000	46,630,000
Australia	50,000,000	56,212,000	34,980,000
Total	2,580,000,000	2,725,407,000	2,921,045,000

El periódico de Londres "Statist," al hablar de la producción de trigo se expresa de esta manera:

"La cosecha en la mayor parte de los países europeos está ya lo suficientemente desarrollada para poder hacer de ella un cálculo aproxi-

mado. No hay duda de que en la Gran Bretaña no llegará al promedio ordinario, que se considera de 30 *bushels* por acre. El año pasado fué de 32.65 *bushels*, y este año no pasará de 28 *bushels*, probablemente."

En general, se cree que la cosecha de Europa será deficiente y que se verá obligada á importar trigo de los Estados Unidos, la República Argentina, India y la Australia.

Un despacho de Barcelona, fechado á 31 de agosto de este año, dice que la cosecha de trigo en España es la mayor de que se tiene recuerdo. Otro de Hungría anuncia que, con fecha 2 de septiembre del año corriente, que las cosechas de aquel país han mejorado desde que se recibieron los informes correspondientes al 31 de julio. También ha mejorado la calidad del grano, debido á las favorables condiciones del tiempo.

Se calcula que la cosecha de trigo del mundo en 1900 subirá á 870,000,000 de hectolitros, ó, quizás, á 890,000,000. El consumo anual es de 926,000,000 á 953,000,000 de hectolitros.

INDUSTRIA DE SEDA EN EL MUNDO.

Debido á una cortesía de Mr. Franklin Allen, secretario de la Sociedad de Sericultura de América y miembro del Jurado Internacional de Premios, de la Exposición de París, la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas ha recibido un ejemplar de un informe que dicho Señor presentó, relativo á los premios otorgados á los fabricantes de géneros de seda de los Estados Unidos. En este informe se registra el resultado de las observaciones hechas por Mr. Allen en la capital de Francia.

La Francia continúa siendo el primer país productor de artículos de seda del mundo, sin contar las naciones orientales, de las cuales no se pueden obtener estadísticas fidedignas. La ciudad de Lión es el centro de la sedería en Europa, y la producción de sus fábricas representa un valor de 400,000,000 de francos al año. La fabricación de cintas de seda en Francia está limitada casi enteramente á la ciudad de Saint-Etienne, cuya producción tiene un valor de 100,000,000 de francos, ó sea 10,000,000 menos que el valor total de las cintas de seda manufacturadas en los Estados Unidos.

Los países que además de Francia y los Estados Unidos han exhibido seda en rama y tejidos de seda en la Exposición de París, son Grecia, Bulgaria, Rumania, Argelia, Servia, Portugal, Rusia, Japón, Alemania, Suiza, Austria, Inglaterra, Italia, España y el Canadá.

El Japón fabrica géneros de seda principalmente para el uso doméstico; sin embargo, la exportación anual incluye más de 1,000,000 de docenas de pañuelos y 30,000,000 de yardas de géneros en pieza.

La exhibición de géneros de seda de los Estados Unidos ha sido muy satisfactoria, pues recibió toda clase de premios. El número de medallas de oro otorgado á los Estados Unidos fué de cuatro, y recibió, además, una de plata, 4 de bronce, y 2 menciones honoríficas. El Jurado que otorgó los premios se componía de 27 miembros, de los cuales 15 eran franceses, 2 suizos, 2 italianos, 1 alemán, 1 austriaco, 1 ruso, 1 español, 1 griego, 1 chino, 1 japonés y 1 americano.

La industria de seda se ha desarrollado en los Estados Unidos de un modo notable, y á pesar de que es relativamente nueva, este país ocupa hoy el segundo lugar entre las naciones del mundo en la producción de tejidos finos de seda. Como hasta la fecha la seda en rama se ha producido en los Estados Unidos en cantidades muy pequeñas, se cree que esta industria podría implantarse con muy buen éxito en California.

Aunque no se sabe que México haya exhibido en la Exposición de París artículos de seda, es indudablemente cierto que la industria de seda se desarrolla poco á poco en aquella República. Las condiciones climatológicas de México no son inferiores á las de ninguno otro país del mundo para la producción de seda, y la ciudad de Oaxaca es el centro de dicha industria. Hace ya algunos años había cuatro fábricas de géneros de seda en la república, pero no se tienen datos estadísticos sobre su producción. Existe una fábrica en la ciudad de México que produce telas de buena calidad para el tráfico doméstico. Es indudable que la sericultura participará del progreso general de la república y que se fabricarán géneros de la mejor calidad aún para la exportación.

EL PLÁTANO.

En el número correspondiente al 18 de agosto de "El Economista Mexicano" aparece un extenso artículo que lleva el epígrafe que encabeza estas líneas, y como se trata de un fruto tropical de no poca importancia se reproduce casi íntegro por lo que pudiera ser de provechoso para los lectores del BOLETÍN.

"El plátano, el fruto benéfico de la América, al que con justicia ha dedicado entusiasta descripción el poeta venezolano ANDRÉS BELLO en su magnífica oda 'La Agricultura de la Zona Tórrida,' es acaso la planta cuyo cultivo rendiría actualmente más grandes ganancias, casi fabulosas utilidades, en esta tierra tan propicia para su desarrollo.

"La familia de las musáceas está representada por varias especies, siendo las principales: plátano largo, ó bellaco (*Musa paradisiaca*); plátano domínico (*Musa regia*); plátano manilo ó Costa Rica (*Musa textilis*); plátano guineo (*Musa sapientium*); plátano manzano (*Musa cambure*); plátano morado (*Musa violácea*); plátano enano (*Musa sp.*). El abacá, famoso como planta textil, y otras muchas especies musá-

ceas, se aclimatarían perfectamente en este suelo, pero hasta hoy no se ha pensado en enriquecer con ellas nuestra flora.

"El plátano vegeta perfectamente en todos los terrenos y con particularidad en las márgenes de los ríos.

"Al año de sembrado produce fruto, y cada planta da un racimo que, según sea su variedad, contiene de 100 á 200 frutos ó plátanos. Los racimos pesan de 15 á 50 kilogramos, y cada plátano varía entre 50 y 250 gramos de peso. Hay una especie de plátano cuyas frutas alcanzan una longitud de 30 á 35 centímetros. Algunos (los guineos) sólo tienen 6 centímetros de largo.

"El cultivo de la planta no puede ser más sencillo. Se siembran los hijos ó vástagos, y no vuelve el agricultor á ocuparse de su nuevo plantío sino hasta los diez y seis meses en que, con seguridad, debe encontrarse un racimo en cada mata. De los hijos plantados quedará, á lo sumo, sin lograrse un 3 por ciento. La cosecha es segura: por ninguna causa deja de haberla.

"Después de producir frutos, la planta muere, pero por cada una que perece han crecido ya á su alrededor muchos hijos; una prole de diversos tamaños se alza, formando la cepa en el lugar que se sembró un solo vástago, de manera que después del primer año en que se cortaron los racimos, la fructificación se multiplicará y se recogeran 4, 6 y más racimos de cada cepa.

"El Barón de HUMBOLDT calculó que un terreno de 100 metros cuadrados sembrado de plátanos produce 2,000 kilos de substancia alimenticia, y que este mismo terreno sembrado de patatas solamente produciría 143 kilogramos de tubérculo, y cultivando trigo en él no se cosecharían más de 5 kilos del grano. La producción del plátano es, en peso, 14 veces más fuerte que la de la patata, y 133 más que la del trigo.

"Un plantío de un millar de hijos contiene á los dos años 3,000 matas en estado de producción, y á los cuarto la cifra se elevará á 5,000. El aumento sigue en progresión asombrosa, al grado que habiéndose hecho la primera siembra á distancia de 3 metros entre cada planta, á los cinco años las cepas quedarán completamente unidas.

"La cosecha dura todo el año, por lo mismo que la germinación de los hijos es continua, y el plátano no fructifica por épocas del año sino por edades de la planta.

"El fruto tiene una demanda creciente en los Estados Unidos, á donde se puede exportar en su estado natural, pues no cortado en sazón, tarda varios días en madurar.

"La importación mensual de plátano á esa república vecina es por término medio de $200,000, oro, al mes. Casi toda esa cantidad procede de la América Central y del Sur. Una pequeña parte proviene de las Antillas.

"Regularmente el precio que se paga en los Estados Unidos es de $1.25 á $2.25 el racimo, cuyo peso varía entre 20 y 40 kilogramos.

"Para el Canadá, Inglaterra y algunos otros países consumidores, convendría hacer la exportación de plátano pasado, esto es, secos al sol ó en estufas.

"En Tabasco el racimo de plátanos en el lugar de producción, á la orilla de los ríos, tiene un precio medio de 15 centavos.

"Daremos una idea aproximada de las utilidades que rendiría un millar de matas en cinco años:

COSTO DEL PLANTÍO.

Valor de una hectárea de terreno en la margen de un río	$40.00
1,000 hijos de plátanos, puestos en el lugar del cultivo	20.00
Desmonte y siembra	40.00
Total	100.00

PRODUCTO DE LA COSECHA.

Se calcula la venta al ínfimo precio de 10 centavos el racimo.

1er año,	1,000 racimos á 10 centavos	$100.00
2º año,	3,000 racimos á 10 centavos	300.00
3º año,	4,000 racimos á 10 centavos	400.00
4º año,	5,000 racimos á 10 centavos	500.00
5º año,	6,000 racimos á 10 centavos	600.00
	19,000	1,900.00
Á deducir por gastos de beneficio y entrega del fruto á las embarcaciones en la margen del río, á razón de 2 centavos por racimo		380.00
	Producto	1,520.00

Deduciendo el costo del plantío, $100, se obtiene, después del reembolso del capital, una utilidad neta de $1,420.00.

"Como se verá, desde el primer año queda amortizado el capital invertido, inclusive el valor del terreno. En los cinco años se obtiene una ganancia que equivale á 14 veces el capital empleado en la negociación. El progresivo aumento en el producto consiste en que cada año habrá en cada cepa más plantas que fructifiquen. Pasado el quinto año será necesario entresacar los hijos para que la aglomeración de matas no llegue á perjudicar el cultivo. Los nuevos plantíos que se hagan inmediatos al primero no valdrán más de $80.00 porque los hijos que se siembren serán los que precisa quitar del plantío viejo. Si el terreno se ha utilizado antes en la siembra de maíz, no llegará su valor á más de $60.00.

"El cálculo anterior es sobre la utilidad que obtendrá el agricultor vendiendo sus productos aquí mismo, en el Estado. Pero el gran aliciente del cultivo del plátano consiste, no en nuestro consumo interior, que es limitado, sino en la gran demanda y fácil realización que ese fruto tiene en el exterior.

"Muchos agricultores no se deciden á emprender el cultivo del plátano porque no ven de pronto medios de transporte oportunos ó baratos para exportarlo.

"En la exportación de plátano seco, tomándose en consideración el número de quilos que produciría el plantío y el precio á que se expende este artículo, puede asegurarse que el exportador obtendría, además de la utilidad ya citada por el cultivo, un 20 por ciento líquido sobre ésta por su industria de preparación del fruto.

"Si para exportar el plátano en su estado natural precisa contar con mejores vías interiores de comunicación, y que haya barcos especiales para el comercio de frutas que hagan viajes directos á los puertos de consumo, para exportar plátano seco pasado los actuales medios de transportación son suficientes."

FABRICACIÓN DE ACEITES VEGETALES.

La revista ilustrada que se publica en Buenos Aires con el título de "La Industria Molinera," en su número 31, contiene un artículo sobre la fabricación de aceites vegetales, refiriéndose, especialmente, á la del maní ó cacahuete.

Al tratar de este fruto dice que lo primero que hay que hacer para extraerle el aceite es descortezarlo, á fin de separar las semillas de la cáscara coriácea que lo envuelve. Una buena máquina descortezadora no debe dañar el grano en manera alguna; las que se fabrican en los Estados Unidos son excelentes para esta operación. Cuando el grano está limpio, se le somete á la acción de dos cilindros que lo trituran, y luego pasa á lo que se llama "torcedores." En una artesa de hierro fundido se montan dos cilindros del mismo material. El centro de dichos cilindros está atravesado por un eje horizontal que recibe un movimiento giratorio, y hace describir á aquéllos una órbita circular. Debido á su peso, aplastan el grano ya molido, reduciéndolo á una harina gruesa.

Una vez retirado de la máquina torcedora el grano ya molido, se pasa á un depósito de madera, del cual se saca después para prensarlo. Las prensas empleadas en la fabricación del aceite son de varios sistemas: las hay con tornillos verticales ú horizontales, de palanca, de tuercas diferenciales, etc., pero de todas ellas las que mejor resultado dan son las hidráulicas. Con estas el aceite se extrae con la mayor facilidad.

La primera operación de prensar se hace en frío, es decir, sin calentar la materia oleaginosa. Esto tiene por objeto evitar que se desarrollen en la misma materia ciertos olores que echan á perder la calidad y el buen gusto del producto. Por medio de este procedimiento se obtiene el 30 ó 40 por ciento, más ó menos, del aceite contenido en el grano. La segunda presión se hace calentando la masa oleaginosa, y al efecto, las tortas que salen de la prensa son de nuevo molidas en unos cilindros especiales, siendo después reducidas á harina, la que se

coloca en artesas de hierro dulce, para que adquiera cierto grado de calor. El objeto de esta operación es hacer el aceite más fluido para que pueda correr con más facilidad.

El aceite obtenido tanto por una como por otra operación, se coloca en recipientes de madera con una capacidad de 200 litros, y otras veces en latas de 25 kilogramos, en los cuales se envía al mercado para su venta.

Si bien es cierto que la fabricación del aceite ordinario es muy fácil, no así la del refinado, especialmente si se desea destinarlo al consumo público como substancia alimenticia.

El residuo que sale de la prensa después de la operación en caliente con la masa oleaginosa, constituye para el ganado un alimento de primera clase. Las aves lo comen también con suma avidez, siendo, además, un excelente abono para los terrenos áridos.

BIBLIOGRAFÍA.

En esta sección del Boletín Mensual se tratará de los libros y folletos enviados á la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas, que se refieren á asuntos relacionados con los países de la Unión Internacional de Repúblicas Americanas.

El canje de publicaciones de Centro y Sud América puede efectuarse por conducto de la "Smithsonian Institution," Wáshington, D. C., por medio de las agencias de distribución que tiene en aquellos países, y que son las siguientes:

Argentina: Museo Nacional, Buenos Aires.

Bolivia: Oficina Nacional de Inmigración. Estadística y Propaganda Geográfica, La Paz.

Chile: Universidad de Chile, Santiago.

Colombia: Biblioteca Nacional, Bogotá.

Costa Rica: Oficina de Depósito, Reparto y Canje Internacional, San José.

El Salvador: Museo Nacional, San Salvador.

Guatemala: Instituto Nacional de Guatemala, Guatemala.

Honduras: Biblioteca Nacional, Tegucigalpa.

México: Todos los envíos gozan de la franquicia del correo.

Nicaragua: Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Managua.

Paraguay: Oficina General de Informaciones y Canje y Comisaría General de Inmigración, Asunción.

Perú: Biblioteca Nacional, Lima.

Uruguay: Oficina de Depósito, Reparto y Canje Internacional, Montevideo.

Venezuela: Museo Nacional, Caracas.

El Señor Don Estanislao S. Zeballos, Miembro Correspondiente Honorario de la Unión Internacional de Repúblicas Americanas en Buenos Aires, ha tenido la atención de enviarnos dos folletos de su propia producción. Uno de ellos fué publicado en 1898 y lleva por título "Orígenes Nacionales." Es un trabajo histórico muy interesante que ha llamado la atención en la América española. En el prólogo el autor se expresa de esta manera:

"El precioso documento inédito que publico fué copiado en el Archivo General de Indias, á mi ruego, bajo la dirección del Doctor Blas Garall, joven escritor paraguayo, ex-secretario de la Legación del Paraguay en Madrid. Se refiere á una época de la historia argentina cuyos vacíos no han sido aún llenados. * * * Este expediente es un punto de partida para el examen de ciertas cuestiones, y nada es más autorizado que el testimonio de un documento escrito con grave deliberación por los mismos actores en los sucesos."

El otro folleto fué publicado en 1899 y lleva este título: "Apuntaciones para la Bibliografía Argentina." Es un trabajo valioso como obra de consulta, y está artísticamente arreglado.

El Señor Licenciado Don J. Eduardo Girón, de Guatemala, acaba de publicar una obra titulada "El Notario Práctico, ó Tratado de Notaría." Es una obra importante que ha venido á llenar un vacío que desde hace tiempo se hacía sentir. Comprende la obra tres partes: en la primera se estudian el origen é historia del notariado, lo que es el notario, el protocolo, los instrumentos públicos, la naturaleza de éstos, su elemento formal, las contribuciones fiscales y municipales, el registro civil y la propiedad inmueble. En la segunda se trata de los contratos que afectan directamente las personas, de los testamentos y sociedades, de la compra-venta, de los seguros, de los contratos reales, de la hipoteca, de la servidumbre, arrendamiento, arbitraje y transacciones, etc. La tercera parte es un verdadero protocolo, que contiene modelos ó machotes de cada clase de escrituras. Sigue á esta parte un apéndice que comprende varias leyes relativas al notariado, que son de aplicación diaria y que deben conocer bien las personas que se dedican á esta delicada profesión.

El "British Geographical Journal" correspondiente al mes de agosto próximo pasado contiene un tratado del Doctor Hans Steffen que lleva este título: "The Patagonian Cordillera and its Main Rivers, Between 41° and 48° South Latitude" (La Cordillera Patagona y sus ríos principales entre los 41° y 48° de latitud Sur). Este artículo fué leído por el autor en una reunión de la Sociedad Real de Geografía de Londres, el 19 de marzo de 1900. El trabajo está dedicado, principalmente, á una descripción del Valle de Puelo y del río Las Heras, y está ilustrado con grabados reproducidos de fotografías. El resultado de las investigaciones hechas en Patagonia, una descripción de las

cuales llenaría un gran volumen, es una contribución valiosa á la geografía de la América del Sur. Por los mapas trazados por el Doctor STEFFEN se nota que el curso de varios de los ríos de Patagonia es muy tortuoso.

En el número de agosto del periódico "The Forester" aparece un artículo de Mr. JOHN GIFFORD con este título: Silvicultural Prospectus of the Island of Cuba." Este trabajo ha sido publicado también en forma de folleto y se ha distribuído extensamente en la esperanza de que se acepte la idea del autor, de que algunos árboles de los Estados Unidos puedan ser llevados á Cuba. Mr. GIFFORD emplea muchos argumentos para probar que su teoría es cierta, y dice que los Estados Unidos no podrían prestar mejor servicio á Cuba que ayudándola á establecer un jardín botánico parecido á los que existen en Java y en Jamaica. Cree que podrían introducirse en la isla sauces y álamos, cuya madera podría utilizarse lucrativamente en la manufactura de pulpa para papel. Este último producto, en caso de no tener consumo en Cuba, encontraría buen mercado en los Estados Unidos.

El Doctor Don DAVID J. GUZMÁN, notable escritor salvadoreño, ha publicado un trabajo muy importante intitulado "Agricultura." Además de los datos de interés en ella contenidos, la obra es muy recomendable para uso en las escuelas, pues está escrita en lenguaje claro y sencillo, al alcance de todas las inteligencias.

Refiriéndose á estas publicaciones he aquí como se expresa un escritor centroamericano en carta dirigida al Doctor Don DAVID J. GUZMÁN:

"No sé qué admirar más en usted; si la importancia y utilidad práctica de las varias obras que ha escrito para la enseñanza en la América Central, ó esa labor constante y paciente con que ha vencido todos los obstáculos para llevar adelante la plausible idea de ensanchar más y más la instrucción pública en nuestro suelo."

Dice "La Nación," de Buenos Aires, que la primera mesa de tesis de la facultad de derecho otorgó el premio anual del Tribunal Central Jurídico al excelente trabajo que sobre el tema de oposición había presentado el nuevo jurisconsulto Doctor CARLOS M. MEYER. El fallo del tribunal científico, presidido por el académico Doctor CARBALLIDO, no ha hecho sino consagrar el mérito relativo de un estudio que se destaca con los relieves de una verdadera monografía jurídica. Con tanto mérito como claridad el disertante demuestra que la institución comercial del cheque cruzado no ha nacido de previsiones tendentes á dar seguridad á dicho instrumento de crédito, sino de prácticas iniciadas por los agentes bancarios de la Clearing House de Londres. La monografía del Doctor MEYER es un trabajo sintético de consulta, digno de la atención de todos aquellos que se interesan en el asunto sobre que versa.

El número del periódico "Export Implement Age" correspondiente al 1° de agosto próximo pasado contiene numerosas ilustraciones que son dignas de atención. Tiene 18 páginas de vistas que representan los artículos exhibidos por fabricantes de instrumentos agrícolas de los Estados Unidos en la Exposición de París. El periódico tenía vasto campo donde escoger para la preparación de estas vistas, pues ningún país en el mundo ha excedido á los Estados Unidos en la calidad y belleza de la maquinaria é instrumentos agrícolas exhibidos en París. El "Export Implement Age" ha hecho una especialidad de los informes relativos á exposiciones extranjeras, y envía corresponsales con el único objeto de obtener informes á ese respecto.

El Departamento de la Guerra de los Estados Unidos ha publicado últimamente un folleto muy interesante que consta de 51 páginas y contiene el informe sobre la Isla de Guam preparado por el General de brigada José Wheeler. Además de una descripción general de dicha isla, bajo el punto de vista geográfico, se expone en dicho trabajo la población de la isla y una reseña de las diferentes variedades de árboles y plantas, así como de los animales pertenecientes á aquella región. También figuran en el trabajo todas las órdenes emitidas por el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos desde que tomó posesión de la Isla, y los aranceles vigentes en la actualidad. El folleto está ilustrado con 18 vistas, y tiene también dos mapas.

Los Señores J. Bartholomew y Compañía, de Edimburgo, han publicado últimamente un excelente mapa de la América del Sur, á una escala de 158 millas inglesas por pulgada. Contiene este mapa informes muy útiles, especialmente en relación á vías férreas, líneas de vapores y ríos navegables. La extensión por la cual un río es navegable para barcos de gran tamaño está indicada en el mapa con una línea azul bastante ancha que representa el curso del río, mientras que aquellas partes que sólo son navegables por embarcaciones de menor tamaño, aparecen señaladas con una serie de puntos del mismo color.

El volumen que contiene los informes consulares publicado por la Oficina de Comercio Extranjero del Departamento de Estado, y que corresponde al mes de septiembre de este año, es de mucho interés para los fabricantes, comerciantes importadores y exportadores, así como para todas aquellas personas que deseen conocer el desarrollo comercial del mundo. Los asuntos que dicho libro contiene tratan sobre cuestiones económicas, comerciales, leyes aduaneras, etc. Los informes de los representantes consulares de los Estados Unidos son muy notables.

"El Azúcar de Caña" se titula un libro del Señor W. L. Bass, que ha sido publicado en inglés y en español y está ilustrado con numerosos grabados. La obra presenta una serie de datos y observaciones de mucha utilidad para los fabricantes de azúcar, como que proceden de

una persona absolutamente perita en la materia. En su trabajo están contenidos los resultados de su experiencia durante muchos años en todo lo que se relaciona con la industria azucarera de caña.

Una obra muy notable es la que lleva el título de "Anuario de la Minería y Electricidad de España." Su autor, el Señor Don ADRIANO CONTRERAS, es profesor de la Escuela de Minas y director de "La Revista Minera." El Señor CONTRERAS ha compendiado en un solo volumen de 530 páginas multitud de datos de mucho valor para cuantos se interesen en asuntos industriales y, especialmente, para aquellos que se dedican á la parte minera y metalúrgica.

Mr. J. E. CONNER ha publicado un libro con este título: "Uncle Sam Abroad" (El Tío Samuel en el Extranjero). Trata el autor sobre el servicio diplomático y consular de los Estados Unidos, haciendo uso de un estilo llano y humorístico. Es indudable que esta obra será de interés para los ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos que deseen servir á su patria en países extranjeros. El libro contiene varias ilustraciones.

Se ha recibido en esta Oficina el número 50 de la importante publicación mensual que ve la luz pública en Tegucigalpa, Honduras, titulada "La Instrucción Primaria." Tanto por su fondo como por su forma dicho periódico es uno de los mejores que se publican en la América Central, y contiene informes de verdadero interés relativos á la instrucción pública en la República de Honduras.

El Departamento de Agricultura acaba de publicar un tratado escrito por el entomólogo L. O. HOWARD, y que lleva este título, "Los Mosquitos en los Estados Unidos." En esta publicación se trata con amplitud de estos insectos, y se dice que hay como 250 especies conocidas, de las cuales solamente 30 se han encontrado en los Estados Unidos.

Muy pronto saldrá á luz el Manual que ha escrito el Señor Don NICANOR JORDÁN, notable escritor boliviano, sobre la explotación de la goma elástica. Este opúsculo prestará grandes servicios á los trabajadores, á quienes el autor lo dedica. En el texto habrán muchos grabados representando los distintos árboles que producen la goma.

Con el título de "Ortografía de la Lengua Castellana" ha publicado recientemente el Señor EDUARDO LLUCH SÁNCHEZ un epítome gramatical en el que además de una lista de palabras de dudosa ortografía, se encuentra otra de barbarismos, y un buen número de vocablos parónimos y frases latinas de uso frecuente.

En el periódico "Canadian Manufacturer," correspondiente al 6 de julio de este año, y que se publica en Toronto, Canadá, se registran los aranceles del Canadá, los Estados Unidos y Terranova. Estos documentos tienen un carácter oficial y son enteramente exactos.

La casa editora de GARNIER Y HERMANO, de París, ha publicado un Diccionario Castellano enciclopédico por Don MANUEL GONZALES DE LA ROSA. Es un volumen de 1,082 páginas, elegantemente impreso y encuadernado en tela con infinidad de grabados en el texto.

Se ha recibido en esta Oficina el No. 12 de la Revista nicaragüense "La Patria." Es una publicación de amena lectura y está escrita en lenguaje muy castizo. Merece ocupar un puesto entre los mejores periódicos mensuales que ven la luz en los países hispanoamericanos.

La Revista del Instituto Paraguayo, correspondiente al mes de marzo próximo pasado, nos ha llegado como de costumbre. Contiene varios artículos instructivos, siendo digno de mencionar el que lleva por título: "Compendio de Etnografía Paraguaya Moderna."

Los Señores ARHARD HERMANOS, de París, han publicado últimamente un mapa del Perú, preparado por A. RAIMONDI. La escala es de 7.9 millas por pulgada.

BOLETIM MENSAL

DA

SECRETARIA DAS REPUBLICAS AMERICANAS,

União Internacional das Republicas Americanas.

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BRAZIL.

NOTICIAS MINEIRAS.

Do "Minas Geraes" extrahimos o seguinte:

"São muito animadoras as noticias que nos chegão das regiões auriferas do Estado, onde se desenvolve com grande actividade a industria extractiva.

"Em diversas localidades forão iniciados estudos preliminares em varias lavras, e pelas analyses feitas verifica-se que a porcentagem do minerio compensará quaesquer sacrificios que fação as companhias que se achão em formação com o intuito de se incumbir das suas explorações.

"Em Caethé, Santa Barbara, Ouro Preto, Antonio Pereira, Sant' Anna e Sabará estão sendo examinadas diversas minas, cuja riqueza é attestada pela grande quantidade do precioso metal que em tempo foi extrahido dos seus opulentos seios.

"Pelas repetidas noticias publicadas nos jornaes do Estado e nos da Capital Federal verifica-se que as vistas dos capitalistas europeus estão voltadas para essas riquissimas lavras.

"Não precisamos salientar aqui as grandes vantagens que advirão para os logares, onde terão de se estabelecer essas companhias de mineração.

"São intuitivos os resultados que auferirá a população das mesmas localidades.

"Não é só o ouro que fascina a cobiça dos europeus.

"No nosso opulento solo, como é sabido, se occultão immensas riquezas.

"Entre estas temos o manganez, que continúa a obter excellente preço na Europa.

"Em um periodo de um anno formárão-se diversas companhias para a exploração desse minerio. Algumas dellas já iniciárão o serviço, com resultados satisfactorios.

"Nos municipios de Queluz e Ouro Preto, onde forão primeiro descobertas as jazidas, um exercito de operarios arranca de terra, diariamente, centenares de toneladas do util mineral.

"Ainda agora acabamos de receber uma agradavel noticia sobre essa industria.

"Além da firma AYROSA & C., que explora as jazidas de manganez de Pequy, em Queluz, começou já os seus trabalhos em S. Gonçalo, do mesmo municipio, a Companhia Belga, dirigida pelo engenheiro Sr. ADOLPHO DONCKER, a qual está construindo uma estrada de ferro do referido arraial a Lafayette.

"Breve começarão duas novas emprezas, de NEWLANDS & IRMÃOS e Drs. MORAES SARMENTO e EWBANK DA CAMARA, a explorar duas outras jazidas, uma que pertenceu ao Sr. Commendador JOÃO CHRYSOSTOMO DE QUEIROZ e outra ao Sr. JOSÉ FERREIRA DA SILVA.

"As acertadas providencias tomadas pelos poderes da União e do Estado no sentido de impulsionar a industria extractiva, já rebaixando os impostos de alfandega para os seus machinismos, já tomando outras medidas de alcance pratico, determinárão esse renascimento promissor que é observado com grande prazer por todos os mineiros."

O PINHO DO PARANÁ.

Transcrevemos do "Jornal do Commercio" o seguinte interessante artigo sobre o pinho do Paraná, escripto pelo Engenheiro MANOEL F. FERREIRA CORRÊA:

"'O Engenheiro MANOEL F. FERREIRA CORRÊA publicou, na revista 'Club Curitybano,' o seguinte estudo sobre o pinho do Paraná.

"'Sob o ponto de vista industrial e mercantil, merece especial menção a exploração das madeiras, especialmente do pinho do Paraná, que abunda nas florestas das regiões elevadas do Estado, cujo emprego é universal.

"'Com effeito, nenhuma outra madeira se presta melhor ás diversas construcções e á marcenaria. Sendo creosotada é empregada nas obras hydraulicas maritimas, sem ser atacada pelo *gusano* e outros agentes maritimos.

"'Comparado com o pinho europeo, apresenta o nosso pinho sobre este a vantagem de ser *mais resistente*, como demonstrão as experiencias sobre a resistencia e a elasticidade feitas nas officinas das estradas de ferro do Governo da Belgica á requisição da Companhia Dyle, em Louvain, sendo submettidas as peças de madeiras á acção da grande machina do systema Kirkaldy.

"'O resultado obtido consta do seguinte quadro:

Madeiras.	Peso especifico medio de um decimetro cubico.	Cargas de ruptura por millimetro quadrado.	Resistencia permanente por millimetro quadrado.	Resistencia permanente por millimetro quadrada com segurança quadrada.
		Kilos.	*Kilos.*	
Araucaria	0.865	6.20	4.20	2.10
Tapinhôa	.946	8.70	7.00	2.50
Imbuya (tronco)	1.029	6.30	5.30	2.65
Pinho sueco vermelho	.586	4.60	3.50	1.75
Pinho sueco branco	.470	4.30	3.10	1.55

"'As experiencias forão feitas em peças de madeira de 0^m .10 × 0^m .10, com o comprimento de um metro entre os pontos de apoio.

"'Do exame desse quadro se verifica que a nossa araucaria offerece uma resistencia 20 por cento maior que as do pinho vermelho sueco, tendo tambem maior resistencia que *pitch pine*, muito apreciado dos inglezes.

"'O primeiro estabelecimento digno de nota que se fundou neste Estado para a serragem de madeiras foi da Companhia Florestal Paranaense, devido á iniciativa do sempre lembrado e illustre Engenheiro Antonio Rebouças.

"'Esta serraria, movida a vapor, foi installada á margem da estrada da Graciosa, na comarca deste capital, no anno de 1874.

"'Infelizmente esta empreza não logrou prosperar, em razão da difficuldade do transporte de seus productos para Antonina, transporte este que absorvia grandes sommas, tornando infructifero o seu commercio de exportação.

"'Assim é que fracassou tão importante empreza, e a industria de madeiras ficou estacionaria, até que, mais tarde, em 1886, com a inauguração do trafego da estrada de ferro de Paranaguá a Curytiba, pôde tomar novo impulso.

"'Em 1887 forão fundadas, proximo á estação de Piraquára, duas importantes serrarias a vapor, dispondo de machinismos aperfeiçoados e habilitados á serragem de madeiras em grande escala, podendo produzir 590 duzias de pranchões diariamente.

"'O fim dos industriaes que as fundárão, os Srs. Ildefonso Corrêa & C., e Desmarais & C., era introduzir o nosso pinho nos mercados do Rio De Janeiro, S. Paulo, Rio Grande do Sul, Montevidéo e Buenos Ayres, cujo consumo já então se calculava em 6,000,000$ annuaes.

"'Infelizmente, a introducção do nosso pinho no mercado do Rio de Janeiro soffreu viva guerra por parte dos negociantes importa-

dores de madeiras dos Estados Unidos e do Baltico, que preferião o pinho extrangeiro por ser mais facil de trabalhar, devido á sua menor resistencia.

"'Entretanto, vendia-se o nosso pinho por menor preço que o importado dos mercados extrangeiros, pois custava uma duzia de pranchões de pinho sueco ou americano 60$ e 66$, ao passo que o nosso vendia-se a 32$, estando a madeira em perfeito estado!

"'Em 1892 a exportação de pinho paranaense attingio a cerca de 600,000$, montando approximadamente na mesma somma o consumido em construcções nesta Capital.

"'Actualmente exportão-se madeiras para os mercados do Rio, S. Paulo e Rio da Prata.

"'No periodo de Janeiro de 1896 a Junho de 1899, o pinho exportado para o Rio de Janeiro e S. Paulo, pelos portos de Paranaguá e Antonina, foi o seguinte:

Pranchões	178,691
Taboas	82,567
Outras classes	68,910

isto é, um total de 330,168 peças ou volumes de madeiras, representando o valor officiel de 1,020,000$, que deu ao Estado o rendimento de 4 por cento ou 40,800$000.

"'Estes dados forão-nos obsequiosamente cedidos pelo Sr. Dr. Candido Ferreira de Abreu, digno gerente da importante serraria 'Roseira,' do municipio de Piraquara.

"'Quanto á exportação do nosso pinho para os mercados do Rio da Prata, não possuimos dados pelos quaes possamos avalia-la.

"'Em todo o Estado contão-se 64 serrarias occupadas em produzir pranchõs, taboas, vigas, vigotes, caixas, etc., não só para o consumo local como para a exportação, não nos parecendo exaggerado calcular a producção actual de madeiras no valor de 2,000,000$ annuaes, que equivale á producção média diaria de menos de 9$ para cada serraria, o que é evidentemente muito pouco.

"'Não fossem os fretes exaggerados dos vapores, que cobrão por uma duzia de pranchões 25$, do porto de Paranaguá ao do Rio de Janeiro, isto é, uma importancia igual a seu custo na serraria, e muito mais desenvolvida estaria esta industria; pois actualmente o nosso pinho goza de melhor reputação nos mercados do Rio e S. Paulo, graças por um lado, a estarem mais conhecidas as suas qualidades e vantagens sobre o pinho estrangeiro, e por outro, ao cuidado dos exportadores de fazerem as remessas de madeiras completamente seccas, evitando o seu deterioramento pela fermentação.

"'O pinheiro cresce espontaneamente nas regiões elevadas do Estado, podendo-se avaliar em cerca de 80,000 kilometros quadrados a superficie coberta de mattos que contêm esta preciosa arvore, na proporção

approximada de 1,000 pés por kilometro quadrado, dando, portanto, em resultado um numero de 80 milhões de pinheiros na superficie do Paraná.

"'Attinge esta arvore á altura normal de 25 a 35 metros, tendo o seu tronco e não raras vezes, o diametro de 1m.60 e mais, motivo pelo qual é considerada o gigante das florestas paranaenses.

"'Os seus fructos, chamados pinhões, constituem um elemento de alimentação rural, servindo tambem para a céva de porcos; de sorte que os pinhões representão aqui o papel das castanhas na Europa, e delles extrahe-se o amido ou polvilho, que tambem é muito usado no interior.

"'Os nós do pinheiro prestão-se á manufactura de alguns objectos de uso e produzem excellente carvão, que é quasi equiparado ao carvão de pedra pela duração da comburencia.

"'A seiva do nosso pinho é empregada nos laboratorios pharmaceuticos para o preparo de medicamentos, e a sua resina, que é talvez mais rica que a do pinho estrangeiro, produz o breu, o alcatrão, o pixe, etc., não sendo, porém, ainda exploradas estas industrias entre nós.

"'Sobre o pinho póde se dizer, em uma palavra, que elle representa entre as madeiras o mesmo papel que o ferro entre os metaes, não só pela sua abundancia, como por suas multiplas applicações.'"

PRODUCÇÃO DE DIAMANTES.

Segundo uma recente publicação pelo Dr. GARCEZ, diz o "Nouveau Monde" de Pariz, a producção annual de diamantes no Brazil é de cerca de 40,000 quilates, incluindo-se a producção da região de diamantes do Estado da Bahia.

O Estado de Minas Geraes é o que produz a maior quantidade destas pedras preciosas. Os diamantes de maior tamanho que se teem encontrado lá são a "Estrella do Sul," que pesava 253 quilates, e depois de lapidado 125 quilates, e o diamante de Dresde, que quando se encontrou pesava 117 quilates e depois de lapidado 63 quilates. Estes dous diamantes encontraram-se em Bagagem. Ha poucos annos um diamante pesando 80 quilates foi encontrado perto de Diamantina no mesmo Estado, mas continha muitos defeitos.

No anno fiscal de 1900, os Estados Unidos importaram do Brazil diamantes no valor de $3,363, ao passo que no anno anterior não houve importação destas pedras preciosas.

CHILE.

ESTABELECIMENTO DE UMA LINHA TELEGRAPHICA.

O Governo tem auctorizado ao Sr. Luis L. Zegers, representante da Wireless Telegraph and Signal Company, Limited, para que estabeleça o serviço de communicação telegraphica pelo systema Marconi entre Punta Arenas e Aucur ou Puerto Montt. O Governo permitte ao Senhor Zegers o uso dos terrenos fiscaes necessarios para o indicado serviço, reservando-se o direito de fazer cessar esta concessão prévio aviso dado com seis mezes de antecipação.

FOMENTO DE PLANTAÇÕES INDUSTRIAES.

Tem-se fixado a quantia de $20,000 para o fomento de plantações industriaes, e com tal objecto se estabelecerão nos terrenos fiscaes de San Francisco e Linares viveiros de arvores industriaes destinados, especialmente, á multiplicação de arvores e arbustos florestaes, de ornato e fructiferos adequados á região a que terão de destinar-se. Estes viveiros dependerão immediatamente de uma junta de vigilancia, e estarão a cargo de um administrador, o qual dirigirá, pessoalmente, todos os trabalhos que haverão de effectuar-se nas diversas secções do estabelecimento.

MELHORAMENTO DO ENSINO NAS ESCOLAS PARA MENINAS.

O Governo tem nomeado a Senhora Juana Gremler, directora do collegio para meninas em Santiago, para ir á Europa, para alli estudar as condições de escolas desta classe. Ao seu regresso, deverá apresentar um relatorio ao Departamento de Instrucção Publica expondo o resultado de suas investigações e fazendo as recommendações que lhe parecer conveniente para o melhoramento desta classe de escolas na Republica.

EXPLORAÇÃO DE DEPOSITOS DE GUANO.

Aos Srs. Antonio Cordovez e Juan de Dios Olivares tem-se outorgado uma concessáó para a exploração de alguns depositos de guano que foram recentemente descobertos na costa na vizinhança de Antofagasta. Segundo as estipulações do contrato o guano deverá ser consumido exclusivamente no paiz. A concessão foi feita com o objecto especial de animar e tornar mais proveitosa a industria agricola daquella Republica. Os trabalhos de exploração deverão começar dentro do prazo de seis mezes contados da data da ratificação do contrato. O contrato fixa os preços a que se deve vender este guano nos differentes portos da Republica.

COSTA RICA.

CONVOCAÇÃO EXTRAORDINARIA DO CONGRESSO.

O Presidente da Republica convocou o Congresso Constitucional em sessão extraordinaria em principios do mez passado com o objecto de tratar muitos assumptos de interesse, entre outros os seguintes:

Projecto de reforma geral e parcial da Constituição.

Contrato celebrado entre o Departamento de Fomento e a Companhia da Estrada de Ferro de Costa Rica o 14 de Fevereiro proximo passado.

Projecto de lei relativo á livre importação e exportação de ouro e a prohibir a importação da prata.

Projecto de lei reformatorio do artigo 5° da Lei de Moeda de 24 de Outubro de 1896.

Projecto de lei relativo á livre exportação da banana.

Projecto de Lei de Orçamento.

Espera-se que o resultado desta sessão extraordinaria do Congresso de Costa Rica será muito benefico para a Republica.

IMPORTANTE DECRETO.

O Governo de Costa Rica publicou com data 1° de Agosto de 1900 o seguinte importante Decreto:

O Presidente Constitucional da Republica de Costa Rica,

Considerando: Que as emissões de certificados feitas pelo Governo não tiveram outro objecto que o de servir como meio para estabelecer em sua opportunidade a circulação da moeda de ouro no paiz, e que ordenado seu cambio não tem razão de ser sua circulação, nem convem aos interesses do fisco prolongar por tempo indefinido sua responsabilidade como emissor de ditos certificados; Decreta:

"ARTIGO 1°. Dentro do termo de trinta dias contados desde a presente data, deverão apresentar-se ao Banco de Costa Rica, para seu cambio por ouro, todos os certificados emittidos pelo Governo existentes na circulação. Passado este prazo, o Governo não assume responsabilidade alguma como emissor de ditos certificados, pelo que se refere aos depositos de moeda de ouro existentes no Banco de Costa Rica, para fazer frente a seu cambio.

"ARTIGO 2°. Os Governadores nas cidades capitaes de provincia e de comarca, e os Chefes politicos nas cabeceiras de seus respectivos cantões, darão publicidade ao presente decreto por meio de cartazes fixados nas paredes publicas, e ordenarão que se promulgue por meio de bandos durante os dias festivos do presente mez, nas demais povoações de sua jurisdicção."

DECRETO SOBRE O CACÁO.

O Congresso Constitucional da Republica tem emittido um decreto pelo qual se grava a introducção do cacáo em grão com 30 centimos de colon, por kilogramma, e o do cacáo moido com 50 centimos de colon por kilogramma.

CUBA.

DISPOSIÇÃO RELATIVA A OLEOMARGARINA.

Em obediencia a instrucções do Secretario da Guerra dos Estados Unidos, o Governador de Cuba tem expedido uma ordem relativa ao uso da oleomargarina naquella ilha para evitar que se venda como manteiga. A citada disposição ordena que toda a oleomargarina que se importar em Cuba leve na coberta seu nome escripto com toda clareza, e que sómente se possam vender pacotes de oleomargarina que levem este nome. A oleomargarina entra livre de direito na ilha de Cuba.

IMPOSTOS SOBRE OS AZEITES.

A tarifa aduaneira para Cuba tem sido emendada, restabelecendo-se os antigos direitos sobre os azeites. A lei dispõe que os azeites mineraes crús, incluindo o petroleo crú e a graxa para eixos de carros pagarão $1.40 por cada cem kilogrammas, e que o petroleo crú que se usar exclusivamente na fabricação de gaz para illuminação e unicamente nas fabricas de gaz da ilha de Cuba e não para outro fim, pagará 70 centavos pelos cem kilogrammas.

PREMIOS NA EXPOSIÇÃO DE PARIZ.

Apezar de que Cuba não tem recobrado ainda de seus passados quebrantos, tem podido figurar vantajosamente na Exposição de Pariz, o que é demonstrado pelo facto de que os productos da ilha obtiveram 140 premios.

INDUSTRIAS AGRICOLAS EM SANTIAGO.

Um despacho de Guantánamo diz que se têm reassumido com grande actividade as industrias agricolas na provincia de Santiago. O engenho de "Santa Lucia" tem produzido 41,000 saccos de assucar durante esta estação. A United Fruit Company vai estabelecer um engenho de assucar que produzirá 1,100 saccos diariamente. Consideravel capital dos Estados Unidos e da Inglaterra é empregado em Baracoa, para a exportação de cocos.

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

CONDIÇÃO DAS COLHEITAS.

Segundo o relatorio mensal da Secção de Estatistica da Secretaria de Agricultura, a condição das colheitas para o 1° de Setembro de 1900, comparada com a correspondente a igual data do anno anterior, foi como segue:

Algodão, 68.2, contra 68.5 em 1899 e a condição média de 76.6 nos ultimos dez annos. A condição do milho foi 80.6, ou seja 4.6 pontos mais baixa que em Setembro 1° de 1899, e 1.1 mais baixa que a média por dez annos.

A condição das colheitas de trigo de inverno e de primavera combinadas está representada por 69.6, contra 70.9 o 1° de Setembro de 1899 e 80.9, a média pelos ultimos dez annos.

A condição da aveia foi 82.9, contra 87.2 em 1° de Setembro, 1899, e 79.8, a média por dez annos.

No momento da colheita, a condição da cevada era 70.7, contra 86.7 para o 1° de Setembro, 1899, e 83.9, a média durante dez annos.

Pelo que se refere ao centeio de inverno e de primavera, sua condição no momento da colheita era 84.2, contra 82 para o 1° de Setembro de 1899, e 86.5 como média por dez annos. Batatas, 80, contra 86.3 em 1° de Setembro de 1899, e 77.4, o termo médio por dez annos. Os treze estados em que ha semeados mais de 10,000 geiras de batatas doces, no momento de fazer o undecimo recenseamento, accusaram uma baixa na condição deste fructo durante o mez de Agosto, que se fez notar mais nos estados do Sul do Atlantico onde a prolongada secca tem affectado seriamente quasi todos os productos agricolas.

Durante o mez de Agosto de 1900, a condição da canna de assucar em Luisiana melhorou por 4 pontos, e no dia 1° de Setembro estava 11 pontos superior á condição média dos ultimos dez annos. Nos outros estados onde se produz a canna em menor escala, se notou uma baixa geral, sendo sua condição inferior á da média de dez annos. Todos os estados productores de canna de sorgho accusam uma diminuição neste fructo durante o mez de Agosto. Tambem indica baixa a condição do arroz em todos os estados que o produzem, á excepção de Luisiana, que é o ponto principal da industria do cultivo do arroz nos Estados Unidos e onde a condição deste fructo para o 1° de Setembro alcançava a 13 pontos sobre a média da serie de annos dos quaes ha estatisticas.

Pelo que se refere ás fructas parece que as colheitas são abundantes, especialmente no que se refere a maçãs e pecegos. A condição da colheita de maçãs em todos os estados productores deste fructo é superior á média de dez annos e o mesmo pode dizer-se da colheita de pecegos. A condição do tabaco teve uma baixa geral durante o mez de Agosto. Tambem teem diminuido os campos de trifolio por causa da secca.

IMPORTAÇÃO DE CAFÉ EM 1900.

Durante o anno economico que terminou o 30 de Junho de 1900 os Estados Unidos importaram mais café que qualquer outra nação do mundo, ainda que tanto como no anno anterior.

A importação total ascendeu a 777,983,611 libras, cujo valor era de $52,466,993. A differença entre a quantidade de libras importadas neste ultimo anno economico e a do anno anterior foi de 43,833,452 libras, correspondendo ao valor de $2,808,477 menos que em dito anno.

A maior parte do café que se importa aos Estados Unidos vem directamente da America latina, sendo muito certo que muito do café que se diz ser importado de Europa é colhido naquella. No ultimo anno economico a quantidade de café importada da America latina foi de 748,546,777 libras, com um valor de $47,329,851. No anno anterior se importaram 857,074,992 libras, que representavam $51,474,005, com o qual se demonstra que houve uma diminuição de 108,527,215 libras, e por conseguinte, no valor, de $4,144,154.

O café importado do Mexico em igual periodo chegou á somma de 35,327,921 libras, quantidade até agora nunca alcançada, havendo sido a importação do anno anterior de 27,324,827 libras. O valor das importações deste ultimo anno foi de $3,312,608, contra $2,686,248 para o anno anterior. O preço médio por libra foi de 9.39 centavos, contra 9.83 centavos para 1899.

Das Antilhas se importaram no ultimo anno 9,249,729 libras, contra 11,701,202 que se importaram no anno precedente. O preço médio da libra foi de 7.91 centavos, contra 8.08 centavos em 1899.

A secção de Estatistica do Departamento de Fazenda não dá por separado dados relativos ás Republicas centro-americanas, mas as põe em um só grupo, dando como total de importação de café de todas ellas juntas a quantidade de 43,786,499 libras, com um valor de $4,356,407; o preço médio da libra foi de 9.93 centavos. As importações da America Central e de Belize em 1899 montaram a 44,298,800 libras, avaliadas em $5,368,711. O valor médio da libra foi de 11.61 centavos.

Da America do Sul se importaram no ultimo anno economico 660,182,633 libras, contra 772,750,163 em 1899. O valor das primeiras foi de $38,929,513; a média do valor da libra foi de 5.89 centavos.

Do Brazil se importaram 601,520,169 libras, com um valor de $34,333,762. O preço médio da libra foi de 5.78 centavos. Em 1899 se importaram do Brazil 682,417,812 libras, avaliadas em $35,253,834. O preço médio da libra foi de 5.17 centavos.

PRODUCÇÃO DE MINERAL DE FERRO EM 1899.

Segundo o relatorio annual da Repartição de Estudos Geologicos dos Estados Unidos, a producção de ferro neste paiz durante o anno de 1899 ascendeu a 24,683,173 toneladas, ou seja um augmento de 27 por

cento sobre a producção em 1898. A quantidade produzida nos dous annos em referencia é o maximum de producção que se tem visto em paiz algum durante um só anno.

Dos 24 estados que contribuiram ao total mencionado para 1899, Michigan occupa o primeiro lugar com 9,146,157 toneladas, e vem em seguida Minnesota com 8,161,289 toneladas. Alabama occupa o terceiro lugar com 1,009,327 toneladas. A região do lago Superior augmentou o maximum que tinha alcançado em 1898, e que foi de 13,779,308 toneladas, a 17,802,955 toneladas. O valor total nas minas do mineral de ferro produzido foi de $34,999,077, ou seja $1.42 por tonelada, o qual é um augmento de 24.06 por cento sobre o valor médio em 1898. A média mais alta de valor no mineral de ferro se encontra nas minas do Estado de New Jersey, onde sua exploração é custosa, e a média mais baixa se acha em Texas, onde a extracção de cada tonelada custa sómente 90 centavos.

COMMERCIO COM HESPANHA.

Diz o "Public Ledger," de Philadelphia, que o commercio entre os Estados Unidos e Hespanha está completamente restabelecido, e que segundo dados officiaes correspondentes ao anno economico de 1900, as exportações dos Estados Unidos para a Hespanha e as importações daquelle paiz para este foram maiores em dito anno que em qualquer outro desde 1893, e que quasi chegáram á cifra mais alta que jamais se tem alcançado. As exportações dos Estados Unidos para a Hespanha no anno economico de 1900 ascenderam a $13,399,680, contra $10,912,745 em 1897. As importações nos Estados Unidos procedentes da Hespanha em 1900 montaram a $5,950,047, contra $3,631,793 no anno economico de 1897.

Os principaes artigos que dos Estados Unidos se exportam para Hespanha são: algodão em rama, cereaes, mineraes, azeites e manufacturas de madeira. O algodão em rama occupa o primeiro lugar. O que da Hespanha se importa nos Estados Unidos consiste, principalmente, em fructas, nozes e vinho. A importação de mineral de ferro de Hespanha nos Estados Unidos tambem augmentou no anno de 1900, comparado com os annos precedentes. As principaes fructas que vem da Hespanha a este paiz são as amendoas, laranjas e passas. O valor total do algodão em rama exportado dos Estados Unidos para Hespanha em 1900 foi de $9,481,700. Occupa o segundo lugar como artigo de exportação a madeira e suas manufacturas, taes como aduelas, arcos, tampas, etc. Depois destes artigos vêm os productos alimenticios, cuja exportação para a Hespanha depende em grande parte da condição das colheitas naquelle paiz.

O Honrado Bellamy Storer, Ministro dos Estados Unidos em Madrid, tem informado o Departamento de Estado que se tem firmado,

provisoriamente, um tratado de amizade, commercio e navegação entre elle, como representante dos Estados Unidos e o Ministro de Estado de Hespanha como representante desta nação.

O PETROLEO COMO COMBUSTIVEL PARA NAVIOS DE GUERRA.

Diz o "Scientific American" que as machinas e as carvoeiras occupam uma grande parte da capacidade dos navios de guerra modernos e que os esforços dos architectos navaes se dirigem a diminuir o peso das machinas e caldeiras, para augmentar a capacidade das carvoeiras. Accrescenta o citado periodico que neste particular quasi se tem tocado o ultimo extremo, fazendo-se já necessario introduzir melhoras na construcção dos cascos e no uso das machinas que hão de levar.

Segundo pode ver-se, a tendencia geral na construcção de navios de guerra é fazer cada dia mais pesada a couraça, e ainda que se tem reduzido um tanto o peso das machinas e caldeiras, não pode dizer-se que o resultado neste sentido seja de muita importancia. É evidente que qualquer potencia naval que encontrasse um meio de augmentar a capacidade das carvoeiras de seus vasos de guerra, sem diminuir sua efficacia, obteria uma vantagem decidida. Isto é indubitavelmente certo ao tratar-se de paizes que podem dispor de um combustivel que não esteja ao alcance de outras nações.

O petroleo substituido ao carvão de pedra é o combustivel que augmentaria em grande escala o radio de acção dos navios de guerra e, até certo ponto, sua velocidade, e como os mais importantes depositos desta materia se encontram nos Estados Unidos e na Russia, seu uso seria de grande utilidade para ambos os paizes. Nos navios de construcção moderna o uso do petroleo augmentaria em 50 por cento a quantidade de combustivel. O uso do petroleo não implica uma mudança material nas machinas actualmente empregadas nos navios de guerra, pois pode queimar-se nos mesmos apparelhos que geralmente se usam e ainda alternar com o carvão de pedra em qualidade de combustivel.

EXPORTAÇÃO DE MILHO.

O augmento no consumo do milho nos paizes da Europa é muito notavel e satisfactorio. Durante os ultimos cinco annos, a exportação deste grão, sem incluir a farinha de milho, tem sido pelo termo médio de 173,813,301 alqueires por anno, ao passo que durante os cinco annos precedentes, a exportação média annual foi sómente de 49,054,663 alqueires. Isto demonstra que o augmento na exportação média annual durante os ultimos cinco annos sobre os cinco annos precedentes tem sido um pouco mais de 254 por cento. O maximum da exportação foi attingido no anno economico que findou em 30 de Junho de 1900, que foi quando a exportação de milho chegou a ser de 209,348,273

alqueires. As oito ou nove decimas partes das exportações vão, geralmente, para a Europa.

A este respieto, convem notar que o periodico "American Agriculturist" tem obtido dos agricultores dos Estados Unidos varios dados relativos ao que custa o cultivo do milho, e se tem averiguado que com uma producção média de 40 alqueires por geira, o custo é de 12.9 centavos o alqueire. O lucro do agricultor é de 6 por cento sobre o capital empregado, si consegue vender o milho a 21.5 centavos por alqueire.

COLHEITA DE ARROZ NA LUISIANA.

As condições climatologicas continuam sendo favoraveis para a colheita de arroz de Luisiana, que se espera que attingirá o valor de approximadamente $2,000,000 mais em 1900 que em 1899. Este augmento se deve a que a producção haverá de ser muito maior e a que os preços têm havido uma boa alta. Este augmento no preço se deve ao consumo que delle se faz em Porto Rico, onde a libra de arroz americano se vende a um centavo mais barato que a do arroz de outros paizes. Os Estados Unidos não importam grandes quantidades de arroz quando a colheita nos estados do Sul tem sido boa. O que vem da China se importa pelos mesmos chinezes para seu proprio consumo, limitando-se seu trafico ao littoral do Pacifico.

O arroz chinez vem em saccos de 100 libras e é de grão tão pequeno que não merece a aceitação dos commerciantes em provisões do paiz. Os chinezes que residem na parte oriental dos Estados Unidos teem adquirido já gosto pelo arroz de Luisiana, circumstancia que faz que a quantidade de arroz que vem do seu paiz á costa oriental dos Estados Unidos sejá insignificante. Nos Estados Unidos se importa arroz do Japão e de Java quando a colheita nacional tem sido pequena. Em 1899 se importaram da China cerca de 100,000 saccos.

O negocio de arroz de Luisiana se faz, geralmente, por meio de corretores de Nova Orleans, os quaes asseguram que a colheita que vem será maior que as anteriores, e que os preços serão mais altos. Caso de poder-se recolher toda a colheita, o valor total ascenderá, crêm elles, a $6,000,000 approximadamente.

INDUSTRIA DE CARNES.

Diz "El Progresso de Mexico" que o recente movimento que na Allemanha tem levado o criador de gado e os representantes da carniceria e salchicheria a fazer causa commum para oppôr-se á importação das carnes americanas, chama a attenção sobre certas questões que interessam aos agricultores do mundo inteiro. É um facto sorprehendente que nos Estados Unidos tenham podido desenvolver-se os matadouros e fabricas onde se prepara a carne de modo que seus productos

vão para fazer concurrencia nos mercados estrangeiros. Um periodico de Nova York, o "New York National Provisioner" explica como o desenvolvimento de ditas fabricas, que teve por origem uma necessidade commercial, deu em resultado grande incremento na industria de gado e no uso dos melhores methodos para a utilisação das diversas partes do animal. Isto fez baixar o preço da carne de consumo, ao passo que o valor da materia prima e da mão de obra subia.

Quando nasceu a industria só a carne dos animaes tinha um valor intrinseco; o resto, é dizer, cerca da metade do peso do animal vivo, se considerava como refugo, e o commissionista que, por exemplo, em Chicago, lograva desfazer-se do sangue por meio de um canal até o rio, tinha que fazer alguns gastos para desfazer-se da cabeça, os pés e as entranhas do animal. Algumas pessoas que conheciam o valor desses restos estabeleceram fabricas cerca dos matadouros, recolhendo os referidos restos para transformal-os em colla, azeite, sebo e sabões, de modo que o commerciante em animaes encontrava prompto compradores para os desperdicios, a preços remuneradores. Mais tarde, ao desenvolverem-se as fabricas de carne, exploraram esses desperdicios, e a partir desse momento o criador de gado aproveitou-se da prosperidade da nova industria.

Uma vez que o animal tem sido entregue ao matadouro, e depois de morto, se lhe tiram os cornos para transformal-os em pentes, botões, objectos de toucador, etc. As tibias desembaraçadas de seus ligamentos e articulações, servem para fazer cabos de faca, escovas de dentes e outros artigos, pois os ossos duros quando teem recebido um bom polimento, apenas se podem distinguir do marfim. As hastilhas e refugos dos ossos servem para temperar o aço. Do sangue se extrahe a albumina para fixar as côres na impressão das chitas e a preparação dos couros. As partes não utilizadas do sangue, carne e ossos, se empregam como estrume depois que se teem extrahido dellas a graxa e a colla. Os cascos e as diversas partes da cabeça se utilizam do mesmo modo, quando se lhes tem tirado graxa, sebo e glycerina. Os pellos e a pelle se entregam ás industrias de tapeçarias, feltros e pelleteria. Outro producto remunerador é a oleina, que se extrahe da graxa e se envia para a Europa em grande parte para preparar a margarina.

As carnes representam, naturalmente, a maior parte do trafico. Navios providos de camaras frigorificas as transportam com destino a todos os paizes. Outro ramo florescente desta industria é a fabricação de carnes conservadas em caixas para uso dos exercitos e as gentes de mar e do campo.

Pelo exposto se vê quão intimamente ligados estão os interesses do criador de gado ao desenvolvimento dos matadouros e fabricas, e como com a organização racional destes estabelecimentos nos Estados Unidos se tem podido satisfazer ao consumidor e ao productor cousa que todavia não se tem podido realizar em muitas industrias e paizes.

INTRODUCÇÃO DE TRIGOS ESTRANGEIROS.

O Chefe da Secção de Botanica do Departamento de Agricultura dos Estados Unidos, Mr. FREDERICK V. COVILLE, tem publicado ultimamente um artigo sobre a introducção de trigos estrangeiros nos Estados Unidos. Segundo este artigo o Departamento de Agricultura trata de introduzir sementes e plantas valiosas de outros paizes nos Estados Unidos, e que, entre outras cousas, está empenhado em obter as melhores classes de trigo de Europa e Africa, especialmente as usadas para a fabricação de macarrões.

Em annos passados todos os macarrões consumidos nos Estados Unidos eram importados da Europa, mas ultimamente se teem fundado em diversas partes do paiz fabricas deste artigo.

Os consumidores preferem os macarrões importados, que são feitos de um trigo especial que até agora não se tem produzido nos Estados Unidos. Os agricultores do paiz teem estado cultivando, naturalmente, o trigo que encontra maior demanda nos mercados nacionaes. Crê-se, sem embargo, que o trigo para macarrões que o Departamento de Agricultura tem importado afim de fazer experiencias com elle, servirá de base para um grande desenvolvimento da fabricação de macarrões nos Estados Unidos, e augmentará a demanda deste cereal naquellas partes do paiz que se adaptam para seu cultivo.

FABRICAÇÃO DE CIMENTO DE PORTLAND.

Tem-se fallado muito ultimamente sobre a manufactura de cimento hydraulico nos Estados Unidos. O cimento hydraulico é o que pode endurecer-se dentro da agua, e se emprega na construcção de pontes, diques, cimentos de edificios e em outras muitas obras. Rara vez se usa puro, mas se mescla elle com areia e cascalho, o qual forma uma argamassa conhecida em inglez com o nome de *concrete*. Quando o cimento é bem escolhido e as proporções de areia e cascalho não são demasiado grandes, a argamassa que resulta é quasi tão dura como o granito, sendo, alem disto, menos custosa.

A cal que se emprega para a preparação da mescla usada em construcções ordinarias, se obtem de uma pedra calcarea que contem, com excepção de um 3 a um 6 por cento de outras substancias, carbonato de cal puro. Depois que esta pedra tem sido calcinada, deixa um producto que, quando mesclado com agua, se reduz a pó, produzindo uma grande quantidade de calor. Esta classe de pedra calcarea não pode produzir um bom cimento hydraulico sem a aggregação de outras substancias. A pedra que se usava antes em Inglaterra para preparar o cimento de Portland continha sómente de 78 a 80 por cento de carbonato de cal e de 20 a 22 por cento de barro. Mas este ultimo era uma composição de 1½ a 2 partes de silica e 1 de alumina.

Existe outro cimento muito parecido ao anterior, mas que contem certa quantidade de magnesia. É conhecido com o nome de cimento de Rosendale.

No ultimo numero do periodico intitulado "Engineering News" tem-se publicado um extenso artigo com este lemma: "Development and Future Prospects of Portland Cement Manufacture in America" (Desenvolvimento e Porvir da Manufactura de Cimento de Portland em America). Por este artigo se vê que ainda que a dita industria teve sua origem em Inglaterra, aquelle paiz não a monopoliza já. A producção de cimento de Portland em Inglaterra é na actualidade de 7,000,000 a 8,000,000 de barris por anno; a de França é apenas de 3,500,000 barris, emquanto que a de Allemanha fluctua entre 18,000,000 a 20,000,000 de barris. Além disto, a qualidade do producto allemão se considera superior á do Inglez. O citado periodico põe de manifesto o augmento que tem havido no uso do cimento nos Estados Unidos desde o anno de 1883.

Naquelle anno se consumiram como 500,000 barris e quasi toda a quantidade foi importada, havendo sido muito exigua a producção do paiz. Sete annos mais tarde a quantidade consumida nos Estados Unidos ascendeu a 3,500,000 barris, dos quaes sómente 500,000, ou seja a setima parte, foram produzidos no paiz. A essa data a industria começou a fazer notavel progresso, e em 1897 o numero de barris de producção domestica consumidos no paiz, foi muito maior que o dos importados, pois dos 5,000,000 de barris que se consumiram, mais de 3,000,000 foram producto dos Estados Unidos.

No anno de 1899 os Estados Unidos empregaram 5,200,000 barris de cimento de Portland, dos quaes sómente 2,300,000 foram importados. Estas cifras mostram que a producção de cimento nos Estados Unidos tem augmentado notavelmente durante os ultimos annos, e que o consumo, devido aos multiplos usos a que este artigo se dedica, tambem tem augmentado rapidamente. Crê o "Engineering News" que em presença da grande procura que ha deste artigo, as fabricas dos Estados Unidos não poderão suppril-a por alguns annos. Sem embargo, além de que a materia prima é inexgotavel neste paiz, os methodos e apparelhos que se empregam para a fabricação do cimento são mais expeditos que os usados na Europa, e em quanto á qualidade do artigo, os Estados Unidos sobrepujam já as outras nações.

DRAGAGEM DO MISSISSIPPI.

Segundo o "Scientific American" em nenhum rio do mundo existe um systema de dragagem tão perfeito como o que ha no Mississippi, e é devido a isto que a navegação nelle não apresenta obstaculos, pois a natureza de suas correntes faz que com frequencia se formem nelle grandes bancos de areia. Todos os trabalhos que se fazem no Missis-

sippi estão sob a direcção de uma Commissão especial que depende do Departamento da Guerra. Ha constantemente em serviço, durante a maior parte do anno, meia duzia de dragas hydraulicas de aço que valem mais de $100,000, cada uma. Quasi todas estas machinas podem extrahir de 700 a 1,000 pés de areia por hora de uma profundidade de 15 pés. As dragas arrastam um tubo fluctuante que mede como 1,000 pés de longitude, por meio do qual se deposita a areia em paragens onde não possa obstruir a navegação.

Uma das dragas mais dignas de chamar a attenção é a que leva o nome de *Beta*, que foi construida ha já alguns annos. Tem duas machinas de dragar independente uma de outra e completas e custou $172,000. No contrato se especificou que a *Beta* deveria extrahir pelo menos, 1,600 jardas cubicas por hora e quando foi submettida á prova extrahiu, por termo médio, 4,920 jardas cubicas por hora. As bombas para extrahir a areia são do systema centrifugo, e são movidas por machinas de vapor que teem uma velocidade de 130 revoluções e desenvolvem uma força de 1,250 cavallos. Outra das dragas é a *Gamma*, que tem 138 pés de comprimento, 38 de largura e 8 de profundidade.

As machinas desta draga desenvolvem uma força de 700 cavallos, e cada draga pode abrir um canal de uns 20 pés de largura. Ainda que estas machinas parecem quasi perfeitas, se trata de fazer outras superiores, e já um engenheiro do exercito dos Estados Unidos tem feito os desenhos para duas poderosissimas dragas de sucção que custarão $150,000 cada uma, e medirão 150 pés de largura. Levarão duas bombas provistas de tubos de sucção de 15 a 18 pollegadas de diametro. Estas novas dragas serão de tal modo arranjadas que possam depositar a areia sobre as ribeiras do rio.

A EXTENSÃO DA ZONA ALGODOEIRA.

A zona algodoeira dos Estados Unidos, conforme diz um escriptor no "Ainslie's Magazine," desenvolve-se numa extensão de 24 gráos de Este a Oeste e de 10 gráos de Norte a Sul. Omittindo do computo a mór parte do Estado de Virginia, mais de 100 milhas quadradas da parte occidental de Texas e a totalidade dos Estados de Kentucky, Kansas, Missouri, Utah e California, como tambem os Territorios de Arizona e Novo Mexico, em todos os quaes o algodão tem sido cultivado e onde a sua cultura poderia estender-se ainda mais se a procura ficar mais grande, a região de producção do algodão mede quasi 600,000 milhas quadradas. As 20,000,000 de geiras plantadas com algodão só occupam 5 geiras de cada 10 desta extensa região. Apenas 5 por cento deste territorio está occupado por fazendas e não foi nunca lavrado mais do que a quinta parte. Esta região tinha, em 1890, uma população de mais de 8,000,000 de brancos e um pouco mais de 5,000,000 de pretos, em tudo 13,651,000, cada 100 dos quaes produziram 53 fardos de algodão ou pela média 254 libras de fio por cabeça.

TRATADO DE RECIPROCIDADE COM A ALLEMANHA.

No dia 14 de Julho deste anno foi promulgado o Tratado de Reciprocidade Commercial celebrado entre os Estados Unidos e a Allemanha. De conformidade com este Tratado, a Allemanha obtem uma reducção nos direitos de importação sobre vinhos, tartaro de vinho, etc., e em troca os Estados Unidos obtêm a minima tarifa sobre mercadorias exportadas para a Allemanha.

RELATORIO ANNUAL POSTAL.

O relatorio annual do Director Geral do Correio dos Estados Unidos para o exercicio findo em 30 de Junho de 1900, foi publicado no dia 21 de Julho de 1900. Segundo este relatorio o numero total de sellos, livros de sellos, capas de cartas estampilhadas, cintas para periodicos e bilhetes postaes emittidos durante o anno foi de 5,283,687,010, no valor de $907,687,772. O numero de sellos emittidos foi de 958,143,660, no valor de $75,628,739. As capas ordinarias estampilhadas foram vendidas no valor de $4,495,045, e as capas emittidas a pedido foram no valor de $9,093,224. Usaram-se durante o anno cintas estampilhadas para periodicos no valor de $459,090 e os bilhetes postaes representam o valor de $5,955,695.

PREMIOS NA EXPOSIÇÃO DE PARIZ.

A lista de premios outorgados na Exposição de Pariz aos expositores dos Estados Unidos foi publicada no dia 17 do mez passado. O numero de premios conferidos foi de 1,981; destes, 220 foram grandes premios, 480 medalhas de ouro, 583 medalhas de prata, 422 medalhas de bronze e 270 menções honorificas.

Todas as artes e industrias foram premiadas. Os productos agricolas, mineraes e florestaes dos Estados Unidos receberam grandes premios e medalhas de ouro. Tambem receberam grandes premios o algodão, a lã e a seda deste paiz, assim como as machinas para recolher as colheitas, as imprensas, as machinas de coser e os meios de transporte. Os effectos de prata, as joias, as artes e o systema de instrucção publica occuparam tambem um posto proeminente.

EXPORTAÇÃO DE FERRAMENTAS E MACHINAS.

A exportação de ferramentas para constructores e serras durante o anno economico que terminou o 30 de Junho de 1900, foi a mais grande que se registra na historia commercial do paiz, pois ascendeu a $9,646,017, contra $7,842,372 no anno precedente. Antes de 1896 a exportação destes artigos jamais tinha ascendido a $5,000,000 annualmente.

Tem havido tambem um augmento satisfactorio na exportação de machinas de coser e de escrever, machinas electricas e de outras classes. Comparando os algarismos do ultimo anno economico com os do anterior, se vê que o valor das machinas de coser exportadas augmentou de $3,264,344 a $4,540,842; o das machinas electricas de $2,736,110 a $4,328,917; o das locomotivas de $3,883,719 a $5,592,403; o das machinas de escrever de $2,449,205 a $2,697,544; o de machinas para trabalhar metaes de $6,491,586 a $7,193,390, e todas as outras classes de machinas de $18,722,251 a $21,913,202.

Ainda que os principaes mercados para a machina americana são os paizes europeos, uma quantidade consideravel se exporta já para Australia, Japão e a India. A exportação de machinas de escrever a estes ultimos paizes augmenta constantemente. Tambem tem augmentado a exportação destas machinas para a America do Sul, assim como para a Grã Bretanha, França e outros paizes da Europa.

A exportação de pregos e preguinhos tem augmentado durante um anno em mais de $1,250,000; e a de pipas e seus accessorios tem subido de $5,875,748 a $7,024,888. Quanto á exportação de manufacturas de ferro e aço, o augmento em um anno tem sido quasi 56 por cento.

O DIQUE FLUCTUANTE MAIS GRANDE DO MUNDO.

Diz-se que o dique fluctuante que se está construindo para o Governo dos Estados Unidos em Sparrow Point, na vizinhança da cidade de Baltimore, será o mais grande do mundo. Esta obra custará quando terminada, cerca de $810,000. Poderá levantar um navio de 15,000 toneladas 2 pés da superficie da agua.

A EXPOSIÇÃO PAN-AMERICANA.

Os empresarios da Exposição Pan-Americana que se celebrará em Buffalo, New York, do 1° de Maio ao 1° de Novembro de 1901, acabam de publicar um folheto de 50 paginas, profusamente illustrado, referente ao plano geral e aos propositos da Exposição. O Director Geral, Mr. Buchanan, tem publicado uma circular que diz que Mr. Mark Bennitt de Buffalo, New York, é o superintendente do Departamento de Publicações, a quem devem dirigir-se todos os que desejem informações acerca da Exposição.

HAITI.

CONTRIBUIÇÃO QUE DEVEM PAGAR BANQUEIROS E IMPORTADORES.

O Ministro dos Estados Unidos em Port-au-Prince tem communicado ao Departamento de Estado em Washington que o Governo de Haiti tem promulgado uma nova lei pela qual tanto os commerciantes

do paiz como os estrangeiros dedicados ao negocio de banco e importações em pequena escala, estão obrigados a pagar uma quota annual de $500, os primeiros, e $200, os segundos. A quota que antes tinham que pagar os banqueiros não era mais que $200. Entende-se que as importações são em pequena escala quando as mercadorias que se recebem não comprehendem a carga total do navio.

MEXICO.

CONFERENCIA INTERNACIONAL AMERICANA.

O "Diario Oficial," em sua edição de 18 de Agosto proximo passado publica a circular dirigida pela Secretaria de Relações Exteriores de Mexico aos Ministros de Relações Exteriores das Republicas Americanas. A circular, datada em 15 de Agosto de 1900, é como segue:

"Senhor MINISTRO: O Embaixador Mexicano, ao par de todos os representantes americanos em Washington, recebeu do Governo dos Estados Unidos uma circular em que se propunha a reunião, tão prompto como fosse praticavel, de uma segunda Conferencia Internacional Americana, semelhante á que se teve no anno de 1889, mas já não na dita cidade, mas em alguna outra das capitaes do Novo Mundo. Pouco depois, o Honrado Secretario de Estado deu a conhecer ao nosso Embaixador, em uma conversação, o prazer com que seu Governo veria que a cidade de Mexico fosse elegida por sitio a proposito para a reunião projectada.

"Ao dar-se-me conta dessa conversação, cumpri com um dever manifestando, em nome do Presidente da Republica, que si a maioria dos Governos interessados elegia esta capital para a conferencia, nos causaria o maior prazer e apreciariamos como uma honra a visita dos Delegados que enviassem nossas irmãs Republicas de America; mas que si para tão interessante Congresso era designada outra cidade, qualquer que fosse, com muito gosto enviariamos alli nossos Delegados.

"Por fim a maioria dos representantes americanos acreditados em Washington, seguindo as instrucções de seus respectivos Governos, designou esta capital para o expressado objecto; assignalamento que agradecemos como uma honrosa distincção, a qual, si bem não foi solicitada, é recebida com o maior apreço e com sentimentos verdadciramente fraternaes.

"Pouco direi acerca do objecto de uma assemblea que offerece tão notorio interesse, porque seus fins transcendentaes ficaram explicados amplamente em 1889, assim pela convocatoria como pelas actas e as numerosas publicações a que déu margem. Além disto, permitto-me acompanhar o programma dos assumptos que nella hão de tratar-se,

approvado pelas mesmas pessoas a que antes me tenho referido. Basta dizer que todas as materias que nella se tocam são, a não duvidal-o, da maior importancia para a boa intelligencia e fraternaes relações entre as Republicas interessadas.

"De seguro que a Conferencia proxima não poderá discutir todas e cada uma dessas materias, ao menos si, fóra das designadas como principaes, se quizesse abraçar as simplesmente alludidas e que se referem a quantas deixou sem resolver a primeira Conferencia, ou que de algum modo ficaram pendentes depois de seus trabalhos. Mas por poucas que sejam as que agora fiquem resolvidas, as decisões da assemblea, uma vez que fielmente se pratiquem, constituirão outros tantos passos avançados no caminho da harmonia entre os povos do mundo de Colombo; moraes adiantados que poderão servir de exemplo aos demais povos, mostrando-lhes os beneficios da verdadeira e até agora puramente ideal fraternidade humana.

"Por mais que um pessimismo desconsolador declare inuteis os esforços dirigidos a realizar entre os homens o predominio da justiça e a proscripção da força como substituto do direito, é preciso convir em que a affirmação constante de sãs theorias e sua sancção official pelos Governos, mediante convenios ou declarações em commum que moralmente os obriguem, irão lavrando uma opinião tão poderosa que acabe por extirpar os abusos mais arraigados, como tem succedido com a escravidão e outras aberrações que pareciam baluartes inexpugnaveis para a razão e a philosophia. E em verdade que para chegar a essa commum intelligencia, para sanccionar esses convenios, ou preparar ao menos sua sancção, não ha outro meio mais adequado que as conferencias ou congressos em que se discuta livremente, em que todos e cada um dos delegados, com igual direito, possam defender suas opiniões, trazendo seu contingente de saber e de sentimento em pró do bem geral.

"Por outra parte, em uma reunião como a que se projecta se cultivarão e fortalecerão de novo as sympathias que nos inspiram mutuamente a communidade, já seja de lingua e de raça, já seja de instituições politicas, hoje substancialmente identicas nas nações deste hemispherio; e sem a pretenção de formar um mundo aparte, não olvidando que a civilização nós veio da Europa e que os grandes interesses da humanidade são unos, nos permittiremos reconhecer que em America ha interesses especiaes e vinculos mais estreitos entre seus habitantes, com menos complicações internacionaes para alcançar o bem dos povos. Esta consideração, prudentemente applicada, nos levará a resultados que a ninguem offendam nem nos ponham em conflicto com os direitos de ninguem, porque temos de inspirar-nos nos preceitos da justiça e na mais completa noção da liberdade, afastados de todo exclusivismo, já seja de lingua, religião ou de origem.

"Confiando em que estas ideas acharão um echo nos sentimentos desse illustrado Governo, tenho a honra de dirigir-me a Vossa Excel-

lencia, por accordo do Presidente dos Estados Unidos Mexicanos, convidando ao Governo de —— para enviar seus Delegados á Segunda Conferencia Internacional Americana, que se reunirá nesta cidade o 22 de Outubro de 1901; assegurando-lhe desde já que sua delegação receberá o mais cordial acolhimento.

"Com este motivo tenho prazer em protestar a Vossa Excellencia minha mais distincta consideração.

"IGNACIO MARISCAL."

ESTATISTICA FISCAL.

Com este titulo publica "El Tiempo," da cidade de Mexico, um quadro comparativo das importações effectuadas durante o mez de Maio nos annos de 1899 e 1900. Pelo dito quadro se ve que a differença a favor de Maio de 1900 foi de $1,011,661. Ao tratar do desenvolvimento que tem tido em Mexico o commercio exterior, o mencionado diario se exprime deste modo:

" O anno fiscal passado é notavel em nosssa historia financeira pelos grandes totaes que nosso commercio exterior arroja no balanço commercial do paiz; em nenhum anno dos corridos desde nossa emancipação politica havia sido tão consideravel o movimento commercial como nesse, e si dispozessemos de tempo, teriamos feito um estudo do que era esse commercio em 1822, primeiro de nossa independencia, e do que é neste, ultimo do seculo XIX. Deste estudo se tivesse visto graphicamente o largo caminho percorrido por nossa patria durante os sessenta e nove annos que leva de occupar o lugar de nação soberana."

O PAINÇO ASSUCARADO.

Diz "El Progreso," de Mexico, que o painço assucarado é, segundo opinião geral, o melhor e mais vantajoso das forragens verdes, e por conseguinte, de grande importancia para o agricultor.

Têm-se feito ensaios repetidos, em pequena e grande escala, do cultivo do painço assucarado e do painço americano em terrenos differentes e em diversas comarcas. O painço dado ao cavallo tem demonstrado ser superior ao milho.

O painço assucarado é uma planta grande que cresce de novo depois que tem sido cortado e pastado pelo gado. Cresce até uma altura de tres metros e ás vezes a mais. As espigas servem para fazer escovas. Outra de suas vantagens é que não tendo insecto inimigo não ha difficuldade nenhuma em semeal-o. Como substancia nutritiva, segundo analyses chimicas verificadas, é muito superior ao milho, podendo dar-se verde ou secco. Seu talo não é tão forte como o do milho. O gado o come com mais vontade e facilidade, devido a sua riqueza em assucar. É muito conveniente, especialmente, ás vaceas leiteiras. Pode dar-se em todos os paizes, em qualquer classe de terreno e é digno de que os lavradores façam experiencias com elle.

A INDUSTRIA ASSUCAREIRA.

Com este titulo apparece no periodico "El Tiempo," da capital de Mexico, o seguinte interessante artigo:

"Em um lapso de tempo verdadeiramente curto, pois apenas pode calcular-se em mais de dous annos, tem-se desenvolvido um extraordinario enthusiasmo pela industria assucareira e sobretudo nestes ultimos mezes quasi não tem passado uma semana sem que se tenha que dar conta da organização de companhias para emprehender em grande escala a exploração do assucar em todas as regiões do paiz que são, por seu clima, favoraveis aos plantios de canna, pois ainda não se generaliza aqui o emprego da beterraba, cujo cultivo requer determinadas terras.

"E não só são companhias poderosas as que se estão dedicando á referida exploração, pois que muitos proprietarios de fazendas nas zonas adequadas estão dando grande impulso a essa industria e os antigos systemas de trapiches são substituidos por machinas modernas.

Nestes ultimos dias tem estado chegando dos Estados Unidos uma magnifica machina destinada á fazenda de San José Púura, situado no districto de Zitácuaro, propriedade do conhecido capitalista hespanhol Don Facundo Perez.

Esta machina, segundo temos informações, custa ao Senhor Perez mais de $100,000, e ficará completamente installada nestes mezes, de modo que chegada a epocha da proxima safra, isto é, em Dezembro ou Janeiro, a moenda dessa colheita se fará já na nova machina.

VERBA PARA OBRAS MUNICIPAES.

"El Nacional" da cidade de Mexico, em data de 10 de Julho, 1900, diz que o Departamento da Fazenda tem informado ao Conselho Municipal da cidade de Mexico que o Governo Federal tem votado a somma de 500,000 pesos para realizar obras de melhoramento na capital durante o presente anno fiscal.

URUGUAY.

OS ADUBOS CHIMICOS E O PORVIR DA HORTICULTURA.

Com este titulo publica a "Revista de Agronomia e Ciencias Aplicadas," publicação mensal que ve a luz em Assumpção, um artigo muito instructivo, obra do Doutor Moises S. Bertoni, Director da Escola de Agricultura daquella cidade, cujo orgão é a mencionada revista.

Diz o Doutor BERTONI que o Paraguay dista ainda muito da epocha em que suas terras terão necessidade de adubos chimicos e em que será conveniente a applicação destes. Apoia sua asserção nas razões seguintes: 1ª. Que a grande maioria dos terrenos de labor possue todavia sufficiente fertilidade para resistir largos annos de cultivo, accrescentando que a extensão dos terrenos incultos é tão grande que para muitas gerações haverá terras virgens com que substituir as esgotadas. 2ª. Que o preço dos adubos chimicos é muito elevado, e muito altos os fretes. Na opinião do auctor, si o cultivo das terras virgens daquella Republica se fizesse conforme os methodos dictados pela sciencia, poderiam conservar-se com sua actual fertilidade por um tempo illimitado. Alem disto, muitas terras meio esgotadas podem recuperar toda ou uma boa parte de sua antiga exuberancia mediante os alludidos methodos.

Eis aqui como se exprime o Senhor BERTONI depois de ter exposto o que antecede:

"Sem embargo, toda regra tem sua excepção, e existem cultivos nos quaes a applicação de adubos chimicos é conveniente sob o ponto de vista do producto liquido, quando as circumstancias exigem o aproveitamento de terrenos de segunda ou terceira classe. Refiro-me, sobretudo, á horticultura e á cultura de arvores, não olvidando algum outro cultivo."

Mais adiante, ao tratar dos adubos chimicos, o escriptor diz o seguinte:

"É certo que esta classe de adubos não se necessita em todos os terrenos; ha terrenos onde sem elles e mediante os adubos communs se obtêm productos excellentes. Mas isto não basta. É preciso que o que se exporte seja de boa qualidade, não só em parte, mas em todo."

Omitte o Doutor BERTONI entrar em detalhes para demonstrar quão grande é a influencia dos adubos chimicos sobre a producção, cousa da qual já não pode ter duvida, e assegura que a introducção das ditas substancias no Paraguay tem deixado de ser impracticavel com tal que se trate de um cultivo remunerador e extenso. O nitrato de soda é, segundo o citado auctor, o mais importante e efficaz dos adubos que se podem usar no Uruguay, e crê que se deveria introduzir elle directamente do Chile, em lugar de compral-o nos mercados francezes. Logo accrescenta: "O uso desta substancia exige o de algum outro adubo phosphatado, cuja applicação se faz juntamente e com antecipação. O mais commum, as escorias Thomas, não custam em Europa mais de 35 francos por mil kilogrammas. Em somma, a quantia necessaria para adubar um hectare de hortaliça com os dous adubos chimicos indicados, não passaria aqui de $200 a $400."

Crê o Doutor BERTONI que os adubos acima citados não sómente augmentam a producção, mas que acceleram quasi sempre a madurez, por ser muito estimulantes.

Segundo parece, se tem encontrado nitrato de soda no Chaco, e o que falta por fazer é verificar si os depositos são de sufficiente importancia. Nelles pode ter o Paraguay uma immensa riqueza.

VENEZUELA.

CONTRATO TELEGRAPHICO.

A Gazeta Official de Venezuela publica em seu numero correspondente ao 3 de Julho proximo passado um contrato celebrado entre o Governo de Venezuela e a Companhia Franceza de Cabos Telegraphicos.

O Governo concede permissão á dita Companhia para estender fios terrestres telegraphicos, afim de enlaçar os cabos maritimos desde suas estações ás officinas estabelecidas ou que se estabelecerem. Em vista das difficuldades que se oppõem á collocação do cabo submarino entre Carúpano e Ciudad Bolívar pelo leito do rio Orinoco, fica obrigada a Companhia a collocar um cabo subfluvial entre Ciudad Bolívar e Soledad, que será desde logo propriedade nacional, enlaçando o dito cabo em Soledad á linha telegraphica nacional que vai desde este ponto a Barcelona, sob as condições seguintes:

A Companhia pagará a metade dos gastos de reparação e conservação da linha terrestre de Soledad a Barcelona, e da subfluvial de Ciudad Bolívar a Soledad. De commum accordo se fixa em 10,000 bolivares annuaes o maximum dos gastos de reparação e conservação das referidas linhas terrestre e subfluvial. Os 5,000 bolivares annuaes que corresponde pagar á Companhia deverão pagar-se á ordem do Ministro de Fomento em quotas trimestraes antecipadas e a contar desde o 1º de Julho proximo passado.

Nem a concessão, nem a contribuição a que se refere este ultimo artigo dão direito em modo algum á Companhia para intervir no serviço da Linha Nacional, tendo sómente a Companhia o direito de dirigir-se por officio ao Ministro de Fomento, para participar-lhe as interrupções que possam occorrer na linha.

A Companhia não poderá augmentar, nem diminuir a tarifa vigente sem a prévia auctorização do Governo. No caso de que por interrupção de um dos cabos da Companhia, esta fizesse uso, para assegurar o serviço internacional dos cabos de outras Companhias, cobrará segundo as tarifas destas emquanto que dura a interrupção.

O Governo concede á Companhia uma prorogação que vencerá o dia ultimo de Dezembro do presente anno, para estender o cabo subfluvial entre Ciudad Bolívar e Soledad, que completará a rede costeira da Companhia.

A Companhia dá por recebida do Governo Nacional a somma de 64,261 bolivares e 55 centimos, que se lhe devem por cabogrammas officiaes dirigidos desde o primeiro trimestre de 1895 até a data, ficando saldada toda conta que possa ter a Companhia com o Governo da Republica.

CONTRATO IMPORTANTE.

"El Tiempo," diario da capital, publica com a data de 3 de Julho proximo passado, o seguinte:

"Tem-se celebrado um contrato entre o Governo e o Sr. León Fuchs, pelo qual o Governo cede ao contratante, em emphyteusis, a porção de terras publicas situadas nas margens direita e esquerda do braço "Casiquiare," cujos limites são os assignalados no plano que ao effeito tem apresentado.

"O Governo garante a León Fuchs a livre navegação, já seja á vela, a vapor ou por qualquer outra força motriz, pelos rios que conduzam naturalmente aos terrenos emphyteuticos.

"O contratante obriga-se a pagar antecipadamente ao Governo Nacional a somma de 750 bolivares em ouro, como aluguel annual

"Ainda que o artigo 1519 do Codigo Civil prescreve que o emphyteuta pode resgatar sempre o fundo emphyteutico, tem convindo as duas partes que o dito resgate deverá fazer-se dentro do prazo de cinco annos, a contar da data em que se firme este contrato.

"Este contrato não poderá ser traspassado em todo nem em parte a nenhum Governo estrangeiro."

PRODUCÇÃO DE OURO NO MUNDO.

O crescido commercio realizado durante o ultimo anno economico em quasi todos os paizes do mundo, e, especialmente, nos Estados Unidos, tem sido acompanhado de uma extraordinaria producção de ouro A secção de Estatistica do Departamento de Fazenda diz em um relatorio que acaba de publicar que é um facto interessante que a actual producção de ouro nos Estados Unidos excede á de 1853, que foi quando as minas de California produziram $65,000,000. Em 1899 a producção de ouro nos Estados Unidos ascendeu a $72,500,000. A média annual da producção de ouro nos Estados Unidos é hoje duas vezes maior que a de ha dez annos.

A producção no mundo inteiro durante os ultimos cincoenta annos tem sido quasi dez vezes maior que a dos cincoenta annos precedentes, e mais do dobro da dos tres e meio seculos anteriores. O rapido augmento que tem havido na producção de ouro durante os ultimos annos arroja um total para o meio seculo que termina de $6,665,631,000.

A producção de ouro no mundo desde a epoca do descobrimento de America, até o anno de 1850 ascendeu sómente a $3,129,720,000. Tomando as cifras correspondentes a periodos de meio seculo, desde o anno de 1500 até 1899, inclusive, a producção de ouro tem sido a seguinte:

1501–1550	$225,580,000
1551–1600	245,580,000
1601–1650	281,840,000
1651–1700	324,440,000
1701–1750	587,580,000
1751–1800	677,240,000
1801–1850	787,460,000
1851–1899	6,665,631,000

As quantias produzidas pelos Estados Unidos e pelo resto do mundo durante os ultimos quatro annos são as seguintes:

Anno.	Estados Unidos.	Outros paizes.
1896	$53,088,000	$202,251,000
1897	57,363,000	238,812,000
1898	64,463,000	287,428,000
1899	72,500,000	315,000,000
Total	247,414,000	1,043,491,000

A PRODUCÇÃO DE CARVÃO NO MUNDO.

Segundo o relatorio da Repartição de Estudos Geologicos, a producção de carvão nos Estados Unidos durante o anno commum de 1899 foi como segue: carvão anthracite, 60,514,201 toneladas; carvão betuminoso, 172,608,917 toneladas; total, 233,123,118 toneladas. A producção total do Reino Unido em 1899, foi de 220,085,303 toneladas, ou 13,037,815 toneladas menos que a producção dos Estados Unidos.

A exportação de carvão dos Estados Unidos durante o anno commum de 1899, foi de 1,707,796 toneladas de anthracite e 4,044,354 toneladas de carvão betuminoso, ou seja uma exportação total equivalente a 2.46 por cento da producção. A exportação total no exercicio findo a 30 de Junho de 1900 foi de 7,188,621 toneladas, das quaes 1,775,168 toneladas foram de carvão anthracite, e 5,413,438 toneladas de carvão betuminoso. Isto foi um augmento de 2,136,688 toneladas, ou 42 por cento, sobre a exportação no anno fiscal de 1899, anno em que se exportaram 5,051,933 toneladas.

A exportação total de carvão da Grã Bretanha no anno de 1891 foi de 41,180,300, toneladas ou 18.71 por cento da producçao neste anno. É, porém, o consumo do carvão, e não a exportação deste producto que indica a actividade manufactureira de um paiz, e, neste respeito,

os Estados Unidos teem a vantagem sobre a Grã Bretanha. Quasi todo o carvão produzido que não se exporta é consumido no paiz. A quantidade de carvão consumida na Grã Bretanha em 1899, foi de 178,905,000 toneladas, ao passo que nos Estados Unidos se consumiram 227,370,960 toneladas, ou 48,465,960 toneladas mais que na Grã Bretanha.

O relatorio da Repartição de Estudos Geologicos diz que o carvão betuminoso está substituindo o carvão anthracite como combustivel nas fabricas dos Estados Unidos, e que cada anno torna-se mais um artigo de consumo no paiz. Em 1899, 25.95 por cento da producção total foi de carvão anthracite e é provavel que durante os proximos cincoenta annos, pelo menos, 20 por cento da producção de carvão nos Estados Unidos consistirá de carvão anthracite de Pennsylvania.

Toda a Europa é mais ou menos agitada pela situação do carvão. Uma diminuição na producção de carvão daquelles paizes de que tem sido o costume de comprar este producto, é considerada entre as possibilidades do proximo futuro. Como evitar os resultados é, actualmente, uma das questões mais importantes no Velho Mundo.

Na Inglaterra, sente-se grande inquietação. O preço do carvão já tem augmentado consideravelmente e se apprehende que tenda a ser prohibitivo, e que os fabricantes inglezes tenham de luctar contra grandes obstaculos comparados com os de outros paizes, especialmente dos Estados Unidos, onde o carvão é mais abundante e de facil extracção. A producção de carvão na Grã Bretanha, é verdade, tem augmentado de 190,000,000 toneladas em 1895 até mais de 220,000,000 em 1899, mas a quantidade que se consome no paiz na actualidade é calculada em cerca de 180,000,000 toneladas. A producção da Inglaterra possa, sem duvida, ser augmentada, mas devido á profundidade das minas, o carvão só pode ser extrahido a preços elevados. Conforme um memorial lido ultimamente perante uma associação geologica sobre a extracção do carvão, ha uma mina em que se extrahe o carvão a uma profundidade de 1,903 pés da superficie, outra a 1,740 pés, e duas outras ainda a 1,688 e 1,630 pés respectivamente.

Na Allemanha, tambem, os preços são excessivamente altos. Isto se deve, em parte, á demanda resultante da grande actividade dos estabelecimentos manufactureiros e, em parte, aos *trusts*. A Allemanha produz 102,000,000 toneladas de carvão e 34,000,000 toneladas de lignite, mas isto não basta para as necessidades do consumo e este paiz tem importado ultimamente 450,000 toneladas por mez da Inglaterra. O consul americano em Frankfort avisou ultimamente ao seu Governo que a Allemanha está na condição de pagar um bom preço pelo carvão americano.

A França, ainda que compra hoje da Inglaterra carvão em grandes quantidades, reconhece a importancia de saber a que preços o carvão pode ser obtido em outros paizes. O consul americano em Bordeaux diz que se deseja introduzir naquelle paiz o carvão americano, si os

preços o permittirão. Diz que as estradas de ferro de propriedade do Governo e uma outra via ferrea que consome grandes quantidades de carvão, teem na actualidade agentes nos Estados Unidos, fazendo uma investigação do assumpto.

Na Russia, Austria, e Italia ha um bom mercado para o carvão e todos estes paizes esperam supprimentos deste producto dos Estados Unidos. De facto, uma falta de carvão parece ser hoje caracteristica de todos os paizes da Europa. Noticias recebidas da Belgica dizem que os laminadores são obrigados a suspender os trabalhos por um ou dous dias por semana por causa da falta de carvão. Tambem as fabricas de obras de vidro teem reduzido a quantidade de carvão que consomem e algumas dellas teem suspendido seus trabalhos. Varias outras industrias belgicas tambem soffrem do alto preço do carvão e seus gerentes, em consequencia, fallam em suspender operações.

Parece que nunca tem-se apresentado uma opportunidade tão favoravel como esta para tornar conhecido na Europa os meritos do carvão americano. O carvão já tem sido exportado em quantidades mais ou menos importantes para as regiões do Mediterraneo, mas ha opportunidades em outros lugares para a introducção do carvão. O unico obstaculo com que se tem de luctar é o dos transportes, mas parece que isto será em parte remediado. O superintendente da linha de barcos da Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company está na actualidade na Europa fazendo investigações neste sentido. Visitará os principaes portos da Grã Bretanha e do Continente e fará nota dos que offerecem as melhores facilidades para a introducção do carvão. Estão se construindo em Curtis Bay na costa do Atlantico docas extensivas e se annuncia que estarão concluidos antes do dia 15 de Setembro. Estas docas teem 1,200 pés de comprimento e são as maiores na costa do Atlantico.

Tambem está na Europa o secretario da Anthracite Cooperators' Association com o fim de investigar as opportunidades para augmentar a exportação do carvão anthracite americano. Esta associação teem recebido propostas de companhias dos Estados Unidos, assim como de companhias da Inglaterra, Belgica e Noruega, para a construcção e equipamento de navios de alto-mar de grande capacidade.

O "Mining Journal" de Londres, em sua edição correspondente a 25 de Agosto, 1900, diz que "Não obstante que se espera que brevemente haverá uma reducção nos preços do carvão, a cotação actual é pouco satisfactoria sob o ponto de vista dos interesses do paiz. Sem demorar para declarar a verdade que o carvão é a base de toda nossa industria manufactureira, a alta nos preços deste producto é reflectido em quasi todos os ramos de negocio. * * * Não é possivel a todos estes fabricantes que façam frente a este mal elevando os preços de seus productos, e muitos d'elles teem de soffrer com paciencia as circumstancias alteradas em que se encontram. * * * Outra phase perturbadora do assumpto é a opportunidade que se offerece para a con-

currencia de carvão americano, que não precisava desta vantagem para fazer-se sentir odiosamente." * * *

Um telegramma de Bremen, Allemanha, datado de 31 de Agosto de 1900, diz que a situação do mercado de carvão tem-se tornado tão grave que o Governo tem solicitado a importação do estrangeiro e reduzido os direitos aduaneiros sobre o carvão ao par dos cobrados do algodão e outras materias primas. O syndicato de carvão diz que não será possivel augmentar a producção do carvão durante este inverno.

Um telegramma de Berlim, datado de 2 de Setembro de 1900, diz que a falta de carvão continúa. Um augmento no preço de um marco por tonelada foi feito em Cilesia. Em Berlim usa-se a turfa em grande escala como combustivel. O "Tageblatt" de Berlim diz que "Seria extraordinario si os americanos emprehendedores não se aproveitassem desta opportunidade favoravel para augmentar sua exportação de carvão."

PRODUCÇÃO DE TRIGO NO MUNDO.

O Departamento de Agricultura dos Estados Unidos tem feito um calculo sobre a colheita de trigo no mundo, do quai se tomam as seguintes informações:

A colheita de trigo da Republica Argentina no inverno passado foi igual, pelo menos, á de 1898–99. A exportação neste anno até o 3 de Agosto ascendia a 60,338,000 *bushels*, contra 43,256,000 *bushels* no mesmo periodo de 1899.

A colheita do Uruguay, segundo dados officiaes, montou em 1898–99 a 7,000,000 de *bushels*. A de Australia soffreu consideravel diminuição. Outra colheita importante de trigo é a da India, que se recolhe em Março e Abril, e que ascendeu no ultimo anno fiscal a 182,582,000 *bushels*.

É difficil averiguar a quanto alcança a colheita total da Russia, porque ha extensos terrenos semeados de trigo que não constam nos relatorios recebidos.

As noticias recebidas da Suecia annunciam uma colheita muito boa na parte central do paiz. Da Allemanha se annuncia que a producção será maior que de ordinario, sendo excellente a condição do grão. De Austria não se tem informações muito satisfactorias. O calculo official feito para Hungria fixa a colheita total em 135,000,000 de *bushels*

Os dados que chegam de Roumania são, geralmente, favoraveis, e se assegura que a colheita de Bulgaria será muito notavel. Outro tanto se diz da da Turquia Europea.

As informações recebidas de Italia, Suissa, e Hespanha indicam que a colheita em ditos paizes não baixará do termo médio ordinario. De França se annuncia que será de 109,057,650 hectolitros, ou sejam,

309,173,000 *bushels*. Em quanto á Belgica e Hollanda, as colheitas se apresentam bem.

Na Grã Bretanha haverá, segundo se crê, uma colheita de 58,000,000 de *bushels*.

A colheita de trigo na parte septentrional da Africa foi muito pobre em 1899, mas as condições teem melhorado muito neste anno.

Com respeito ao Canadá, as informações que se teem são reduzidas. Um dos ultimos calculos feitos fixa a dita colheita em algo menos de 11,000,000 de *bushels*. Assegura-se que em Mexico a colheita de trigo este anno tem sido extraordinaria, e o grão de muita boa qualidade. Tambem se diz que houve grande augmento na area semeada neste grão.

Na tabella que se publica em seguida se poderão ver os calculos feitos pelo Departamento de Agricultura relativos á colheita de trigo em 1900, comparados com os de 1898 e 1899:

Paizes.	1900.	1899.	1898.
Norte America	567,000,000	622,264,000	758,303,000
America do Sul	122,000,000	112,331,000	66,603,000
Europa	1,440,000,000	1,499,604,000	1,579,758,000
Asia	360,000,000	399,196,000	434,771,000
Africa	41,000,000	35,800,000	46,630,000
Australia	50,000,000	56,212,000	34,980,000
Total	2,580,000,000	2,725,407,000	2,921,045,000

O periodico de Londres "Statist," ao fallar da producção de trigo, exprime-se desta maneira:

"A colheita na maior parte dos paizes europeos está já sufficientemente desenvolvida para poder fazer della um calculo approximado. Não ha duvida de que na Grã Bretanha não chegará á média ordinaria que se considera de 30 *bushels* por geira. O anno passado foi de 32.65 *bushels*, e este anno não passará de 28 *bushels*, provavelmente." Em geral, se crê que a colheita de Europa será deficiente e que se verá obrigada a importar trigo dos Estados Unidos, a Republica Argentina, India e a Australia.

INDUSTRIA DE SEDA NO MUNDO.

Devido á fineza do Sr. Franklin Allen, Secretario da Sociedade de Sericultura de America e membro do Jurado Internacional de Premios da Exposição de Pariz, a Secretaria das Republicas Americanas tem recebido um exemplar de um relatorio que o dito senhor apresentou relativo aos premios concedidos aos fabricantes de generos de seda dos Estados Unidos. Neste relatorio se registra o resultado das observações feitas pelo Sr. Allen na capital de França.

A França continúa sendo o primeiro paiz productor de artigos de seda do mundo, sem contar as nações orientaes, das quaes não se podem obter estatisticas fidedignas. A cidade de Lyão é o centro da industria de seda na Europa, e a producção de suas fabricas representa um valor de 400,000,000 de francos por anno. A fabricação de cintas de seda na França está limitada quasi inteiramente á cidade de Saint Etienne, cuja producção tem um valor de 100,000,000 de francos, on seja 10 milhões menos que o valor total das cintas de seda manufacturadas nos Estados Unidos.

Os paizes que além de França e os Estados Unidos teem exhibido tecidos de seda e seda em rama na Exposição de Pariz, são Grecia, Bulgaria, Romania, Argelia, Servia, Portugal, Russia, Japão, Allemanha, Suissa, Austria, Inglaterra, Italia, Hespanha e o Canadá.

O Japão fabrica generos de seda principalmente para o uso domestico; sem embargo, a exportação annual é de mais de um milhão de duzias de lenços e 30 milhões de jardas de generos em peça.

A exhibição de generos de seda dos Estados Unidos tem sido muito satisfactoria, pois recebeu toda classe de premios. O numero de medalhas de ouro outorgado aos Estados Unidos foi de quatro, e recebeu, além disto, uma de prata, 4 de bronze e 2 menções honorificas. O Jurado que outorgou os premios se compunha de 27 membros, dos quaes 15 eram francezes, 2 suissos, 2 italianos, 1 allemão, 1 austriaco, 1 russo, 1 hespanhol, 1 grego, 1 chinez, 1 japonez, e 1 americano.

A industria de seda tem-se desenvolvido nos Estados Unidos de um modo notavel, e apezar de que é relativamente nova, este paiz occupa hoje o segundo lugar entre as nações do mundo na producção de tecidos finos de seda. Como até a data a seda em rama tem-se produzido nos Estados Unidos em quantidades muito pequenas, se crê que esta industria poderia estabelecer-se com muito bom exito em California.

UTILÍDÁDE DA ANALYSE DAS TERRAS.

Com o titulo que encabeça estas linhas publica o "Scientific American," em sua edição do mez de Julho, o artigo que damos em seguida:

"Ha meio seculo os agricultores creiam que o estrume era o unico elemento de nutrição das plantas e não faziam nenhum caso das substancias mineraes. A classificação das terras se fazia então considerando sómente as proporções de areia, argilla, substancias calcareas, etc., que continham e a sciencia não ia mais além. Estes dados não podiam ser de grande utilidade ao homem pratico que não necessitava analysar ou mandar analysar suas terras para ver si continham em excesso os elementos que acabamos de enumerar, e só podiam modificar as condições physicas dessas terras por meio de adubos.

Em resumo, a agronomia estava todavia na infancia, sem ideas novas, incapaz de dirigir o cultivador pela via do melhoramento intimo do solo. Mais tarde, quando se conheceu melhor o modo de alimentação dos vegetaes, o progresso começou a desenvolver-se.

Todo vegetal contem carvão, hydrogenio, oxygenio, azote, acido phosphorico, acido sulphurico, chloro, silica, potassa, soda, cal, magnesia, ferro e manganez. Com a excepção do carvão, do hydrogenio e do oxygenio, que são proporcionados pela atmosphera em quantidades quasi illimitadas, todos os outros elementos são extrahidos do solo pelas raizes. Vê-se, pois, que as terras araveis devem estudar-se mais bem sob o ponto de vista de sua composição chimica que sob o de seu estado physico.

"Entre os differentes elementos mineraes já citados, uns, como a silicia, a alumina, o ferro, o manganez e a soda, existem sempre no solo em quantidade sufficiente para as necessidades limitadas das colheitas; o acido sulphurico, o chloro e a magnesia existem geralmente em quantidades satisfactorias, mas os principios mais importantes são: o acido phosphorico, a potassa e a cal e si a proporção de um d'elles é demasiado debil, é impossivel obter rendimentos elevados, apezar do cultivo mais perfeito. Felizmente, a agricultura dispõe de adubos especiaes que permittem corrigir a pobreza do solo e proporcionar a este os elementos que lhe façam falta.

O adubo se applica mais bem ao solo que ao vegetal, e CHEVREUL tem dito com razão: "O adubo é o complemento do solo."

Emquanto que a agronomia ignorava esses principios tão simples, todo progresso fundamental era impossivel. A analyse do solo, referindo-se sómente aos elementos constitutivos, argilla, area e substancias calcareas, era incapaz de traçar as regras geraes para o melhoramento do cultivo.

Sómente quando o chimico adiantou no conhecimento da composição do solo, se puderam presenciar essas transformações maravilhosas, que levaram a fertilidade ás regiões mais desherdadas. Sómente quando a analyse nos ensinou que o acido phosphorico faz falta aos terrenos graniticos e a potassa aos terrenos demasiado calcareos, o agricultor conseguiu, por meio de adubos complementarios, transformar em terrenos relativamente fertis aquelles desprovistos até então de toda utilidade.

Hoje o cultivador cuidadoso de seus interesses deve conhecer os recursos da terra que explora; por isto, nos paizes adiantados, a analyse das terras já entrou na pratica agricola. As investigações feitas no laboratorio dão rapidamente ao homem pratico informações precisas que não poderiam proporcionar-lhe nem o aspecto do solo nem uma pratica secular, e sem as quaes é impossivel todo melhoramento fundamental.

Imaginemo-nos, por exemplo, uma fazenda cujos terrenos são escassos em acido phosphorico; sem embargo, suas proporções de area, argilla e substancias calcareas são sufficientes. Si encerra uma quantidade regular de estrume, se cultiva a terra com esmero, e apezar de todo, os rendimentos não passam de certo limite. Quando a analyse tenha descoberto a causa desta situação pouco lisongeira, o fazendeiro poderá augmentar repentinamente suas colheitas com só empregar alguns saccos de phosphato.

Consideremos outra fazenda em que o proprietario, mais audaz applica os adubos chimicos. Obtem magnificas colheitas, mas gastando muito dinheiro, pois ignorando quaes são os elementos fertilizantes que suas terras requerem, os applica todos—acido phosphorico, potassa, azote, sob as formas de adubo completo. A este fazendeiro a analyse ensinará que sendo o solo rico em potassa, por exemplo, o uso deste elemento constitue um gasto absolutamente inutil e lhe permittirá realizar uma economia consideravel.

Estes exemplos são sufficientes para demonstrar a importancia da analyse chimica do solo. A consideramos como a base de toda empreza agricola, e pela mesma a agricultura moderna deve estar agradecida aos sabios que, como Casparín e Risler, tem sido os primeiros em chamar a attenção publica para tão importante assumpto.

A analyse das terras tem por objecto averiguar si requerem o azote, a cal, o acido phosphorico e a potassa, e indicar ao pratico a natureza do adubo ou dos adubos que tem que empregar. Em certos casos os resultados da analyse não deixam lugar á vacillação alguma; isto succede quando as terras são muito ricas ou muito pobres. Quando esta analyse demonstra que um elemento fertilizante abunda no solo, é inutil augmental-o, e quando comprova que a proporção é debil, pode estar seguro de que a addição desse elemento dará resultados satisfactorios. A questão é muito mais facil de resolver nos casos medios; sem embargo, Casparín e Risler teem podido estabelecer, depois de largas investigações, os principios seguintes: Quando a analyse demonstra que o solo contem menos de 1 por cento de acido phosphorico, de 1 por cento de azote e de 1 a 1.5 por cento de potassa, o agricultor deve tirar a conclusão de que a terra requer uma addição de azote, acido phosphorico ou potassa.

Depois de estabelecer esta regra, devemos accrescentar que é sempre prudente comprovar as conclusões tiradas da analyse, por meio de experiencias feitas directamente no campo.

A applição da analyse chimica das terras á pratica agricola, já prestou immensos serviços; sem embargo, é preciso dizer que a sciencia não tem chegado todavia a este respeito a um gráo de perfeição absoluta.

Si bem esta analyse nos indica a quantidade dos differentes principios mineraes contidos na terra, é assim mesmo importante para averiguar

o gráo de assimilação e para distinguir as partes immediatamente utilizaveis pelos vegetaes, de que será utilizada ao cabo de um tempo mais ou menos largo.

A EVOLUÇÃO AMERICANA.

Com este titulo começou a publicar-se em Pariz, sob a direcção da Senhora M. Antonia Z. de Blanco, uma importante revista, cujo principal objecto é advogar pelos interesses dos povos latino-americanos. Dignos de encomio são os esforços da Senhora de Blanco, e sem duvida encontrarão grande acolhimento em todos os paizes da America latina.

Do seu artigo-programma transcrevemos os seguintes trechos:

"'A Evolução Americana' inicia hoje seu labor neste cidade chamada, e com razão, o cerebro do mundo, em prol dos povos latinos da America. Todo o que em beneficio delles redunde, todo o que tenda a levar para elles correntes de energia vivificante e civilizadora merecerá seu especial cuidado.

"Desde o Rio Grande até a Patagonia no vasto continente americano, sem solução de continuidade, acham-se estabelecidas as numerosas Republicas de origem iberica. Sua população é muito pequena em relação com o vastissimo territorio que occupam. Sua historia, no curto periodo transcorrido desde que cessaram de ser colonias europeas, é accidentada pelas frequentes revoluções.

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"Queremos, pois, trabalhar, por quantos meios estejam ao nosso alcance, em prol desses povos latinos. As riquezas naturaes do seu solo, até hoje quasi inexploradas, são inesgotaveis; nas montanhas se escondem todos os mineraes e todas as pedras preciosas; nas florestas abundam as madeiras, as resinas e as plantas medicinaes; nas immensas planicies pastam rebanhos de gado sem conto, e ao fundo dos continentes penetram os rios que em muitos casos assemelham braços de mar.

"Ainda alli mesmo onde o tropico devesse imperar com todos seus ardores, as desigualdades do solo modificam a temperatura, alteram os climas e produzem, segundo a altura, as varias estações da zona temperada.

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"Alguns desses paizes já teem sahido por completo do periodo caliginoso das revoluções e teem entrado na via do progresso com passo firme e determinação inquebrantavel.

"Vejam-se os progressos maravilhosos do Mexico durante a administração do General Porfirio Diaz. Esse exemplo devia levar o

alento e o enthusiasmo a todos os patriotas da America latina, filhos de paizes até agora menos fortunados.

"Nosso labor tenderá, pois, a dizer aos estrangeiros todo o bom que de nossos paizes lhes podemos dizer; a apontar-lhes as vias que conduzem á riqueza; os veeiros de todo genero que estão por explorar, e aos proprios trataremos de levar-lhes palavras de alento, e de subministrar-lhes quantos conhecimentos ou avisos uteis e opportunos possam ser recolhidos nestes centros europeos onde se sente a pulsação diaria da moderna civilização.

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"Quantos pensem como nos que a America latina é patria digna de que por ella se trabalhe e se lute, serão bemvindos em nossas columnas. Não desejamos a collaboração nem dos cynicos nem dos scepticos.

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"Vamos a tratar de fazer labor fecunda e generosa, e si em algo logramos contribuir ao engrandecimento dos povos da America latina, por pequino que esse seja, não haverá sido em vão a creação da 'Evolução Americana' em Pariz.'

BIBLIOGRAPHIA.

Nesta secção do Boletim Mensal se tratará dos livros e folhetos enviados á Secretaria das Republicas Americanas que se referem a assumptos de interesse aos paizes da União Internacional das Republicas Americanas.

O Senhor Licenciado Don J. Eduardo Girón, de Guatemala, acaba de publicar uma obra intitulada "El Notario Practico ó Tratado de Notaría." É uma obra importante que tem vindo a encher uma lacuna que desde ha tempo se fazia sentir. A obra comprehende tres partes: na primeira se estudam a origem e historia do notariado, o que é o notario, o protocollo, os instrumentos publicos, a natureza destes, seu elemento formal, as contribuições fiscaes e municipaes, o registro civil e da propriedade immovel. Na segunda se trata dos contratos que affectam directamente as pessoas, dos testamentos e sociedades, da compra-venda, dos seguros, dos contratos reaes, da servidão, arrendamento, arbitramento e transacções, etc. A terceira parte é um verdadeiro protocollo, que contem modelos de cada classe de escripturas. Segue a esta parte um appendix que comprehende varias leis relativas ao notariado, que são de applicação diaria e que devem conhecer bem as pessoas que se dedicam a esta delicada professão.

O "British Geographical Journal" correspondente ao mez de Agosto proximo passado, contem um tratado do Doutor Hans Stef-

FEN que leva este titulo: "The Patagonian Cordillera and its main rivers, between 41° and 48° south latitude" (A Cordilheira de Patagonia e seus rios principaes entre os 41° a 48° de latitude Sul). Este artigo foi lido pelo auctor em uma reunião da Sociedade Real de Geographia, de Londres, o 19 de Março de 1900. O trabalho está dedicado, principalmente, a uma descripção do Valle de Puelo e do rio Las Heras, e está illustrado com gravuras reproduzidas de photographias. O resultado das investigações feitas em Patagonia são uma contribuição valiosa á geographia da America do Sul. Segundo os mappas feitos pelo Doutor STEFFEN o curso de varios dos rios de Patagonia é muito tortuoso.

O numero do periodico "Export Implement Age" correspondente ao 1° de Agosto proximo passado contem numerosas illustrações que são dignas de attenção. Tem 18 paginas de vistas que representam os artigos exhibidos por fabricantes de instrumentos agricolas dos Estados Unidos na Exposição de Pariz. O periodico tinha vasto campo de onde escolher para a preparação destas vistas, pois nenhum paiz no mundo tem sobrepujado aos Estados Unidos na qualidade e belleza das machinas e instrumentos agricolas exhibidos em Pariz. O "Export Implement Age" tem feito uma especialidade dos relatorios relativos a exposições estrangeiras, e envia correspondentes com o unico objecto de obter informações a esse respeito.

O Departamento da Guerra dos Estados Unidos tem publicado ultimamente um folheto muito interessante que consta de 51 paginas, e contem o relatorio sobre a Ilha de Guam preparado pelo General de brigada JOSÉ WHEELER. Além de uma descripção geral da dita ilha, sob o ponto de vista geographico, se expõem no dito trabalho a população da ilha e um resumo das differentes variedades de arvores e plantas, assim como dos animaes pertencentes áquella região. Tambem figuram no trabalho todas as ordens emittidas pelo Governo dos Estados Unidos desde que tomou posse da ilha, assim como as tarifas aduaneiras vigentes na actualidade. O folheto está muito bem illustrado com 18 vistas e tem tambem dous mappas.

"El Azúcar de Caña" é o titulo de um livro do Sr. W. L. BASS, que tem sido publicado em inglez e em hespanhol e está illustrado com numerosas gravuras. A obra apresenta uma serie de dados e observações de muita utilidade para os fabricantes de assucar. O trabalho contem os resultados de experiencias feitas pelo auctor durante muitos annos.

O Departamento de Agricultura acaba de publicar um tratado escripto pelo entomologista L. O. HOWARD, e que leva este titulo: "Os Mosquitos nos Estados Unidos." Nesta publicação se trata exten-

sivamente destes insectos, e se diz que ha como 250 especies conhecidas, das quaes sómente 30 se teem encontrado nos Estados Unidos.

Tem-se recebido nesta Secretaria o No. 12 da Revista nicaraguense "La Patria." É uma publicação de agradavel leitura e está escripta em linguagem muito castiça. Merece occupar um posto entre os melhores periodicos mensaes que vem a luz nos paizes hispano-americanos.

A Revista do Instituto Paraguayo, correspondente ao mez de Março proximo passado, nos tem chegado como de costume. Contem varios artigos instructivos, sendo digno de mencionar-se o que se intitula "Compendio de Ethnographia Paraguaya Moderna."

Bulletin Mensuel

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RÉPUBLIQUE ARGENTINE.

MESSAGE DU GOUVERNEUR DE SANTA FÉ.

Le message du Gouverneur de la Province de Santa Fé est très encourageant. Les prévisions de recettes établies au budget étaient de $5,625,000; on a perçu $6,560,234. Les dépenses estimées au budget à $5,676,620 n'ont été que de $5,052,643.

Il y a actuellement dans le trésor provincial une somme de $460,647.

La circulation des bons du Gouvernement qui, au commencement de 1899 était de $3,976,000, a diminué jusqu'à la somme de $2,000,537.

En dehors de ces bons du Gouvernement, il y avait au 1er janvier d'autres dettes exigibles pour un montant de $1,106,572; actuellement ce montant n'est plus que de $323,696.

En tenant compte des amortissements effectués, il y avait à la fin de février une circulation en dette intérieure de 7,557,308 piastres nominales, et il restait encore à émettre $1,568,550.

En résumé, il faut dire que l'augmentation des recettes est venue fort à propos à la province, pour amortir une partie de sa dette flottante dont il reste encore 2 millions ½ de pesos à amortir, sans compter la dette extérieure consolidée de 7 millions ½ de pesos. Quoique cette augmentation des recettes fasse espérer que la province en vienne à rétablir ses finances, cependant l'état actuel des engagements n'est pas de nature à permettre des libéralités dans le budget, dans lequel au contraire l'amortissement de la forte dette doit être prévu par des attributions correspondantes.

En ce qui concerne l'agriculture, le message signale le fait que la superficie cultivée en 1899–1900 s'élevait à 1,748,809 hectares, contre seulement 1,446,357, 1,418,762 et 1,231,095 hectares, respectivement, pendant les trois années antérieures.

BRÉSIL.

LA PRODUCTION DE DIAMANTS.

D'après une publication récente du docteur Garcez, dit le "Nouveau Monde," de Paris, la production annuelle de diamants au Brésil serait d'environ 40,000 carats, y compris les terrains diamantifères de l'Etat de Bahia.

C'est l'Etat de Minas Geraes qui est le plus riche en ces pierres précieuses. Les plus beaux diamants qu'on y a trouvés sont "l'Etoile du Sud," appartenant aujourd'hui, on pense, à la couronne de Portugal, du poids brut de 253 carats et qui pèse 125 carats depuis sa lapidation, et le diamant de Dresde, qui pesait 117 carats à l'état brut et pèse, lapidé, 63 carats. Ces deux diamants ont été trouvés à Bagagem.

Il y a peu d'années, on a trouvé près de Diamantina, dans le même Etat, un diamant du poids brut de 80 carats, mais il a beaucoup de défauts.

ADJUDICATION PUBLIQUE.

Le 30 novembre 1900 aura lieu à la Direction Générale des Travaux et Communications du Ministère de l'Industrie, à Rio de Janeiro, l'adjudication publique des travaux d'art nécessaires pour le chargement, le déchargement, la garde et le magasinage des marchandises dans le port de Recife (Etat de Pernambuc).

Les principaux travaux à exécuter au port de Recife sont les suivants: 1° quai pour abordage en 7 mètres de profondeur pour les eaux les plus basses; 2° un remblai de sable compris entre ce quai et le littoral actuel; 3° établissement de grues hydrauliques ou électriques; 4° construction des magasins nécessaires à l'abri et à la garde des marchandises; 5° établissement de voies ferrées le long des quais; élargissement de la rue existante le long du quai du nord, etc. Cautionnement, 10 contos de reis.

COLOMBIE.

NOUVEAUX DROITS D'EXPORTATION.

Un décret du Président de la République de Colombie, en date du 11 juin 1900, a établi les droits d'importation suivants:

Chaque quintal de caoutchouc, 5 piastres; chaque quintal de café en parchemin, 2 piastres 40 centavos; chaque quintal de café pilé, 3 piastres 20 centavos; chaque quintal de peaux de bœuf, 3 piastres 20 centavos; chaque quintal de peaux de chèvre, 4 piastres 50 centavos.

L'or et l'argent en barres paieront 2 pour cent de la valeur établie

par le certificat de fonte et d'essai, valeur qui sera calculée au taux du jour de l'exportation.

L'or en poudre, l'or et l'argent non éprouvés, les bijoux, etc., en or et en argent paieront également 2 pour cent ad valorem en papier-monnaie.

Les minerais d'or et d'argent acquitteront 1 pour cent de la valeur de leur assurance, convertie également en papier-monnaie.

A défaut de document constatant l'essai et l'assurance, l'or et l'argent paieront 10 centavos pour chaque gramme, et le minerai brut 16 piastres par tonne.

Le décret a été mis en vigueur dès sa publication.

CUBA.

INDUSTRIES AGRICOLES À SANTIAGO DE CUBA.

Une dépêche de Guantanamo annonce qu'il y a une reprise vigoureuse de travail dans les industries agricoles de la Province de Santiago. La plantation Santa Lucia à La Veta, a produit 41,000 sacs de sucre pendant la saison actuelle. La "United Fruit Co." à Banes est en train de construire un moulin à cannes à sucre qui produira 1,100 sacs de sucre par jour. Des capitalistes de l'Angleterre et des Etats-Unis ont engagé de grand capitaux à Baracoa pour l'exportation de la noix de coco. Les villes de la province commencent à se suffire et le gouvernement militaire retire graduellement les subventions qu'il leur avait accordées sur les fonds de l'île.

RÉPUBLIQUE DOMINICAINE.

COMMERCE ET AGRICULTURE EN 1899.

Les données suivantes ont été extraites d'un rapport récent du Consul de Belgique à Saint-Domingue:

Le commerce total de la République s'est élevé, en 1899, à 6,396,887 piastres, dont 1,857,702 piastres pour les importations et 4,539,185 piastres pour les exportations.

Ces chiffres se répartissent comme suit entre les divers bureaux de douane du pays:

Douanes.	Importations.	Exportations.
	Piastres.	*Piastres.*
Saint-Domingue	533,122	792,397
Puerto Plata	481,364	752,654
San Pedro de Macoris	498,472	1,590,418
Sanchez	215,061	748,675
Samana	24,472	105,842
Monte-Cristy	28,962	126,734
Azua	76,249	452,465
Total	1,857,702	4,539,185

Voici le détail des principaux produits exportés en 1899:

Sucre	livres	101,926,422	
Cacao	do	2,326,169	
Café	do	1,962,287	
Tabac	do	7,997,044	
Cire	do	268,133	
Résine	do	3,140	
Écaille de tortue	do	122	
Dividivi	do	1,496,000	
Vieux cuivre	do	2,530	
Cuir de bœuf	do	224,549	
Bois de manglier	do	80	
Bois de campêche	do	1,864,040	
Bois guayacan	do	439,175	
Bois bera	do	112,520	
Bois mora	do	282,500	
Peluche végétale	do	80	
Bois d'acajou (en canons), pieds		736,768	
Bois d'acajou (en branches), pieds			50,015
Bois d'épinette	pieds		15,686
Bois de cèdre	do		23,610
Bois de paloma	do		14,200
Bois d'abei	do		3,200
Bois de quiebra hacha, pieds			1,540
Miel d'abeilles	gallons		64,506
Mélasse	do		47,886
Rhum	do		51
Bougies stéariques, caisses			1,332
Noix de palme	régimes		389,600
Peaux de bœuf	pièces		83,563
Bœufs	têtes		277
Peaux de chèvres	pièces		33,000
Amidon	barils		31½

Comparée à celle de 1898, la production agricole de 1899 a subi une légère diminution. Toutefois, depuis l'arrivée au pouvoir du nouveau gouvernement, les travaux agricoles ont repris une grande activité, et il y a lieu de s'attendre à ce que le chiffre des exportations accuse une augmentation sensible en 1900. On sait d'ailleurs que le sol du pays est très fertile et que tous les efforts tendent actuellement à l'amélioration et au développement de la culture des produits exportables, qui constituent la richesse du pays.

Dans la République Dominicaine, les jeunes plants de café commencent à produire au bout d'une période de huit à douze mois après leur plantation. De même, le cacaoyer s'y développe très rapidement.

Au point de vue de la qualité, le café de Saint-Domingue vaut celui de Porto-Rico, mais, en général, la récolte n'est pas faite avec assez de soins et les qualités ne sont pas suffisamment bien séparées. Ainsi, l'année dernière, certains cafés dominicains provenant du Mainel ont obtenu des prix sensiblement plus élevés que les meilleurs cafés portoricains. Les connaisseurs prétendent même que quand il sera bien préparé, le café dominicain obtiendra des prix doubles de ceux auxquels il est vendu actuellement sur les marchés étrangers.

Il pourrait également en être de même pour le tabac, qui est de qualité supérieure, et dont la préparation défectueuse est seule cause de la dépréciation qu'il subit sur les marchés étrangers. Comme qualité et comme arome, l'espèce dite "tabacco de olor" équivaut, paraît-il, au tabac de Cuba, mais les planteurs n'en cultivent pas autant qu'ils le pourraient, sous prétexte que les feuilles sont petites et qu'il ne donne pas un grand rendement comme quantité. Il est d'ailleurs à remarquer que quand son entrée était permise à Cuba, ce tabac y était vendu comme ayant été récolté dans la Vuelta Abajo. Il atteignait

alors des prix rémunérateurs, qui seraient probablement vite regagnés s'il était mieux connu à l'étranger.

Moyennant 200 ou 300 piastres, ou peut actuellement acquérir, dans certains districts de la République Dominicaine, une superficie de terre d'excellente qualité suffisante pour commencer une exploitation comportant diverses plantations et l'élevage du bétail. Un immigrant intelligent, qui posséderait 2,000 à 3,000 piastres, peut acquérir et organiser une exploitation agricole qui lui permettrait de vivre largement et qui aurait décuplé de valeur au bout de dix ans. A l'encontre de ce que l'on pourrait croire, le pays est très sûr, les habitants très hospitaliers, la propriété assurée, et les colons peuvent être certains d'y jouir d'une complète sécurité.

Outre des terres fertiles et à bon marché, les étrangers qui iraient s'établir dans la République Dominicaine, y rencontreraient encore d'excellents pâturages pour l'élevage du bétail, des bois de construction à profusion et de nombreuses bêtes de somme à très bon compte. Un cheval y vaut de 25 à 30 piastres et un âne de 10 à 12 piastres.

Au bout de quatre mois une exploitation agricole nouvelle peut commencer à récolter du maïs, des haricots, des patates, des légumes de toute espèce, des oignons, de l'ail, etc.

Les bananes peuvent se récolter au bout de neuf à dix mois après les semailles.

La main-d'œuvre est à bon marché, mais relativement peu abondante, de sorte qu'il y aurait grand intérêt à attirer dans le pays des familles entières d'agriculteurs.

Le climat de l'île est sain; les forêts contiennent beaucoup de gibier de plume et les cours d'eau sont très poissonneux, sans compter que le bétail est abondant et s'y reproduit avec une grande rapidité.

En somme, on peut dire que l'agriculture paraît appelée à un bel avenir dans la République Dominicaine, et qu'elle offre un débouché rémunérateur aux colons étrangers possédant un modeste pécule.

EQUATEUR.

COMMERCE EN 1899.

Dans un rapport à son Gouvernement, sur la situation générale de l'Equateur, M. Frandin, Chargé d'Affaires de France à Quito, dit que l'année 1899 a été assez favorable au commerce général de l'Equateur. Il s'est produit une augmentation assez notable dans le mouvement commercial de la côte, bien que celui de l'intérieur ait un peu diminué.

Le Congrès de 1899 a fait quelques réformes importantes à la loi de douane en ce qui concerne: l'expédition des marchandises avariées, la responsabilité des expéditionnaires en cas de perte ou d'avarie, le

transport des caisses en douane; l'importation des colis postaux; la réduction des droits d'importation sur les objets destinés à l'agriculture et aux industries nouvelles; la suppression des droits d'exportation sur les roseaux, les écorces de mangle, les orseilles et les *zarzays;* la réduction des droits d'exportation sur les cafés; la suppression des droits d'entrée sur les articles destinés à l'instruction; la suppression du monopole des cartes à jouer; et quelques autres réformes accessoires destinées à la commodité et à la sécurité du commerce.

Le café, d'après la nouvelle loi, ne paiera plus à l'exportation qu'un demi-centavo par kilogramme. L'Equateur n'est pas un grand producteur de café, et cette réduction donnera, peut-être, un élan nouveau à cette branche de culture de ce pays.

Voici le tableau du rendement de cacao des quatre dernières années:

Cacao exporté de l'Equateur pendant dix mois.[1]

A destination de—	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.
	Kilos.	*Kilos.*	*Kilos.*	*Kilos.*
France	7,068,249	7,144,486	8,530,181	10,066,331
Espagne	1,985,317	1,768,179	1,560,546	2,511,484
Allemagne	3,408,027	2,863,915	2,408,876	4,438,179
Angleterre	1,433,323	1,630,969	1,851,129	2,492,335
Etats-Unis	722,452	1,139,702	1,305,510	1,575,870
Belgique et Hollande	467,435	258,165	64,675	290,851
Amérique Centrale	153,652	129,471	44,737	40,335
Chili	63,379	45,595	58,585	64,526
Mexique	62,480	26,554	48,006	40,577
Italie	12,264	30,367	4,083	39,744
Pérou	13,820	.....	9,600	21,605
Uruguay et Argentine	21,027	2,456	33,359	54,715
Colombie	1,960	.....	.....	.....
Autriche	.....	16,231	6,124	.....
Cuba	.....	.....	.....	7,498
Total	15,413,385	15,056,090	15,925,411	21,644,541

[1] Le cacao ne s'exporte que pendant dix mois de l'année.

Le total de l'exportation a donc été, en 1899, de 21,644,541 kilogrammes, c'est-à-dire une augmentation d'un tiers sur 1895.

La France importe, à elle seule, près de la moitié de la production totale de cacao de l'Equateur.

Cette production continuera à suivre une échelle ascendante, car les haciendas continuent à planter, tous les ans, des millions de plants nouveaux.

ETATS-UNIS.

COMMERCE EXTÉRIEUR PENDANT LE MOIS DE JUILLET 1900.

Les tables détaillées du commerce extérieur des Etats Unis pendant le mois de juillet 1900 montrent les importations et les exportations, par grandes classes, comparées avec celles du même mois pendant l'année 1899.

D'après les chiffres officiels publiés par le Gouvernement, le total du commerce en juillet s'est monté à $164,103,921, contre $155,037,914 en juillet 1899; les importations pendant le mois se sont élevées à $63,656,421, contre $60,101,744 pendant la période correspondante de 1899. Pendant l'année 1900, 34.49 pour cent des importations étaient exempts de droits de douane, contre 43.15 pour cent en 1899; les droits de douane perçus en juillet 1900 se sont montés à $19,802,272, contre $16,971,454 perçus en juillet 1899; la valeur totale des exportations pendant le mois de juillet 1900 se montait à $100,447,470, contre un total de $94,926,170 en juillet 1899.

Voici comment sont classées les importations et les exportations, les premiers totaux étant pour le mois de juillet 1900, les seconds pour le même mois de 1899:

Importations.—Denrées alimentaires et animaux vivants, $17,707,320, contre $17,846,382; articles bruts entrant dans les différents procédés de l'industrie du pays, $17,838,762, contre $17,503,742; articles manufacturés employés dans les arts mécaniques, $6,700,444, contre $6,547,611; articles manufacturés destinés à un usage immédiat, $11,125,190, contre $9,728,130; articles de luxe, etc., $10,284,735, contre $8,475,879.

Exportations.—Produits agricoles, $54,641,946, contre $54,710,662; produits manufacturés, $34,545,042, contre $29,932,034; produits miniers, $3,533,681, contre $3,234,985; produits forestiers, $5,486,206, contre $4,772,645; marchandises diverses, $88,121, contre $65,770; marchandises étrangères réexportées, $1,889,538, contre $1,935,427.

RAPPORT OFFICIEL SUR LA RÉCOLTE.

Le rapport mensuel du Statisticien du Ministère de l'Agriculture montre que la condition moyenne du maïs au 1er septembre 1900 était 80.6. Il y a eu un déclin pendant le mois d'août se montant à 6.9 points, et la condition était le 1er du mois courant 4.6 points plus bas que le 1er septembre 1899, et 1.1 points au-dessous de la moyenne des moyennes du mois de septembre pendant les dix dernières années.

La condition de la récolte du blé d'hiver et du blé du printemps combinés était 69.6, contre 70.9 le 1er septembre 1899, et 80.9 la moyenne des moyennes pendant les dix dernières années.

La condition moyenne des avoines une fois moissonnées était 82.9, contre 87.2 le 1er septembre 1899, et 79.8 pour le même mois pendant les dix dernières années.

La condition moyenne de l'orge récoltée était 70.7, contre 86.7 le 1er septembre 1899, et 83.9 la moyenne des moyennes pendant les dix années passées.

La condition de la récolte du seigle d'hiver et de celui du printemps

réunis était 84.2, contre 82 le 1er septembre 1899, et 86.5 la moyenne des moyennes pendant les dix dernières annés.

La condition du sarrasin le 1er septembre était 80.5, contre 75.2 le 1er septembre 1899.

Depuis le 1er août on a constaté une diminution dans la condition du tabac.

La condition moyenne du coton était le 1er septembre 68.2, contre 68.5 le 1er septembre 1899, et 76.6 la moyenne des moyennes pendant dix années.

La condition moyenne des pommes de terre était le 1er septembre 80, contre 86.3 le 1er septembre 1899, et une moyenne de 77.4 pour le mois de septembre pendant dix années.

Pendant le mois d'août, il y a eu une amélioration de 4 points dans la condition de la canne à sucre dans la Louisiane, et elle est actuellement 11 points au-dessus de la moyenne de dix ans. Dans les Etats qui cultivent la canne à sucre en moins grande quantité, la condition a diminué, et, à l'exception du Texas, elle est au-dessous de la moyenne de dix années. Tous les Etats qui, d'après le onzième recensement ont 15,000 acres ou davantage plantés de sorgo, rapportent une diminution dans la condition pendant le mois d'août.

Une diminution dans la condition du riz est rapportée de tous les Etats qui produisent cette céréale, à l'exception cependant de la Louisiane, où il n'y a pas de changement appréciable. La condition dans cet Etat, le principal siège de la culture du riz, est actuellement 13 points au-dessus de la moyenne des séries d'années pour les quelles les statistiques sont valables.

Les récoltes des pêches dans la Caroline du Nord, la Caroline du Sud, le Mississipi et le Tennessee sont deux fois les moyennes de dix années; celles de la Virginie et de la Géorgie plus du double, et celle du Texas et de l'Alabama presque le double; celle de l'Arkansas est plus de 50 pour cent au-dessus de la moyenne de dix années. La Californie est tombée de 7 points au-dessous de telles moyennes.

PRODUCTION DE MINERAI DE FER EN 1899.

D'après le rapport annuel du Service Géologique des Etats-Unis, compilé par Mr. John Birkinbine, la production de minerai de fer aux Etats-Unis, pendant l'année 1899, s'est montée à 24,683,173 tonnes, soit une augmentation de 5,249,997 tonnes, ou 27 pour cent du rendement de 1898. Ces chiffres, pour les deux années, représentent la production annuelle maximum de n'importe quel pays, le rendement de 1880 de l'Angleterre étant le plus proche, quand 18,062,040 tonnes furent extraites des mines.

Des vingt-quatre Etats qui ont contribué en 1899 au total cité, le Michigan se trouve à la tête avec 9,146,157 tonnes, suivi par le Minne-

sota avec 8,161,289 tonnes. L'Alabama occupe la troisième place avec un rendement de 1,009,327 tonnes. La région du Lac Supérieur a augmenté son premier rendement maximum de 13,779,308 tonnes en 1898 à 17,802,955 tonnes.

La valeur totale des minerais de fer, pris sur place, était, d'après les producteurs, de $34,999,077, ou $1.43 par tonne, soit une augmentation de 28 cents, ou 24.6 pour cent, de plus que la valeur moyenne de 1898.

C'est dans l'Etat de New-Jersey, où l'exploitation des mines coûte des sommes considérables, que l'on a payé le prix moyen le plus élevé pour le minerai pris sur place; le prix moyen le plus bas ayant été payé au Texas, l'exploitation des mines dans cet Etat ne coûtant seulement que 90 cents la tonne.

AUGMENTATION DES DEMANDES DE CUIVRE.

Tandis que les Etats-Unis continuent à produire des quantités énormes de cuivre, les demandes de ce métal sont suffisantes pour absorber la plus grande partie de la production du monde. Pendant les sept premiers mois de l'année courante, la production du cuivre était 352,990,360 livres, contre 326,736,800 livres pendant la période correspondante de 1899, soit une augmentation de 8 pour cent environ. D'après le "Journal of Finance" (Journal financier), les mines de cuivre étrangères ont produit du 1er janvier au 1er août 1900, 113,335,040 livres, contre 114,282,560 livres pendant les mêmes mois de 1899. Si on réunit la quantité produite en Europe avec celle des Etats-Unis, on obtiendra un total pour les sept mois de 466,334,400 livres, soit une augmentation de 25,315,040 livres sur le total général de la même période pendant l'année 1899. L'augmentation mensuelle a été en moyenne de 3,616,434 livres.

Les demandes de cuivre à l'étranger ont augmenté énormément et les Etats-Unis ont été priés, pendant les sept mois nommés, d'exporter 64.6 pour cent de la production totale du pays. Les exportations de cuivre pendant sept mois ont atteint un poids total de 228,252,720 livres, contre 142,508,800 livres exportées pendant les mêmes mois de 1899.

Le total de l'approvisionnement de cuivre existant en Angleterre et en France, le 15 août 1900, se montait seulement à 32,490 tonnes, y compris 6,200 tonnes qui sont sur mer, venant du Chili et de l'Australie. Les exportations des Etats-Unis, du 1er au 25 août inclus, ont excédé 1,000,000 de livres. Le commerce du cuivre a augmenté dans de telles proportions aux Etats-Unis que de très gros envois de ce métal aux pays étrangers pendant le restant de l'année sont pratiquement assurés.

ESTIMATION DE LA PRODUCTION DU COTON EN 1900.

Le 30 août, la Convention des Commissaires d'Agriculture des Etats cotonniers s'est réunie à Raleigh, Caroline du Nord, et a publié le rapport suivant relatif à la récolte du coton de 1900:

"Nous basant sur des renseignements dignes de foi, que nous avons reçus de chacun des Etats et Territoires cotonniers; prenant en considération la condition actuelle de la récolte du coton, nous sommes portés à croire que le rendement de la saison de 1900–1901 sera le suivant:

	Balles.		Balles.
L'Alabama	821,000	Le Territoire d'Oklahoma	100,000
L'Arkansas	809,000	La Caroline du Sud	801,000
La Floride	30,000	Le Tennessee	285,000
La Géorgie	1,025,000	Le Texas	3,300,000
Le Territoire Indien	210,000	La Virginie	13,000
La Louisiane	603,000	Les autres sources	500
Le Mississippi	843,000		
Le Missouri	30,000	Total général	9,364,500
La Caroline du Nord	495,000		

"Cette estimation est sujette, cependant, aux influences du temps qu'il fera pendant le mois de septembre, et aussi aux gelées qui pourraient se produire plus tard.

EXPORTATIONS D'OUTILS ET DE MACHINES.

Pendant l'année fiscale 1900, les exportations de la quincaillerie, des scies et des outils employés par les constructeurs ont été plus grandes que jamais, se montant à $9,646,017, contre $7,842,372 en 1899. Avant l'année 1896, les exportations de ces marchandises ne se sont jamais élevées plus haut que $5,000,000. On constate aussi une grande augmentation dans l'exportation des machines à coudre, des machines à écrire, des machines électriques et autres machines compliquées. Si on compare les chiffres de l'année fiscale 1900 avec ceux de l'année fiscale 1899, on trouvera que la valeur des machines à coudre a augmenté de $3,264,344 en 1899 à $4,540,842; les machines électriques, de $2,736,110 en 1899 à $4,328,917 en 1900; les locomotives, de $3,883,719 à $5,592,403; les machines à écrire, de $2,449,205 à $2,697,544; les machines pour manufacturer le métal, de $6,491,586 à $7,193,390; toutes les autres machines, de $18,722,251 à $21,913,202.

Quoique les principaux marchés pour les machines des Etats-Unis se trouvent encore en Europe, de grandes quantités sont expédiées en Orient, spécialement en Australie ou Nouvelle-Hollande, au Japon et dans l'Inde.

On constate une augmentation considérable dans la quantité de machines à écrire que les Etats-Unis ont expédiées dans ces pays, ceci étant aussi le cas pour l'Amérique du sud, le Royaume-Uni, la France

et les autres pays européens où les Etats-Unis ont augmenté le trafic des dites machines.

En ce qui concerne les clous, les pointes et les broquettes, les ventes ont augmenté en un an de plus de $1,250,000, pendant que les exportations des tuyaux pour le gaz et l'eau, etc., ont augmenté de $5,875,748 à $7,024,888. Tous les autres articles manufacturés de fer et d'acier ont augmenté en une seule année de près de 50 pour cent ou de la différence entre $10,464,055 et $15,322,922.

LES IMPORTATIONS DE CAFÉ EN 1900.

Pendant l'année fiscale finissant le 30 juin 1900, les Etats-Unis ont importé plus de café que n'importe quelle autre nation du monde, quoique cependant la quantité ait été bien moindre que celle de l'année antérieure. Le total général pour les douze mois se montait à 787,983,611 livres, évaluées à $52,466,993, soit 43,833,452 livres de moins en quantité et $2,808,477 de moins en valeur que les importations de 1899, quand le poids total était de 831,827,063 livres, et la valeur $55,275,470.

La plus grande partie du café importé aux Etats-Unis vient directement des pays de l'Amérique Latine, quoique quelques-uns des cafés crédités comme étant importés des pays européens, aient été indubitablement produits dans l'Amérique du Sud. Le nombre de livres importées de l'Amérique Latine se montait, en 1900, à 748,546,777 livres, évaluées à $47,329,851. Pendant l'année précédente les totaux se montaient respectivement à 857,074,992 livres et $51,474,005, soit une diminution de 108,527,215 dans le nombre de livres importées et une diminution dans la valeur de $4,144,154.

En 1900 les achats de café mexicain faits par les importateurs des Etats-Unis ont été plus grands que jamais, et se sont montés à 35,327,921 livres, contre 27,324,827 livres en 1899. La valeur totale de ces achats en 1900 était $3,312,608, contre $2,686,248 en 1899. La valeur moyenne par livre en 1900 était environ 9.39 cents contre une moyenne de 9.83 cents en 1899.

Pendant l'année courante, 9,249,729 livres de café provenant des Indes occidentales (Antilles) ont été importées par les Etats-Unis, contre 11,701,202 livres en 1899. Le prix moyen par livre était 7.91 cents contre 8.08 cents en 1899.

Le Bureau des Statistiques du Ministère des Finances ne donne pas séparément mais en bloc les chiffres des pays de l'Amérique Centrale. La quantité de café importé de ces pays en 1900 se montait à 43,786,494 livres évaluées à $4,356,407, soit environ une moyenne de 9.93 cents par livre. En 1899 les importations des Républiques de l'Amérique Centrale et de l'Honduras Britanique se sont montées à 44,298,800 livres, évaluées à $5,368,711, soit une moyenne de 11.61

cents par livre. La diminution dans le nombre de livres se montait à 1,512,306 livres se composant principalement de variétés d'un prix plus élevé.

La quantité de café reçue en 1900 de l'Amérique du Sud se montait à 660,182,633 livres, contre 772,750,163 livres en 1899. La valeur des importations de café de l'Amérique du Sud se montait, en 1900, à $38,929,513, soit une moyenne d'un petit peu plus de 5.89 cents par livre, contre $42,471,424 en 1899, ou une valeur moyenne par livre de 5.5 cents environ.

Rien qu'au Brésil, les Etats-Unis ont acheté en 1900, 601,520,169 livres de café ayant une valeur totale de $34,333,762, soit un prix moyen par livre d'environ 5.78 cents. Les achats qui ont été faits dans les autres pays de l'Amérique du Sud, pendant l'année 1900, se sont montés à 58,662,464 livres, évaluées à $4,595,751, soit un prix moyen de 7.84 cents et une légère fraction en plus par livre. En 1899 les achats faits au Brésil se sont montés à 682,417,812 livres évaluées à $35,253,834 ou une moyenne de près de 5.17 cents par livre. Pendant cette année, la quantité de café reçue des autres pays de l'Amérique du Sud s'est montée à 90,332,351 livres, évaluées à $7,217,590 ou environ 8 cents par livre.

GRANDS CENTRES POPULEUX.

Le Directeur du Recensement annonce que la population de la ville de New-York, y compris Brooklyn dont le dénombrement avait été fait séparément en 1890, était le 1er juin 1900 de 3,437,202 habitants, soit une augmention en 10 ans de 944,611 habitants ou près de 37.9 pour cent. Si les villes qui environnent New-York étaient comprises, sa population se chiffrerait dans les environs de 5,000,000. New-York, d'après le recensement actuel, occupe, en population, le second rang parmi les grandes villes du monde ou vient après Londres.

La ville de Chicago, d'après les chiffres officiels du 12ème recensement, a une population de 1,698,575 habitants. En 1890, elle en contenait 1,099,850. En conséquence l'augmentation en 10 ans a été de 598,725 habitants ou 54.44 pour cent.

La population de la ville de Philadelphie était le 1er juin 1900 de 1,293,697 habitants. Le nombre de personnes résidant dans cette ville le 1er juin 1890 se montait à 1,046,964; l'augmentation est donc, en 10 ans, de 246,733 habitants ou 23.57 pour cent.

TRAITÉ AVEC LA GRANDE-BRETAGNE.

Le 18 août 1900, le Ministère des Affaires Etrangères à Washington a publié un traité entre les Etats-Unis et la Grande-Bretagne. Cette convention, qui a rapport seulement à la tenure et disposition de la

propriété réelle et personnelle, fut signée en 1899 mais ne fut ratifiée qu'en juillet 1900. C'est un document trés long qui contient sept articles et donne en detail la manière de distribuer la propriété des citoyens de l'un des deux pays qui meurent dans l'autre pays.

EXPORTATIONS DE MAÏS.

La popularité croissante que le maïs produit aux Etats-Unis et dans les autres pays américains a acquise en Europe est aussi remarquable que satisfaisante. Pendant les cinq années qui viennent de s'écouler, les exportations des Etats-Unis de cette céréale, non compris sa farine, ont donné une moyenne annuelle de 173,813,301 boisseaux, tandis que pendant les cinq années précédentes, la moyenne n'était annuellement que de 49,054,663 boisseaux. En d'autres termes, l'augmentation des exportations annuelles des cinq dernières années sur celles des cinq années précédentes a été, en moyenne, un petit peu plus de 254 pour cent. Le maximun des exportations fut atteint pendant l'année fiscale terminée le 30 juin, 1900, quand le total des exportations du maïs se montait au chiffre sans précédent de 209,348,273 boisseaux. Huit à neuf dixièmes des exportations annuelles sont généralement destinés aux pays européens.

A ce sujet, il est inutile que le "American Agriculturist" (l'Agriculteur Americain) ait compilé les rapports détaillés des cultivateurs des Estats-Unis pour savoir ce que coûte la culture du maïs. Les rapports ont été consolidés, un expert en a déduit les moyennes et, d'après les rapports couvrant plus de 4,000 acres de champs de maïs, produisant un rendement moyen de 40 boisseaux environ par acre, est arrivé à la conclusion que le coût de la production est de 12.9 cents par boisseau.

Il affirme aussi que si le cultivateur obtient 21.5 cents par boisseau, le capital placé lui rapporte 6 pour cent. Dans les frais sont compris la valeur de tous les travaux de culture, l'entretien des attelages et des machines et toutes les autres dépenses à l'exception des frais d'assurance et de surveillance et la dépréciation des bâtiments de la ferme et des palissades.

IMPORTATIONS DE LAINE.

Pendant l'année fiscale, finissant le 30 Juin 1900, les importations de laine se sont montées à 155,918,455 livres contre 76,736,209 livres pendant l'année fiscale 1899. Pendant les 12 mois finissant le 30 Juin 1900, les Etats-Unis ont importé de l'Amérique du sud, 22,850,754 livres de laine, contre 10,037,403 livres pendant l'année antérieure. Ces chiffres montrent que tandis que les importations ont augmenté en quantité de plus de cent pour cent, la valeur a haussé de plus de 200 pour cent, ou de $937,715 à $3,100,292.

Cette grande augmentation dans les importations de l'année ne peut s'expliquer que par les demandes extraordinaires du commencement de l'année et qui ont eu pour résultat la hausse des prix. Quoique cette augmentation de valeur ait cessée il y a quelques mois, le mouvement croissant des laines vers les Etats-Unis a encore continué pendant le mois de juin. Pendant les 12 mois de l'année fiscale 1900, les Etats-Unis ont exporté 2,200,309 livres de laine, contre 1,683,419 livres pendant l'année antérieure; mais il y a eu évidemment un arrêt dans le commerce d'exportation du mois de juin, car seulement 15,000 livres ont été exportées pendant ce mois.

RÉCOMPENSES À L'EXPOSITION DE PARIS.

La liste des prix qui ont été décernés aux exposants de l'Exposition Uinverselle de Paris a été publiée le 17 août 1900. Les Etats-Unis ont obtenu 1,981 prix, dont 220 grands prix; 486 médailles d'or; 583 médailles d'argent, 422 médailles de bronze, 270 mentions honorables et une longue liste de médailles d'or, d'argent, et de bronze pour les collaborateurs.

Tous les genres d'industrie, tous les arts, ont été récompensés. Les fermes, les produits forestiers et miniers out obtenu des grands prix et des médailles d'or; les cotonnades, les lainages, les soies manufacturées aux Etats-Unis, les machines agricoles, les machines à coudre, les presses typographiques, les arts libéraux et les moyens de transport des Etats-Unis out obtenu des récompenses, pendant que l'argenterie, la bijouterie, les arts et l'éducation sont placés au premier rang.

OCCASION POUR LES PLANTEURS DE THÉ.

La désorganisation du trafic avec la Chine, donne aux cultivateurs des Etats-Unis, expérimentés dans la culture du thé, une chance de prouver la valeur pratique de leurs efforts pour arriver à développer la production de ces arbrisseaux. Dans la Caroline du Sud, il y a une ferme où on cultive du thé de qualité trés supérieure qui se vend sur les marchés des Etats-Unis à $1 la livre, qui est le prix le plus élevé payé dans ce pays pour la plupart des thés chinois. Pour cultiver avec succès le thé aux Etats-Unis, des soins particuliers, des études spéciales et une trés grande expérience sont indispensables et c'est une des raisons pour laquelle on hésite à entreprendre la culture de cette plante dans ces parties du sud où le sol est cependant favorable. La diminution constante des importations de thé chinois, peut être le débouché si longtemps désiré pour l'introduction aux Etats-Unis, comme substitut, de la "Herbá maté" produite en si grande quantité dans les régions du Rio de la Plata et spécialement dans la République du Paraguay.

LE COMMERCE DES FLEURS.

Il y a plus de 9,000 fleuristes aux Etats-Unis, représentant un capital de $11,250,000 et un commerce annuel de $27,750,000. Dans l'Etat de New-York il y a 1,200 établissements; dans l'Etat de l'Illinois, 800, et dans l'Etat de Ohio, 680. Les compagnies d'assurance ont assuré 13,025,762 pieds carrés de vitrage employé par les fleuristes sur leurs serres chaudes. Le nombre de roses vendues annuellement aux Etats-Unis est estimé, par le Ministère de l'Agriculture, être 100,000,000, évaluées à $9,000,000; il y a aussi un nombre égal d'œillets, qui se vendent $4,000,000. Il se vend chaque année aux Etats-Unis 75,000,000 violettes, évaluées à $750,000, et 50,000 chrysanthèmes, évaluées à $500,000. On dit que le capital placé seulement dans les œillets se monte à $2,000,000, et que celui que l'on emploie dans la production des chrysanthèmes est encore beaucoup plus grand.

PROPRIÉTÉ DES ÉTABLISSEMENTS HYDRAULIQUES, DES USINES POUR L'ÉCLAIRAGE AU GAZ ET À L'ÉLECTRICITÉ.

Parmi la grande quantité de statistiques importantes que contient le rapport que le Directeur du Travail (Commissioner of Labor) des Etats-Unis vient de publier, se trouve la suivante qui a rapport à la propriété municipale et privée des établissements pour la distribution des eaux, des usines à gaz et des stations de lumière électrique. Parmi les 3,326 établissements qui distribuent les eaux dans le pays, on a trouvé que 46.27 pour cent d'entre eux appartenaient à des particuliers, des compagnies ou des corporations et étaient exploités par ces derniers, tandis que 53.75 pour cent étaient la propriété et sous la direction des villes et des villages où ils étaient situés. Des 965 usines à gaz, 98.55 pour cent appartenaient à des corporations privées, tandis que 1.45 pour cent seulement appartenait aux municipalités; des 3,033 usines pour la lumière électrique, 84.83 pour cent appartenaient à des particuliers et 15.17 pour cent étaient la propriété des municipalités. Le rapport du Directeur du Travail comprend 24.37 pour cent des établissements privés pour la distribution des eaux aux Etats-Unis et 36.88 pour cent de ceux qui sont la propriété et sous le contrôle de la municipalité; 37.43 pour cent des usines à gaz appartenant à des particuliers et 78.57 pour cent de celles municipales et 24.57 pour cent des usines privées pour la lumière électrique et 69.57 pour cent de celles appartenant à la municipalité.

Des 1,539 établissements pour la distribution des eaux appartenant à des particuliers, 32 pour cent environ étaient situés dans des villes ou villages ayant, d'après le recensement de 1890, moins de 1,000 habitants, tandis que 25 pour cent environ des 1,787 usines municipales étaient ainsi situées. Des 951 usines à gaz appartenant à des particuliers ou

corporations, un tiers, ou 1 pour cent environ, de ces usines était situé dans des villes ou villages ayant moins de 1,000 habitants, tandis qu'aucune usine municipale ne se trouvait dans d'aussi petites places. En ce qui concerne les usines pour la lumière électrique, 9 pour cent environ des 2,572 usines privées et 9 pour cent environ des 460 usines municipales sont situées dans des villes ou villages ayant moins de 1,000 habitants. Environ un quart de tous les établissements pour la distribution des eaux aux Etats-Unis se trouve dans des petites villes, tandis que l'on y trouve qu'une petite portion des usines à gaz et un dixième environ des usines pour la lumière électrique.

MEXIQUE.

PRODUCTION DE L'HUILE DE COTON.

La production annuelle de l'huile de coton, dit le "Nouveau Monde," est en moyenne de 1,500,000 kilogrammes (3,306,900 livres) et la quantité consommée de l'année dernière a été de 14,000,000 kilogrammes.

Aux Etats-Unis, aussi bien qu'au Mexique, la récolte a été inférieure à la moyenne, et il est probable que la prochaine récolte ne sera guère meilleure à cause de l'extrême sécheresse dont ont souffert les plantations de coton. L'huile de coton est absolument indispensable dans la fabrication du savon, ce qui explique les recherches qui ont été faites pour découvrir une plante dont les propriétés seraient analogues pour la fabrication de l'huile.

On a trouvé que les graines de "ricimo" et de "coyol" pourraient être cultivées avec profit, surtout à cause de leur dureté et de leur huile grasse qu'elles fournissent et qui est particulièrement propre à la fabrication des savons. Récemment il a été importé des Etats-Unis des machines en vue de l'extraction de l'huile de la graine de "ricimo" qui est récoltée près de Durango où des expériences qui ont duré près de deux ans, ont donné des résultats très satisfaisants. Le "coyol," qui croît abondamment à l'état sauvage dans les régions tropicales, est un arbuste ou sorte de palmier qui produit des baies contenant 80 pour cent d'huile et qui sont d'un inestimable service dans la fabrication du savon.

CONTRAT DE COLONISATION.

L'un des principaux propriétaires fonciers de l'Etat de Chiapas, M. Doremberg, vient de passer avec le Gouvernement Fédéral un contrat aux termes duquel il s'engage à fonder une vaste colonie agricole sur ses terrains situés dans le Département de Palenque. Les colons sont presque tous allemands.

Le contrat porte surtout l'exploitation des bois précieux, des gommes et des résines.

M. Doremberg se propose, en outre, d'établir une ligne de vapeurs qui desservira différents ports du Pacifique.

L'AGRICULTURE DANS LE TAMAULIPAS.

Depuis quelques années, la valeur des terres arables a beaucoup augmenté dans l'Etat de Tamaulipas. Entre Ciudad Victoria et Tampico, surtout, l'agriculture a pris en très peu de temps un développement tout particulier.

Des colonies américaines et chinoises se sont formées près d'Altamira, à peu de distance de la ligne de Monterrey au Golfe, et dans ces colonies on cultive avec succès tous les produits tropicaux qui sont expédiés en conserves aux Etats-Unis et dans l'intérieur du Mexique.

LA PRODUCTION DE L'OR DU MONDE.

Le commerce de l'année dans presque tous les pays, particulièrement aux Etats-Unis, a été phénoménal et a été accompagné par une production d'or également remarquable. Dans un rapport qu'il a publié récemment, le Chef du Bureau des Statistiques attire l'attention sur le fait intéressant que la production actuelle de l'or des Etats-Unis surpasse celle constatée en 1853 quand les mines de la Californie ont produit $65,000,000. D'après les estimations du Directeur de la Monnaie, la production de l'or des Etats-Unis se montait en 1899, à $72,000,000. La production moyenne annuelle de l'or des Etats-Unis est actuellement double de celle il y a dix ans, quoique l'augmentation de l'or dans ces Etats n'ait pas été plus rapide que celle de beaucoup d'autres pays.

La production du monde, pendant les cinquante dernières années, a été dix fois celle des cinquante années précédentes et plus du double de la quantité produite pendant les trois siècles et demi qui ont précédé. Si le commerce du monde a augmenté énormément pendant les cinquante années passées, il est aussi vrai que pendant la même période le monde a fait de grands progrès dans l'emploi des substituts de l'or, non par faute de ce métal, mais par raisons de sûreté, d'économie et de convenance, permettant ainsi d'ajouter à l'approvisionnement de la monnaie presque toute la production courante.

On craint quelquefois que la grande quantité d'or employée dans les arts ne diminue celle dont on a besoin pour la frappe de la monnaie, ce qui est une fausse alarme parceque l'or employé dans les arts mécaniques n'est pas obligatoire mais facultatif et dépend seulement des personnes qui ont les moyens d'acheter des bijoux. S'il arrivait

que le monde eût un besoin pressant de monnaie, on emploierait alors moins d'or dans les boîtiers de montre, le placage et les dents, et beaucoup plus dans le monnayage. Pendant les années passées la production de l'or a augmenté si rapidement que la quantité totale produite pendant le demi-siècle qui vient de s'écouler s'est montée à la somme énorme de $6,665,631,000. Depuis la découverte de l'Amérique en 1492 jusqu'à l'année 1850, la production de l'or du monde ne s'est élevée qu'à $3,129,720,000. D'après les estimations de M. George E. Roberts, Directeur de la Monnaie des Etats-Unis et de M. le Docteur Adolphe Soetbeer, voici quelle a été, par périodes d'un demi-siècle, la production de l'or du monde depuis l'année 1500 jusqu'à la fin de l'année 1899:

1501–1550	$225,580,000
1551–1600	245,580,000
1601–1650	281,840,000
1651–1700	324,440,000
1701–1750	587,580,000
1751–1800	677,240,000
1801–1850	787,460,000
1851–1899	6,665,631,000

Les additions à l'approvisionnement de l'or du monde faites par les Etats-Unis et le monde en général pendant les quatre années passées, ont été comme suit:

Dates.	Total des Etats-Unis.	Total du monde.
1896	$53,088,000	$202,251,000
1897	57,363,000	238,812,000
1898	64,463,000	287,428,000
1899	72,500,000	315,000,000
Totaux	247,414,000	1,043,491,000

L'APPROVISIONNEMENT DE CHARBON DU MONDE.

D'après le rapport du Service Géologique, la production de charbon aux Etats-Unis pendant l'année 1899 serait comme suit: Anthracite, 60,514,201 tonnes; charbon bitumineux, 172,608,917 tonnes; total, 233,123,118 tonnes. Le total de la production du Royaume-Uni pour 1899 était 220,085,303 tonnes, soit 13,037,815 tonnes de moins que les Etats-Unis.

Les exportations de charbon des Etats-Unis pour l'année 1899 se montaient à 1,707,796 tonnes d'anthracite et 4,044,354 tonnes de charbon bitumineux. Prenant ensemble les deux quantités, les exportations se montaient à 2.46 pour cent de la production. Pendant l'année fiscale finissant le 30 juin 1900, les exportations d'anthracite étaient 1,175,168 tonnes; de bitume, 5,413,438 tonnes, soit un total de 7,188,621 tonnes, ou une augmentation pour les deux variétés de 2,136,688

tonnes ou plus de 42 pour cent en sus des exportations de l'année fiscale 1899, quand le nombre de tonnes d'anthracite expédiées à l'étranger était 1,571,581 tonnes et celui de bitume 3,480,352, ou un total de 5,051,933 tonnes.

Pendant l'année 1891 les exportations de charbon de la Grande-Bretagne se sont montées à 41,180,300 tonnes, ou 18.71 pour cent de la production totale. C'est cependant la consommation du charbon plutôt que l'exportation de ce combustible qui indique l'activité qui règne dans les manufactures d'un pays, et sur ce point l'avantage reste aux Etats-Unis. Pratiquement, tout le charbon qui n'est pas exporté est consommé dans le pays où il est produit. Ceci mettrait la consommation de charbon du Royaume-Uni pour 1899 à 178,905,000 tonnes et celle des Etats-Unis à 227,370,960 tonnes, ou 48,465,960 tonnes de plus que la Grande-Bretagne.

Le rapport du Service Géologique dit que l'anthracite est constamment supplanté par le charbon bitumineux sous les chaudières et dans les manufactures des Etats-Unis, ce dernier devenant, de plus en plus, tous les ans, un article de consommation domestique. En 1899 l'anthracite constituait 25.95 pour cent de l'entière production, et il est probable que pendant les cinquante années prochaines au moins 20 pour cent de la production de charbon des Etats-Unis se composeront d'anthracite de la Pensylvanie.

La question du charbon devient alarmante et ne cesse pas d'agiter l'Europe toute entière; on sent que dans un futur très rapproché le charbon de ces pays qu'on avait l'habitude d'acheter va manquer, et une des questions importantes du jour dans le vieux monde est de savoir comment on pourra éviter ce résultat. Une grande anxiété règne en Angleterre. Les consommateurs sont déjà obligés de payer un prix matériellement élevé, et on craint que cette augmentation continuera et les empêchera d'acheter et que les manufacturiers anglais seront très embarrassés, en comparaison de ceux des autres pays, particulièrement des Etats-Unis, où il y a une plus grande quantité de charbon qui peut être facilement exploité. Il est vrai que la production de la Grande-Bretagne a augmenté en 1895 de 190,000,000 tonnes environ à plus de 220,000,000 tonnes en 1899, mais la consommation actuelle du pays est estimée annuellement dans les environs de 180,000,000 tonnes. La capacité productive de l'Angleterre peut, sans aucun doute, augmenter ultérieurement, mais seulement avec un surcroît de dépense. Ceci est dû à la profondeur à laquelle on est obligé de creuser pour obtenir du charbon dans les mines de ce pays. D'après un rapport lu récemment devant une société géologique concernant les mines de charbon, il paraît qu'une mine a été creusée à une profondeur de 1,903 pieds depuis sa surface, une autre à 1,740 pieds, une autre à 1,688 pieds et une autre à 1,630 pieds. Si on compare ces sortes de mines à celles des Etats de la Pensylvanie et de la Virginie

Occidentale, qui sont très près du sol et dont les filons ont quelquefois 10 pieds d'épaisseur, on comprendra facilement pourquoi les Anglais craignent la concurrence industrielle des Etats-Unis.

En Allemagne les prix sont aussi très élevés. Ceci est attribué en grande partie à l'augmentation des demandes de la part des établissements manufacturiers où règne une grande activité, et ensuite à la coalition des marchands de charbon. L'Allemagne produit 102,000,000 tonnes de charbon et 34,000,000 tonnes de lignite, mais ces quantités ne suffisent pas aux besoins de ce pays, qui a été obligé d'importer depuis quelques temps d'Angleterre 450,000 tonnes par mois. Le Consul des Etats-Unis à Frankfort, dans un rapport qu'il a adressé récemment à son Gouvernement, dit que l'Allemagne désire et est prête à payer un bon prix pour le charbon des Etats-Unis.

Quoique la France achète aujourd'hui en Angleterre beaucoup plus de charbon que jadis, elle croit qu'il serait plus sage de chercher si elle ne pourrait pas se procurer ce combustible dans d'autres pays à aussi bon marché ou meilleur marché que celui que lui vend l'Angleterre. Le Consul des Etats-Unis à Bordeaux rapporte qu'on désire en France introduire le charbon des Etats-Unis si le prix veut bien le permettre. Il dit qu'à sa connaissance personnelle les chemins de fer français appartenant au Gouvernement et un autre chemin de fer qui est un des plus grands consommateurs de charbon de ce pays ont chacun, en ce moment, un agent aux Etats-Unis faisant des investigations à ce sujet.

En Russie, en Autriche et en Italie le besoin de charbon se fait aussi sentir, les demandes abondent et tous ces pays jettent un regard anxieux vers les Etats-Unis. Il semble vraiment qu'à présent le besoin de charbon est la caractéristique de tous les pays européens. Les nouvelles de Belgique disent que les lamineries sont obligées de suspendre leurs travaux pendant un ou deux jours chaque semaine faute de ce combustible. Les verreries en ont aussi consommé de plus petites quantités, et quelques-unes de ces usines ont été fermées complètement. Un nombre d'autres industries belges souffrent aussi du prix élevé du charbon, et les chefs de ces établissements parlent d'en suspendre l'exploitation.

Il paraîtrait qu'il n'y a jamais eu avant une occasion aussi favorable pour les Etats-Unis de faire connaître en Europe les qualités de son charbon. Déja des chargements plus ou moins importants ont été expédiés dans les régions méditerranéennes et ailleurs, mais on peut encore en exporter de plus grandes quantités. Il n'y a en effet qu'une seule difficulté à trancher: c'est la question de transport. Il semble cependant que l'on peut, dans une certaine mesure, y remédier.

Le surintendant de l'équipement de la flotte appartenant à la Compagnie des Chemins de Fer Baltimore et Ohio, est actuellement en Europe où il étudie avec soin la question. Il visitera les principaux

ports de la Grande Bretagne et le Continent et notera soigneusement ceux qui offriront les meilleures facilités pour le débarquement et l'emmagasinage du charbon. On est en train de construire à Curtis Bay, sur la côte de l'atlantique, des docks immenses et on annonce qu'ils seront terminés avant le 15 septembre. Ces docks et les quais ont environ 1,200 pieds de long et sont les plus grands qui se trouvent sur la côte de l'atlantique. On dit aussi que la Compagnie de Chemins de Fer Baltimore et Ohio aurait l'intention de construire une flotte dans le cas où elle ne pourrait pas s'entendre avec les compagnies indépendantes.

Le secrétaire de "The Anthracite Cooperators' Association" est aussi en Europe cherchant de nouveaux moyens pour augmenter l'exportation du charbon anthracite des Etats-Unis. On pense que le but de son voyage est de faciliter encore davantage le transport et le débarquement du charbon dans les différents ports méditérranéens. Des offres ont été faites aussi à cette association par la Compagnie Américaine de Constructions Navales et par des compagnies en Angleterre, en Belgique et en Norvège pour la construction et l'équipement de bateaux à vapeur pouvant traverser l'océan.

Des nouvelles reçues de Londres disent que la hausse continuelle des prix du charbon en Angleterre commence à préoccuper sérieusement l'opinion publique. Dans les comtés de Lancashire et du Yorkshire, l'augmentation a été, pendant ces deux dernières années, de plus de 40 pour cent.

La rareté de ce minéral est due, pour le moment, à la guerre sud-africaine et aussi à de grandes exportations pour le continent, et principalement pour la France.

Dans un article de fond, un journal, le "Morning Post" du 2 août, va même jusqu'à envisager la possibilité d'un manque de charbon tel, que l'industrie anglaise en serait profondément affectée.

M. le Professeur Edward Hill, un savant, dans un discours qu'il a prononcé devant l'Institut Victoria à Londres, a proposé que l'on imposât un droit d'exportation de 5 shillings par tonne. L'année dernière, dit-il, les exportations se sont montées à 40,000,000 tonnes, soit un cinquième de la production des mines britanniques. Il avertit ses compatriotes que l'approvisionnement de charbon était pratiquement épuisé, quoique la terre en contînt encore des quantités énormes. Un Épuisement pratique peut avoir lieu, dit il, quand, à cause de la profondeur et des dépenses croissantes d'exploitation, le prix du charbon tendra à devenir prohibitif et que les industries manufacturières anglaises ne pourront plus alors entrer en concurrence avec celles des autres pays comme l'Amérique où le charbon est plus abondant et d'un accès plus facile. S'il devenait nécessaire que l'on empêchât l'exportation à l'étranger des produits des mines anglaises en imposant un

droit d'exportation comme il a été suggéré plus haut, alors la plus grande partie du monde serait obligée d'aller chercher ce combustible aux Etats-Unis.

LA RÉCOLTE DU BLÉ DU MONDE.

Le Ministère de l'Agriculture des Etats-Unis vient de faire paraître une estimation de la récolte du blé dont la plupart des renseignements suivants ont été obtenus. On pense que la récolte du blé de l'année dernière dans la République Argentine a été au moins aussi abondante que celle de 1898–99. Les exportations pendant l'année courante, jusqu'au 3 d'août, se sont montées à 60,338,000 boisseaux, contre 43,256,000 boisseaux pour la période correspondante de 1899. Cependant, quelle que soit la diminution des exportations pendant la dernière partie de l'année, le total excédera certainement celui de 1899 par une quantité considérable, les exportations pendant les premiers sept mois s'étant montées à presque autant que toutes les exportations de 1899 Le total exporté pendant ces sept mois était seulement 6,000,000 boisseaux de moins que les exportations des douze mois de 1899. Ce fait semblerait indiquer que la récolte de 1899–1900 a été beaucoup plus abondante que celle de l'année précédente, mais la grande récolte de 1898–1899 a succédé à trois mauvaises années et les stocks au commencement de l'année 1899 étaient presque épuisés, tandis qu'au commencement de 1900 ils étaient officiellement estimés avoir été entre 6,000,000 et 7,000,000 boisseaux. Même, après avoir admis cette circonstance, l'opinion que la récolte de 1899–1900 a été au moins égale à celle de l'année précédente semble sincèrement se confirmer. La récolte de 1898–99 était estimée officiellement à 2,857,138 tonnes métriques où 104,982,000 boisseaux.

D'après les chiffres officiels, la récolte de l'Uruguay a dépassé en 1898–99 un petit peu plus de 7,000,000 boisseaux. Le seul département pour lequel les chiffres officiels de 1899–1900 ont été reçus, a une récolte qui est plus de 8 pour cent plus petite que celle de l'année précédente mais, dans la perspective d'une grande moisson dans la République Argentine, sa voisine, il semble improbable qu'une telle réduction ait été générale dans toutes les parties de l'Uruguay.

Les nouvelles reçues, concernant le Chili, indiquent que la récolte de 1899–1900 a été si petite qu'elle ne pourra suffire aux besoins domestiques pendant l'année courante. En effet, on dit que le Chili a été obligé d'importer du blé au mois de mai dernier, c'est à dire peu de mois après la fin de la récolte dans ce pays.

Les chiffres aussi exacts qu'on a pu les obtenir pour l'Australasie indiquent une diminution de plusieurs millions comparés avec ceux de 1898–99. On estime que cette diminution, toute entière, en comparaison

de la récolte de l'année précédente, peut difficilement être beaucoup moindre et peut être un peu plus de 6,000,000 boisseaux. En ajoutant le Cap de Bonne-Espérance aux pays déjà cités, tous les pays de l'hémisphère austral qui produisent du blé et qui ont été communément désignés dans le rapport sur la récolte du blé du monde, sont compris. Ces pays sont crédités, dans une table préparée pendant le printemps de 1900, comme ayant produit 170,543,000 boisseaux de blé pendant l'année 1898–99; et il est difficile de croire que la production de ces pays en 1899–1900, ait été 10,000,000 boisseaux de moins que cette estimation.

La récolte de blé importante venant après est celle de l'Inde, qui a eu lieu en mars et en avril. En dépt de la famine qui a dévasté une partie de ce pays, la récolte indienne a été bien meilleure que l'on espérait, se montant à 182,582,000 boisseaux, contre 236,679,000 boisseaux en 1899.

Il est difficile d'arriver à une conclusion en ce qui concerne la récolte entière du blé en Russie, depuis qu'il y a des champs de blé dans ce pays qui ne sont pas représentés dans les rapports reçus, mais, si on pouvait se baser sur ces rapports incomplets, on trouverait que la récolte était plutôt au-dessous qu'au-dessus de la moyenne.

Les rapports incomplets de la Suède indiquent que la récolte dans la partie centrale de ce pays, où elle a commencée dans des circonstances favorables, a produit plus que la moyenne.

Le dernier rapport officiel reçu d'Allemagne indique un peu plus qu'un rendement moyen et un grain de bonne qualité.

La récolte du blé en Australie est rapportée ne pas être entièrement satisfaisante. Les estimations officielles qui sont arrivées aux Etats-Unis d'Hongrie donne une récolte totale de 135,000,000 boisseaux.

Les rapports de Roumanie sont généralement favorables, mais l'aire ensemencée de blé a été un tant soit peu réduite. La récolte de Bulgarie est rapportée être extraordinairement bonne, quoiqu'elle ait souffert de la pluie. Celle de la Turquie d'Europe se trouve aussi dans de très bonnes conditions.

Les rapports provenant d'Italie, de Suisse et d'Espagne indiquent que les récoltes de blé de ces pays sont dans des conditions moyennes excellentes.

Les rapports reçus de France dans le courant du mois de juillet indiquent une récolte de blé de 109,057,650 hectolitres ou 309,473,000 boisseaux, contre 366,079,000 boisseaux en 1899 et une moyenne de 308,460,000 boisseaux pour les 10 années précédentes.

On a la perspective d'une bonne récolte en Belgigue et en Hollande et les derniers rapports continuent à être favorables.

La récolte de la Grande-Bretagne, d'après les rapports reçus par le Ministère de l'Agriculture des Etats-Unis, est officieusement estimée

à 58,000,000 boisseaux anglais, soit 9,500,000 boisseaux de moins que la récolte de 1899 et 17,000,000 boisseaux de moins qu'en 1898.

La récolte du blé dans l'Afrique septentrionale a été extrêmement pauvre pendant l'année 1899; mais cette année, quoique la récolte ait été au-dessous de la moyenne, elle est bien meilleure.

Les renseignements concernant la récolte du blé au Canada sont rares, cependant on sait que la récolte du blé de Manitoba est dans de très mauvaises conditions. Les derniers rapports estiment la récolte de blé de toute la province à un petit peu moins de 11,000,000 boisseaux.

On dit que la récolte du blé au Mexique a été ou ne peut plus riche et que le grain est d'une qualité excellente. On rapporte aussi que l'aire consacrée à la culture du grain a augmenté considérablement.

D'après les rapports publiés par le Ministère de l'Agriculture le tableau suivant donne l'estimation de la récolte du blé pour 1900 comparée avec celles de 1899 et 1898, les années étant approximatives, à cause des récoltes qui se font dans des mois différents dans les hémisphères boréal et austral:

Divisions.	1900.	1899.	1898.
	Boisseaux.	*Boisseaux.*	*Boisseaux.*
Amérique du Nord	567,000,000	622,264,000	758,303,000
Amérique du Sud	122,000,000	112,331,000	66,603,000
Europe	1,440,000,000	1,499,604,000	1,579,758,000
Asie	360,000,000	399,196,000	434,771,000
Afrique	41,000,000	35,800,000	46,630,000
Australasie	50,000,000	56,212,000	34,980,000
Totaux	2,580,000,000	2,725,407,000	2,921,045,000

Le "Statist," de Londres, du 11 août 1900, en parlant de la production et de l'approvisionnement du blé, s'exprime ainsi:

"Les récoltes dans la plupart des pays européens ne sont pas suffisamment avancées pour qu'il soit possible de donner une estimation approximative de leur étendue. Dans le Royaume-Uni il y a peu de doute que le rendement sera au-dessous de la moyenne, qui est considérée être de 30 boisseaux par acre. L'année dernière la moyenne était 32.75 boisseaux; cette année elle peut ne pas excéder 28 boisseaux, donnant un total d'environ 7,000,000 quarts (1,750,000 tonnes), contre 8,250,000 quarts en 1899. En France les rapports officiels les plus récents indiquent un rendement d'environ 7,000,000 quarts de moins que l'année passée, et en Allemagne on considère aussi que la récolte sera de 2,000,000 quarts au-dessous du grand rendement anormal de l'année dernière. La récolte de l'Autriche-Hongrie n'excédera pas 22,000,000 quarts, contre 24,000,000 quarts l'année dernière; tandis que l'Espagne et l'Italie récolteront, d'après tous les calculs, environ la même quantité de blé que l'année dernière. La Roumanie, la Bulgarie et la Turquie ont été peut-être plus heureuses dans leurs récoltes de blé que n'importe quel autre pays européen, et on espère

que le total de la production de ces pays atteindra 17,000,000 quarts, contre 10,000,000 quarts l'année dernière. En Russie, au contraire, les derniers rapports montrent que la récolte n'a pas été ce que l'on espérait et qu'elle n'excédera pas probablement 46,000,000 quarts, qui est environ la même quantité qui fut, on croit, moissonnée l'année dernière.

"La récolte du blé en Europe semble, en conséquence, selon toutes les apparences ne pas excéder 175,000,000 quarts, contre 182,000,000 quarts en 1899. On estime la quantité requise pour la consommation en Europe pour l'année à 209,000,000 quarts; le déficit sera donc de 34,000,000 quarts, qui devront être fournis par d'autres grandes divisions."

Le "Statist" ajoute que la quantité manquante sera certainement suppléée par les Etats-Unis, la République Argentine, l'Inde et l'Australasie; que les récoltes des Etats-Unis et du Canada prises ensemble sont environ 12,000,000 quarts de moins qu'en 1899, quand le total se montait environ à 80,000,000 quarts; que l'Inde ne pourra disposer d'aucune quantité avant le mois d'avril ou mai prochain, pendant que les récoltes de l'Australasie et de l'Argentine ne seront pas mûres avant la fin de l'année 1900.

Avec une balance requise en Europe de 8,000,000 quarts de plus que l'année dernière et avec 12,000,000 quarts de moins produits en Amérique et au Canada, il est très naturel que l'opinion soit en faveur de prix plus élevés que pendant la dernière saison, et on croit que cette opinion est justifiée.

Beerbohm, dans sa liste, dit que l'approvisionnemeut de blé existant dans le monde le 1er août 1900 était de 7,410,000 quarts en Europe et 8,000,000 quarts en Amérique, soit un total de 15,410,000 quarts, contre 7,485,000 quarts en Europe et 6,500,000 quarts en Amérique, ou un total général de 13,895,000 quarts au 1er août 1899.

L'INDUSTRIE DE LA SOIE DU MONDE.

Le Bureau des Républiques Américaines doit à l'amabilité de Mr. Franklin Allen, secrétaire de l'Association des Fabricants de Soieries et membre du Jury International chargé de la distribution des prix à l'Exposition Universelle de Paris, une copie de son rapport des récompenses décernées aux fabricants de soie des Etats-Unis. Ce rapport contient aussi les résultats des observations de Mr. Franklin Allen concernant la capitale de la grande République française, dont nous avons tiré les renseignemets suivants.

La France continue à être le pays du monde qui manufacture annuellement la plus grande quantité de soie, en excluant les pays orientaux, dont on ne peut obtenir aucun renseignement exact.

Dans la manufacture de la soie, la France a un grand avantage sur les autres nations, Paris, sa capitale étant le centre principal du monde fashionable.

Depuis de nombreuses générations, Paris a réglé et contrôlé ce que les femmes doivent porter et les étoffes dont doivent être faites leurs meilleures robes dans toutes les capitales d'Europe et d'Amérique. Le fait que Paris est le centre principal de la mode est un grand avantage pour les manufacturiers français. Ce pays ne produit actuellement que 3.8 pour cent de la soie crue du monde, tandis qu'il était jadis un facteur plus grand dans cette branche d'industrie.

C'est dans la ville de Lyon que sont nés et habitent depuis des siècles les tisserands en soie de l'Europe. La production annuelle des manufactures de cette ville est de 400,000,000 francs, soit les deux-tiers de la production entière de la République. Ce chiffre comprend, toutefois, une proportion considérable de soie et coton mélangés et les foulards importés du Japon et de Chine qui sont seulement imprimés à Lyon. Saint-Etienne est le grand centre manufacturier des rubans de soie, où la production se monte à 100,000,000 francs ou 10,000,000 francs de moins que la valeur des rubans de soie manufacturés aux Etats-Unis.

Les pays autres que la France et les Etats-Unis qui ont exposé les produits de leurs soieries à l'Exposition Universelle de Paris etaient: la Grèce, la Bulgarie, la Roumanie, la Servie, l'Algérie, le Portugal, et la Russie (en dehors de Moscou) qui ont exposé des manufactures à l'usage de leur propre pays seulement, et le Japon, la Russie (Moscou), l'Allemagne, la Suisse, l'Autriche, l'Angleterre, l'Italie, l'Espagne, et le Canada, lesquels manufacturent pour la consommation domestique et l'exportation.

Les soieries japonaises sont principalement fabriquées pour la consommation du pays, cependant les Japonais exportent annuellement plus de 1,000,000 douzaines de mouchoirs de soie et 30,000,000 mètres de marchandises à la pièce en Europe et aux Etats-Unis.

Pendant l'année 1899 et jusqu'au mois d'avril 1900, la Russie a produit 12,000,000 (archines) pièces de soie manufacturée ayant 28 pouces de longueur. Les produits des autres pays, en dehors de ceux qui manufacturent seulement pour leurs propres marchés, sont très connus et leurs tissus ont la réputation d'être très beaux et de qualité excellente.

Les expositions des soieries des Etats-Unis à l'Exposition de Paris, furent entravées par le manque d'espace, cependant, en dépit de tous les obstacles, on est heureux de pouvoir dire qu'il n'y a eu aucune classe de récompense de mérite décernée par le jury à n'importe quel pays, depuis le "grand prix" jusqu'à "la mention honorable" qui n'ait pas été accordée aux manufacturiers des Etats-Unis. Le nombre de médailles d'or que les Etats-Unis ont obtenues se montait à 4 sans

compter 1 médaille d'argent, une médaille de bronze, et deux mentions honorables. Le jury qui décernait les récompenses se composait de 27 membres dont 15 étaient francais, 2 Suisses, 2 Italiens, 1 Allemand, 1 Autrichien, 1 Russe, 1 Espagnol, 1 Grec, 1 Chinois, 1 Japonais, 1 des Etats-Unis. Un membre anglais fut nommé pour la Grande-Bretagne mais ne servit pas.

Mr. FRANKLIN rapporte qu'une série de cartes admirables, préparées par M. MARIUS MORAUD, secrétaire de la Chambre de Commerce de Lyon et exposées à l'Exposition Universelle de Paris, indiquent la production annuelle des fabriques de soie dans les principaux pays où sont situées de telles industries. Ces estimations, modifiées dans quelques cas par les chiffres plus corrects du jury chargé des soieries, évaluées en francs et réduites en monnaie courante des Etats-Unis (19.3 cents au lieu de 20 cents par franc), sont comme suit:

Pays.	Francs.	Dollars.	Pour cent.
France	610,000,000	117,730,000	33.425
Etats-Unis	425,000,000	82,025,000	23.288
Allemagne	250,000,000	48,250,000	13.700
Suisse	190,000,000	36,670,000	10.411
Russie (en Europe)	105,000,000	20,265,000	5.753
Autriche	85,000,000	16,405,000	4.657
Grande-Bretagne	75,000,000	14,475,000	4.109
Italie	65,000,000	12,545,000	3.561
Espagne et le Portugal	20,000,000	3,860,000	1.096
Totaux	1,825,000,000	352,225,000	100.000

D'après Mr. FRANKLIN, les contrées nommées ci-dessous contribuent à l'approvisionnement de soie écrue du monde dans les proportions suivantes:

Pays.	Pour cent.	Livres.
Chine	41.5	14,330,000
Japon	20.7	7,100,000
Italie	20.0	6,900,000
France	3.8	1,330.000
Autriche	1.8	620,000
Espagne	.5	175,000
Inde	1.7	600,000
Orient	10.0	3,400,000
Totaux	100.0	34,455,000

Les progrès qu'a fait aux Etats-Unis l'industrie de la soie sont surprenants et quoique ce pays ne se soit pas depuis longtemps lancé dans de telles entreprises, il n'en occupe pas moins aujourd'hui le deuxième rang dans le monde pour ses tissus trés fins.

Quoiqu'il n'y ait encore comparativement aucune soie grège produite aux Etats-Unis, on pense que même ce produit peut être obtenu en quantité suffisante dans le futur dans l'Etat de la Californie où l'on va tenter d'inaugurer l'industrie séricicole.

BIBLIOGRAPHIE.

Les livres et les brochures qui seront envoyés au Bureau des Républiques Américaines, et qui contiendront des sujets ou matières traitant des pays de l'Union Internationale des Républiques Américaines, seront mentionnés dans le Bulletin Mensuel sous le titre "Bibliographie."

Le journal "The Forester" (Le Forestier) du mois d'août contient un article de Mr. JOHN GIFFORD sur "La sylviculture dans l'Ile de Cuba." Cet article a aussi été imprimé sous forme de brochure, laquelle a été distribuée en très grande quantité dans l'espoir que la théorie de l'auteur, que les arbres des Etats-Unis devraient être transplantés dans l'Ile de Cuba, puisse rencontrer des adhérents voulant bien la mettre à exécution. Mr. GIFFORD avance de nombreux arguments en faveur d'une telle entreprise, qui sera, dit-il, très profitable. Il dit que les Etats-Unis ne pourraient en aucune façon aider mieux au développement de Cuba qu'en concourant à l'établissement d'un jardin botanique économique, semblable à ceux qui existent dans les îles de Java et de la Jamaïque. En dehors des arbres tropicaux et semi-tropicaux qui pourraient être plantés dans l'Ile de Cuba, il croit que les saules et les peupliers donneraient, après une crue de deux ans, un bois suffisamment gros pour être employé, avec avantage, dans les manufactures de pulpe pour le papier. Dans lecas où ce produit ne pourrait pas s'écouler à Cuba, il pourrait être exporté aux Etats-Unis, où la pulpe de bois est très demandée par les fabricants de papier.

Le rapport pour 1899 de la Commission de Pisciculture des Etats-Unis (The United States Fish Commission), qui a paru très récemment, contient un article très intéressant sur "La possibilité d'introduire les huîtres et d'autres espèces de poisson de mer dans le Grand Lac Salé de Utah" ("The feasibility of introducing oysters and other marine species of fish into the Great Salt Lake in Utah"). Mr. H. F. MOORE fut autorisé par la Commission à faire des expériences à la suite desquelles il est arrivé aux conclusions suivantes: "La partie principale du lac et une grande partie de ses bords sont entièrement impropres à l'introduction d'animaux marins d'une valeur économique, étant donnée la grande salinité de l'eau. Le Grand Lac Salé contient du sel qui n'est pas alcalin. L'effet physiologique de ses eaux sur les organismes qui y seraient placés ne différerait peut-être pas sérieusement de celui de l'eau de mer, si ce n'était pas pour sa grande densité, mais essayer d'introduire des poissons ou d'autres animaux marins, habitués par la nature à une densité de 1.025 seulement, dans de l'eau ayant une gravité spécifique de 1.168 serait un échec complet."

Le volume des Rapports Consulaires, du mois de septembre 1900, publié par le Bureau du Commerce Extérieur du Ministère des

Affaires Etrangères à Washington, contient des renseignements très intéressants pour les marchands, les manufacturiers, les importateurs, les exportateurs et toutes les personnes intéressées dans le développement commercial et industriel du monde. La plupart des rapports des consuls des Etats-Unis renfermés dans ce volume sont écrits avec clarté et sont tous on ne peut plus instructifs. En dehors des rapports provenant de l'Amérique Latine, il y a aussi ceux venant d'Europe, d'Asie, d'Afrique et de Polynésie. Les sujets traités dans ce volume sont: Les questions financières indiquant où les capitaux sont placés, le commerce, les relations commerciales, les lois concernant les tarifs douaniers, les ressources des pays, etc. Les rapports des consuls des Etats-Unis ne sont pas surpassés par ceux d'aucune autre nation du monde, et les journaux scientifiques, non seulement des Etats-Unis mais aussi des pays européens, publient de nouveau les sujets qu'ils contiennent.

Sous le titre "Method of Reckoning Time in Spain" (Manière de Compter les Heures en Espagne) le Bureau du Commerce Extérieur des Etats-Unis a fait imprimer un rapport de Mr. DWIGHT T. REED, Vice-Consul à Madrid, du 4 août 1900. Dans ce rapport il est dit que la Reine Régente a, par décret, ordonné que tous les services de chemins de fer, des postes et télégraphes, des téléphones, de bateaux à vapeur dans la Péninsule Espagnole et les Iles Baléares, ainsi que tous les ministères, les cours et les travaux publics, règlent leurs heures sur celles de l'Observatoire Greenwich. Le calcul des heures, après le 1er janvier 1901, se fera à partir de minuit jusqu'au milieu de la nuit suivante, en comptant depuis 1 jusqu'à 24 et en omettant les mots "tarde" (après midi) et "noche" (nuit) employés jusqu'ici. L'heure de minuit sera désignée comme 24. L'intervalle entre 24 (minuit) et 1 heure sera désigné de cette manière: 0.05, 0.10 jusqu'à 0.59.

Le Ministère de l'Agriculture a publié récemment un bulletin préparé par Mr. L. O. HOWARD, entomologiste, sur "Les Moustiques des Etats-Unis." Cette publication discute la structure de ces insectes nuisibles, aussi bien que leur biologie et indique la différence qui existe entre les espèces qui transmettent la malaria et celles qui ne la donne pas et discute aussi les moyens de guérir les piqûres de ces insectes. On connait environ 250 espèces de moustiques, dont seulement 30 environ ont été trouvées aux Etats-Unis. Les rapports disent que de tous les remèdes que l'on emploie dans les maisons pour se débarasser de ces insectes, les meilleurs sont la poudre de pyrèthre (*Anthemis pyrethrum*) ou bien de les attraper au moyen de coupes contenant du kérosène. On peut aussi entourer le lit d'une moustiquaire et de paravents. Les remèdes mentionnés pour les piqûres sont la glycérine, l'indigo et l'ammoniac.

En dehors des renseignements généraux que l' "Export Implement Age," de Philadelphie, publie dans son numéro du 1er août 1900, ce journal contient une quantité d'illustrations dignes d'être notées. Il y a 18 pages de vues et des reproductions de photographies des produits exposés à l'Exposition de Paris par les manufacturiers agricoles des Etats-Unis. "The Age" avait beaucoup à choisir, car aucun pays du monde n'a surpassé les Etats-Unis à Paris pour la qualité et la beauté des machines agricoles et des instruments de labourage qu'ils ont exposés. La spécialité de ce journal est, cependant, de faire des rapports sur les expositions étrangères, et il envoie ses principaux artistes à l'étranger afin d'obtenir les illustrations désirées et des données exactes, c'est pourquoi il est doublement intéressant.

Le Ministère de la Guerre des Etats-Unis vient de publier une brochure de 51 pages, très intéressante contenant le rapport sur l'île de Guam préparé par M. le Général de Brigade JOSEPH WHEELER. En dehors d'une description générale de la configuration géographique et de la population de cette possession éloignée des Etats-Unis dans le Pacifique, ce rapport donne des listes des arbres, des plantes, des oiseaux, des mammifères, des reptiles et des insectes particuliers à l'île. Tous les ordres généraux qui ont été donnés par les gouverneurs depuis que cette île appartient aux Etats-Unis, ainsi que les tarifs douaniers actuellement en vigueur sont compris dans ce rapport. La brochure est splendidement illustrée de 18 vues et contient deux cartes très complètes.

"El Mundo de los Periódicos—Anuario de la Prensa Española y Estados Hispano-Americanos" (Le Monde des Journaux—Annuaire de la Presse Espagnole et de la Presse Latine-Américaine). Sous le titre précédent, une maison de Madrid, Espagne, a publié récemment un annuaire encyclopédique des journaux et de toutes les feuilles périodiques publiés en Espagne et dans les Républiques de l'Amérique Centrale et de l'Amérique du Sud. Cet ouvrage contient aussi des renseignements considérables sur le gouvernement, la population, les finances, le chef du pouvoir exécutif actuel, etc., des pays de l'Amérique Latine aussi bien que du Brésil.

"La Revista Industrial" (La Revue Industrielle) est une nouvelle publication périodique mensuelle, qui est publiée à Buénos-Ayres par Señor G. BREUR. Cette feuille s'occupe spécialement des sujets ayant rapport à la législation des brevets d'invention et des marques de fabrique de l'Amérique du Sud en général et des affaires industrielles dans la République Argentine. Chaque mois on imprime une liste des brevets d'invention et des marques de fabrique enregistrés à Buénos-Ayres, laquelle sera d'un intérêt incontestable pour les personnes qui font des affaires avec cette République.

MONTHLY BULLETIN

OF THE

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ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

FOREIGN COMMERCE FOR SIX MONTHS.

The trade returns for the first six months of 1900 have been made public by the Government. These show that the imports were valued at $56,527,693 gold and that the exports were worth $94,099,151. This was a decrease of $925,249 in the value of the imports and an increase of $5,048,389 in the value of the exports as compared with the same period in 1899.

The trade with the different countries was as follows:

Country.	Imports.	Exports.	Country.	Imports.	Exports.
United Kingdom	$19,307,951	$11,963,596	Holland	$89,191	$2,506,015
Germany	8,019,795	13,703,887	Chile	79,241	421,796
Italy	7,838,252	2,160,679	Bolivia	53,844	389,682
France	5,838,197	12,550,390	West Indies	12,162	166,573
United States	5,653,894	3,626,480	Africa	.....	2,042,517
Belgium	4,695,464	13,063,352	Other countries	100,295	4,072,110
Brazil	1,918,027	1,841,001	Orders	.....	23,612,600
Spain	1,887,683	1,072,447			
Paraguay	812,492	36,111	Total	56,527,693	94,099,151
Uruguay	221,205	869,915			

The imports were classified under the following heads and comparisons are made with the total imports of the same items in 1899. The items, however, are subject to reclassification and the figures, possibly, to slight revision:

Articles.	1900.	1899.	Articles.	1900.	1899.
Textile materials	$19,310,264	$20,175,949	Oils	$2,063,263	$1,812,173
Iron materials	8,991,383	8,286,425	Drugs and chemicals	1,934,870	1,708,398
Metals other than iron	1,711,462	1,644,798	Paper	1,519,756	1,345,528
Foodstuffs	5,129,131	5,292,371	Leather	607,787	581,734
Liquors and beverages	3,715,190	3,410,022	Dyes and colors	452,657	416,036
Lumber	3,280,095	3,521,960	Live stock	162,299	202,894
Coal, stoneware, crockery, etc	4,463,163	5,661,682	Miscellaneous	1,590,209	1,577,755
Tobacco	1,596,164	1,815,157	Total	56,527,693	57,452,942

The value and classification of the imports for 1900, as compared with 1899, were as follows:

Products.	1900.	1899.
Pastoral	$42,717,551	$52,590,876
Agricultural	48,550,748	34,629,263
Forest	1,824,351	1,145,974
Mineral	107,555	115,312
Game	339,308	165,619
Miscellaneous	559,638	403,718
Total	94,099,151	89,050,762

GOVERNMENT REVENUES.

The Government revenue receipts for the first half of the present year have been made public and show a gratifying increase over those of the first six months of 1899. The gold revenues were $18,716,000, against $17,330,000 in 1899. These were mainly derived from the foreign trade, the total import dues amounting to $16,096,000 as against $14,226,000 in the first half of 1899, while the export dues were $1,045,000 as compared with $1,272,000 in the previous year. The revenues payable in paper currency which were derived solely from internal taxation amounted to $30,439,000, against $26,298,000 for the first six months of 1899.

PRINCIPAL CROPS OF 1899–1900.

The MONTHLY BULLETIN is indebted to the courtesy of Señor Don ESTANILAO S. ZEBALLOS, Honorary Corresponding Member of the International Union of American Republics at Buenos Ayres, for the following interesting statistics concerning the production of wheat in that Republic during the fiscal year 1899–1900, a translation of which is as follows:

"The division of statistics of the Department of Agriculture has just completed a summary of the data corresponding to the crops for 1899–1900, taken from the reports of the farmers, from which it has been possible to estimate, approximately, the results of the wheat, flax, barley, oats, alfalfa seed, and other agricultural products.

"The data were collected up to the 15th of July last, and include the work of 2,230 thrashers out of the 3,253 which were to have operated during the last harvest. There are lacking, therefore, the reports from 1,023 machines.

"According to the accounts received up to the 15th of July, the result of the wheat crop in each Province was as follows:

Provinces.	Number of farms.	Wheat.	
		Sowed.	Harvested.
		Hectares.	*Kilos.*
Buenos Ayres	8,117	534,942	582,364,106
Santa Fé	11,471	1,154,434	893,389,278
Córdoba	2,451	333,583	243,778,301
Entre Rios	4,043	167,485	128,884,984
Total	26,144	2,190,444	1,848,416,669

"The Department of Statistics has made the following calculation respecting the total production, including the wheat covered by the reports that are lacking:

	Tons.
Summary of 2,230 reports	1,848,000
Probable summary of 1,023 reports yet to be compiled	848,000
In other Provinces and Territories	60,000
Total production	2,756,000
Deduct for consumption and seed	870,000
Remaining for exportation	1,886,000

"The statistics give us the following particulars with reference to the number of hectares in cultivation in other products and the total production:

	In cultivation.	Harvested.
	Hectares.	*Kilos.*
Flax	258,412	170,445,835
Oats	8,102	9,829,377
Barley	6,496	5,558,779
Alpiste	5,216	3,553,217
Rye	1,113	887,325
Alfalfa seed	1,592	345,729

"The general average, per hectare, in cultivation was: Wheat, 844 kilograms; flax, 660 kilograms; oats, 1,215 kilograms; barley, 856 kilograms; alpiste, 681 kilograms; rye, 797 kilograms; alfalfa seed, 217 kilograms."

THE WOOL INDUSTRY.

In the course of an article on the "World's Wool Supply," the "Textile World" for September 19, 1900, calls attention to the fact that for a number of years the Argentine Republic has been the largest buyer of fine and pedigree sheep in the world. It will be remembered that at the National Commercial Congress, held in Philadelphia in 1899, Mr. HERBERT GIBSON, representing that Republic, read a paper emphasizing the increased importance attached by Argentine woolgrowers to imported pedigreed stock and the consequent improvement of their product. He deprecated the fact that the wool of the Argentine Republic was known in the United States chiefly through the old "Creole" breed which is fast disappearing before the advance of intelligent husbandry. The substance of Mr. GIBSON's paper can be found in the MONTHLY BULLETIN for November, 1899, page 585.

In confirmation, the writer in the "Textile World" states that during the past five years the Argentine Republic has taken 80 per cent of the value of the total number of sheep exported by Great Britain. Out of 42,909 sheep, valued at $2,285,000, exported between 1894 and 1898 from Great Britain, the Argentine Republic alone absorbed 26,640 animals, valued at $1,182,000. For the past quarter of a century the same country has been the best known and

most frequent buyer of Merino sheep from Germany and France. The United States has contributed Vermont Merinos to the Argentine flocks and New Zealand has supplied them its best Lincolns.

It is further stated by the writer "that the present high standard which Argentine flocks have attained is little known except by those who have visited the River Plate within recent years. The soil and climate of the Argentine Republic are particularly favorable for sheep breeding, and the wool acquires a softness and luster not readily acquired in Europe. To these natural conditions has now been added a competent knowledge and care on the part of the breeder, and the extension of the railway system has been followed by the formation of agricultural societies, shows, and fairs in every district, bringing with them a familiarity with the points of each typical breed to the eye of the flock master, and providing him with a market at his door in which he can buy the sires he needs to improve and renew the breed of his flocks."

During the past ten years there has been a decrease of 340,000,000 pounds of merino wool in the world, and there is a deficiency in the supply. This is attributable to an increase of 200,000,000 pounds of medium, cross, and long-locked wool, and to a decrease of 140,000,000 pounds occasioned by a series of droughts and bad seasons in Australia. Since 1894 the Merino sheep stock of Australia has been reduced by the causes named by more than 30,000,000 head. The writer in the "World" says that the Argentine Republic will be the country most ready to respond to the cry for more merino wool. It is stated that during the past autumn the large sales of Merino sheep at every fair held in that country were most remarkable. In July the average price paid in Buenos Ayres for a selection of Merino sheep of German breed was $510. These are regarded as evidences that the Argentine producer has noted the scarcity of this variety of wool on the market and is preparing to meet it. With the annual increase of its wool output the Argentine Republic has looked to the development of the wool-manufacturing industry of North America as likely to provide a market for its produce. The present appears to be the most opportune occasion for inviting the manufacturers of North America to extend their operations in the Buenos Ayres wool market.

EXPORTS OF QUEBRACHO.

The "Review of the River Plate" for September 1, 1900, states that several German railroads have tested quebracho sleepers (railroad ties), and, as the results have been so satisfactory, several large orders have been placed with Hamburg importers. Two steamers recently left the port of Santa Fé with complete cargoes of quebracho sleepers.

On the same authority, the exports of quebracho during the first six months of 1900 have been as follows:

Railroad sleepers, 185,588, worth $27,882, gold, against 4,750 sleepers,

worth $2,355, gold, in the same period in 1899. The number of tons of quebracho logs exported was 137,361, worth $1,373,613, gold, in 1900, against 92,154 tons, worth $921,544, in 1899. There were also exported 2,955 tons of quebracho extract, worth $295,532 in 1900, against 937 tons, worth $93,651 in 1899. The total value of all the quebracho exports in the first six months of 1900 was $1,697,027, against $1,017,550 in the same period in the preceding year.

RICE PRODUCTION IN MISIONES.

Señor Don Juan A. Atsina has recently published a report on rice growing in Misiones. The cultivation of this cereal can not at present be called a national industry, because the crops of the Territory merely supply the needs of the settlers. The successful cultivation of rice, however, demonstrates that it might become an important product of the country.

THE BOMPLAND COLONY.

"La Prensa," of Buenos Ayres, in its issue of August 20, 1900, contains an interesting article regarding agriculture and stock raising in the Territory of Misiones.

The report states that the Bompland colony, located in the department of Santa Ana, and composed principally of Russian and German emigrants who have recently moved into the Argentine Republic from the Republic of Brazil, to the number of about 400 persons, is in a highly prosperous and flourishing condition. Bompland is situated a short distance from the Paraná River, and the colony proper comprises a land grant of about 18,000 hectares, of which some 15,000 hectares still remain unimproved.

The yearly production, according to the report just mentioned, is from 200 to 500 arrobas of beans, 100 to 300 arrobas of black tobacco, a large assortment of vegetables, and an immense quantity of Indian corn. The corn crop is so abundant that only a small portion of it can be disposed of in the neighboring markets, the surplus being used by the colonists in the fattening of swine. This has created a new and exceedingly profitable industry in that part of the country, and has been one of the most important factors in the remarkable prosperity of the colony.

The lands in the Misiones district are quite fertile, and the colony of Bompland could well support a much larger number of colonists, and offers to the agricultural immigrant such favorable conditions as would practically insure his success as a prosperous farmer in this growing colony.

EXHIBITS AT BUFFALO.

According to information published in Buenos Ayres, the Argentine Government has arranged for 2,000 square feet of space for agri-

cultural exhibits; 1,200 square feet for exhibits of manufactured articles, and 1,500 square feet for timber exhibits at the Buffalo Pan-American Exposition, in 1901. The Director-General is reported to have assured Mr. J. S. ATWELL, the agent for the Argentine Republic, that additional space would be awarded Argentine exhibitors should it be found necessary for a proper exhibit of their products. It is the desire of the Argentine Government that there be a fine showing of the products of that country.

A dispatch dated Buenos Ayres, September 19, 1900, states that the Agentine Minister of Agriculture is receiving numerous communications from agricultural and industrial organizations throughout the Republic announcing that they will participate in the exposition.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY IMPROVEMENTS.

The "Buenos Ayres Herald" states that the Southern Railway of the Argentine Republic has improvements under way or planned which will cost £3,700,000. These include the south dock on Demarchi Island and the extension of the station at Plaza Constitución. In connection with the latter there will be constructed 5 kilometers of elevated railway, at a cost of £50,000 per kilometer. The north and south *barracas* (passenger stations) will be united, and a footbridge is to be constructed across the Riachuelo. Workshops at Baufield will cost £300,000; a new passenger station at Las Flores will be erected at a cost of £60,000; improvements at the port of Bahia Blanca will cost £350,000; besides these, the Grubein and Olavarria Railway branch line will be completed; a bridge will be erected at Neuquen; a passenger station at Tandil, and a freight station at Sola, while new rolling stock will also be purchased.

PAYSANDÚ AND CONCEPCIÓN CABLE.

The "Review of the River Plate" states that the Argentine and Uruguayan Post-Office Departments now have joint control and ownership in the cable line between Paysandú, Uruguay, and Concepción del Uruguay, Argentine Republic. It is further reported that the Argentine Government has approved the purchase of this line by the Departments of both countries. It was formerly owned by Señor A. SANTAMARINA. The distance between the two cities is 15 miles, according to a leading gazetteer.

ANTARCTIC EXPLORATIONS.

The British and German geographical societies have invited the Argentine Government to cooperate in their antarctic exploration expeditions. The German expedition will leave the coast of South Africa and explore the Atlantic coast. The British will start out from Australia and explore the Pacific coast. The Germans have asked the

Government to make the States Island meteorological station a first-class station, and the British expedition will make explorations on the mainland, provided the Argentine Government consents to it.

SEA LION ROOKERIES.

Dr. E. LAHITTE, of the Fisheries Investigation Commission, has made a partial report to the Minister of Agriculture with reference to what has been accomplished in surveys. He states that about the Island of Escondida, on the coast of the territory of Chubut there are no less than 10,000 sea lions. These animals have double fur, and Dr. LAHITTE estimates that their skins are worth $30 each.

ELECTRIC FANS.

The "New York Tribune" records the fact that an Argentine merchant recently gave an order to a manufacturing establishment in St. Louis for 420 alternating-current electric fans. This, it is believed, will be the first shipment of electric fans received in the Argentine Republic. In packing for shipment, the fans were incased in extra strong waterproof barrels. The transaction involved a sum in excess of $10,000.

RAILWAY EARNINGS.

Each of the eight railways of the Argentine Republic, at the close of the fiscal year on June 30, 1900, showed a gain in earnings over the previous year. The earnings for 1900, compared with the previous twelve months, were as follows:

Railway.	1900.	1899.	Gain.
Argentine Great Western	£452,216	£417,569	£34,647
Argentine Great Southern	2,050,269	1,812,832	237,437
Buenos Ayres and Pacific	554,959	481,935	73,024
Buenes Ayres Western	854,120	785,373	68,747
Santa Fé and Córdoba	173,360	136,044	37,316
Bahai Blanca Northwest	46,861	39,349	7,512
Central Entre Rios	99,933	99,885	48
Córdoba-Rosario	2,061,250	1,742,195	319,055
Total	6,792,968	5,515,182	777,786

LIVE-STOCK NOTES.

The "Buenos Ayres Herald" states that a decree was to have been issued on August 24 declaring the whole Republic free from the ailment known as the foot-and-mouth disease which has prevailed among the cattle and other domestic animals during the past few months. The same paper states that the Paraguayan Government has abolished the tax of 50 cents gold on each steer entering the country for grazing purposes (*invernada*) and that the Minister of Finance of the Argentine Republic has issued a decree declaring free importation of cattle from Paraguay.

FAVORABLE ECONOMIC CONDITIONS.

Mr. F. S. Clarke, Secretary of the British Legation at Buenos Ayres, has sent to his Government a report on the finances of the Argentine Republic. In this a summary is given of the more salient points in the report of the Minister of Finance. According to the views of the Minister, the economic prospects of the country could not be more favorable, there being a considerable increase in production and also in the exportation of products. In general there has been a marked development of national industries and a growing activity in commercial affairs.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

The Department of Agriculture has received specimens of a number of textile plants from the district of Formosa. The fibers of these plants, while of an exceedingly good quality and suitable for use in the textile industries, can not be profitably employed at present in Buenos Ayres, owing to the difficulties and expense of transportation.

The British Consul at Rosario states that the Minister of Finance of the Argentine Republic has issued a decree, under date of August 23, 1900, extending the time granted for the importation, free of duty, of sacks for grain and the material employed in their manufacture until February 1, 1901.

The imports of electrical material during the first six months of 1900 in the Argentine Republic were valued at $1,398,395. This sum includes the value of the wire, dynamos, and other accessories for electric lighting, phonographs, and gramophones, as well as telegraph and telephone material.

The "La Plata Post" discusses the report of the Minister of War, Lieutenant-General Campos, for the year 1899. According to this report there were in the national guard on December 31, 1899, 417,912 men, of which 263,857 were on the active list, 94,069 in the reserve, and 111,986 in the territorial guard.

The Santa Fé Provincial Government has decided to send five young men to the United States for the purpose of educating them in agriculture. After graduating they are to return to Santa Fé and become professors in agricultural schools.

Many of the farmers at Colonia, Santo Domingo, and Progreso are cultivating Italian flaxseed. This variety of flax ripens a month in advance of the native flax, and sprouts up again even if frost-bitten.

General Volpini of the Italian army has been in the Argentine Republic for the purpose of purchasing remount horses for the Italian cavalry.

BOLIVIA.

PRESIDENT PANDO'S MESSAGE.

The following are extracts from the Message of the President of the Republic of Bolivia, General José Manuel Pando, delivered to the National Congress, assembled at La Paz, on the 6th of August, 1900:

POLITICAL AMNESTY.

"Upon the opening of this new period a general amnesty is decreed to all those citizens who for political causes find themselves outside of the country.

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

"The relations of Bolivia are peaceable and friendly with all the world, and the Government proposes to faithfully observe all existing treaties, thereby giving ample guaranties to foreign commerce.

BOLIVIA–ARGENTINE BOUNDARY.

"The investigations of the boundary line between Bolivia and the Argentine Republic have been concluded, and in a short time the dividing line will be fixed between the two countries. It has been decided to extend the Northern Central Argentine Railway to Bolivia, and engineers will be appointed to make the necessary estimates and survey.

BOUNDARY TREATY WITH BRAZIL.

"An endeavor is being made to put into execution the boundary treaty with Brazil, made on the 27th of March, 1867, and in conformity with the protocol of the 30th of October last, which stipulated that a new exploration of the Yavari River should be made and this accepted as the true boundary line. With this object in view a boundary commission has been appointed by Bolivia, and a suitable steamboat has been ordered constructed in London for the purposes of the exploration. With respect to Brazil, Bolivia maintains amicable relations, and is firmly resolved to govern her conduct strictly in accordance with existing treaties, and especially with regard to the boundary treaty of 1867. Bolivia, up to the present time, has been true to these treaties and has always observed them.

RELATIONS WITH CHILE.

"Cordial relations have been cultivated with Chile, and Bolivia has been inspired with a sense of equity and moderation in the treatment of all questions with that Republic.

RELATIONS WITH PERU.

"The relations of Bolivia with Peru are amicable and satisfactory. Diplomantic arrangements have been entered into for the facilitation of through commerce, and for the development of trade between the two nations, as well as for the encouragement of the exchange of their natural and manufactured products.

EXTENSION OF COMMERCE WITH THE UNITED STATES.

"Bolivia is endeavoring to extend her commerce with the United States, and in response to the invitation of that Republic, she has accepted the invitations to take part in the Exposition to be held at Buffalo, and the Pan-American Congress, which will assemble in Mexico in October of next year.

COMMISSION TO MEXICO AND VENEZUELA.

"With the object of reestablishing and consolidating the amicable relations which bind Bolivia to the Republics of Mexico and Venezuela, a special commission has been appointed to verbally convey these friendly sentiments to the progressive Governments of those two Republics.

INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE.

"Industry and commerce are increasing day by day, producing a better condition of trade and an activity hitherto unknown in the Republic. This prosperous condition of the country has been the cause of the great increase in the customs receipts at Antofagasta and La Paz.

THE POSTAL SERVICE.

"The postal service has been systematized and improved throughout the entire country. An issue of new 5-cent postage stamps has been authorized to an amount of 25,000 *bolivars*.

TELEGRAPH LINES.

"Material has been ordered for the repair and construction of the Government telegraph lines. The lines from Sorata and Coroico to La Paz have been opened to public service, and there is now being constructed a line from Cochabamba to Santa Cruz.

NATIONAL CENSUS.

"A general census of the Republic has been ordered. Extensive preliminary preparations are being made for the obtaining of an accurate and reliable census, the execution of which has been intrusted to the Office of Immigration, Statistics, and Geographical Propaganda.

BRIDLE-ROAD EXTENSION.

"In a short time the road from Cochabamba to the Chapare River will be completed, as well as the one from Totora to Chimoré. A road from La Paz to Kaka, via Zongo, is now being constructed. A private company, authorized by the Government, is actively carrying on the work of construction of the road from Pelechuco to the Beni River.

RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION.

"The construction of a railroad from the right bank of the Pilcomayo River to some of the interior cities of Bolivia is under consideration, and will receive the Government's careful attention. The Government having investigated the proposed construction by North American capitalists of a railroad from Arica to Corocoro, has manifested its conformity and desire to see a realization of the project.

"The great increase in trade between La Paz and Lake Titicaca renders imperative the construction of a railroad which will unite the capital of the Republic with one of the ports of that lake. A road is now under consideration, but the Government has not at the present time complete information regarding the project, and will, therefore, at a later date make this the subject of a special message.

EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS.

"The Government is taking an active interest in the promotion of primary as well as higher education, and has paid punctually the amounts assigned to the different colleges by the budget. Plans are now being considered for the promotion of education in all its branches, all of which have the hearty cooperation of the Government.

CONTRACTS FOR HIGHWAYS.

"The highways of the Republic are in a fairly satisfactory condition. The contracts relative to the roads from Cochabamba to Sucre, from Sucre to Potosi, from Oruro to Cochabamba, and from the latter place to La Paz and Puerto Perez are still in force. The contracts covering the roads from La Paz to Oruro and from Sucre to Chalapata having expired, new contracts have been made, so that these important highways will receive due and careful attention. Repairs have been made on the road from Sucre to Mocha, and construction will soon be commenced of a road from Potosi to Uyuni.

TERRITORIAL COLONIZATION.

"The subject of colonization in the Territories is one of the greatest importance. Constant and unceasing labor is necessary in order to promote progress in the colonies of the Republic. With a view to

furthering the interests of colonization in the Territories, the President recommends the establishment of a new Department to have charge of the branches known as Public Works and Colonization. The colonies at Chaco and other points are in a satisfactory condition."

DISCOVERY OF INDIA RUBBER FORESTS.

A correspondent writes to the "South American Journal" (September 29, 1900) that a great discovery of india rubber forests of vast extent has been made in the Department of Santa Cruz de la Sierra and on the Magdalena, in the Department of Beni. In the Province of Caupolican, Department of La Paz, there have also been discovered some splendid forests in which there grew some species of rubber trees heretofore unknown.

In Bolivia, the only species of rubber hitherto gathered has been, according to the correspondent quoted, from trees known as *Hevea* or *Siphonia Brasiliensis*, but recently a number of the trees known as *Castilloa*, a species indigenous to Mexico, Ecuador, Colombia, and Central America, have been found growing in Bolivia forests. The same authority states that gutta-percha has also been discovered in Bolivia. If this proves to be correct, it is a most important and timely discovery, as there is a deficiency in the world's supply of gutta-percha.

In order to facilitate shipments of the products of Santa Cruz and Beni, the Bolivian Government has decided to open a port, with a national custom-house, on Laguna Gaibou (17° 48′ south latitude), a branch of the Paraguay River.

IMPORTANT RAILWAY PROJECT.

It is reported that the Bolivian Minister in London has received instructions to form a company for the building of the railroad from Ouro to Cochabamba, the interest on the necessary capital being guaranteed by a Government annuity. The promise of this guarantee is proof of the vital importance of this railroad to Bolivia as well as of the interest the Government takes in it.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

During the year 1899 the Republic of Bolivia granted mining rights covering 2,754 *pertenecias* (claims). The principal denouncements consisted of gold, silver, tin, copper, lead, bismuth, and antimony mines. It is a remarkable fact that the numerous gold denouncements which occurred during the year consisted entirely of placer mines.

The exportation of tin through Puerto Perez during the year 1899 consisted of 347,091 kilograms. The official value of this tin was 137,773 *bolivars*, and the export taxes collected on same were 5,635 *bolivars*.

In 1899 there were exported through the national custom-house of La Paz 1,464,627 kilograms of copper, on which the Government collected an export tax amounting to 31,839 *bolivars*.

The crude rubber exported from Puerto Perez from January to June, 1899, amounted to 113,504 kilograms.

BRAZIL.

TRADE WITH THE UNITED STATES.

The "New York Journal of Commerce" reports that the steamer *Maranhense*, which sailed on September 8 for northern Brazil from the port of New York, took one of the largest cargoes of manufactured goods that has left New York for that section in many months. Besides a large quantity of machinery the cargo included railway material, electrical equipment, and manufactured iron. This, together with large consignments of provisions destined for Para and Manaos, indicates that Brazilian trade with the United States is reviving.

LAW REGARDING PORTUGUESE LABELS.

On July 17, 1900, the National Congress of Brazil enacted a law with reference to imported goods bearing Portuguese labels, of which the following is a translation:

"ARTICLE 1. All foreign merchandise bearing labels or lettering of any kind, in whole or in part, in the Portuguese language shall have printed in capital letters and in colored ink across such lettering or labels the name of the country of manufacture. All decrees to the contrary are hereby revoked."

The Government has issued an order, according to the "British Board of Trade Journal" of September 27, 1900, postponing the application of the prohibition of goods bearing Portuguese labels until November 30, 1900.

GERMAN VIEW OF UNITED STATES COMPETITION.

"With what energy," says the "Sud Amerikanische Rundschau," "the North Americans are increasing their influence in South America is shown by the large amount of North American capital which has been invested in railways, manufactories, plantations, and other undertakings, completely overshadowing both Germany and England. Should the North Americans be successful in concluding the trade convention it is imminent that European commerce will be driven from Brazil in the first instance, and perhaps later, from all of South America."

AMERICAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S FLEET.

A new vessel has recently been added to the fleet of the Amazon Steam Navigation Company, Limited. It is 230 feet long and has a freight capacity of 300 tons and a speed of 13 knots per hour. It also has accommodations for passenger service. This is the seventeenth vessel built for this company by Messrs. LAIRD BROTHERS. Another vessel of the same size is in course of construction, and will shortly be launched.

DELEGATE TO PAN-AMERICAN CONGRESS.

The "South American Journal" reports that the Brazilian Government has decided to name Dr. CARLOS DE CARVALHO, formerly Minister of Foreign Affairs, as delegate from that Republic to the Pan-American Congress to be held in Mexico in 1901.

EXPORTS OF COTTON.

The exports of cotton from Brazil to Great Britain from January 1 to September 1, 1900, aggregated 23,338,200 pounds, valued at £578,255. In the same period of 1899, only 528,700 pounds, valued at £9,356, were exported to Great Britain. In 1898, the exports, during the first eight months, amounted to 5,323,400 pounds, worth £96,849.

REGISTRATION OF PARTNERSHIP CONCERNS.

The British Acting Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro reports that no firm, whether foreign or native, can be officially registered in Brazil—a provision that is necessary in order to obtain the protection and privileges of the commercial code—unless proof is presented that the firm names are really those of the members of the company composing it. In other words, no fictitious names can be legally registered.

NEW WHARF AT RIO DE JANEIRO.

A concession has been granted to the C. H. WALKER Company, Limited, for the construction of a new wharf at Rio de Janeiro. According to the plans the wharf is to be divided into three sections. The first section will be 1,768 meters long, the second 1,482 meters, and the third 1,482 meters.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

A legislative decree has been promulgated in Sao Paulo, authorizing the State Government to open a supplementary credit of 100,000 *milreis* with the Secretary of Agriculture for sanitary works in the city of Santos.

The State of Sao Paulo has recently promulgated a decree authorizing the Government to enter into a contract for the introduction of 50,000 immigrants.

Direct steamship service between Germany and the city of Manaos was inaugurated on August 19, 1900, by the arrival from Hamburg of the steamship *Canada*.

Exports of rubber from Manaos during the month of July amounted to 312,468 kilograms, of which 215,171 were destined for Europe and 97,297 for the United States.

CHILE.

COMMERCIAL STATISTICS OF 1899.

The "Estadistica Comercial" (Commercial Statistics) corresponding to the year 1899 has just been issued by the Chilean Government. It contains a vast amount of valuable and important data concerning the economic situation of the country, and extensive and detailed information regarding the movement and volume of trade of the Republic during the past year.

One of the most interesting tables found in this statistical publication is that showing the importations and exportations of 1899 as compared with those of 1898. In 1899 the importations amounted to $106,260,358 as against $102,262,058. The exportations during 1899 were $163,106,133, while those of 1898 amounted to $168,069,431. These figures show that the importations of 1899 were about $4,000,000 greater than those of 1898, while the exportations of 1898 were about $5,000,000 in excess of those of 1899. The decrease in the exportations was due to the falling off of the shipments of metallic money. The exportations of coin in 1898 were $14,221,427, while in 1899 they amounted to only $2,595,772, or a decrease of $11,625,655. Eliminating from the exports the item of coin, the figures of 1899 show an increase in the exports, as compared with 1898, of more than $6,000,000. These figures are extremely flattering and show that the export trade of the Republic is in a highly satisfactory and flourishing condition.

Referring to the imports of cattle, the following table shows the number of head and value of the cattle imported during the last five years:

Years.	Head.	Value.
1895	108,005	$9,710,000
1896	92,762	8,110,000
1897	68,912	5,816,426
1898	42,512	3,301,720
1899	27,561	1,811,840

These figures show a constant and notable decrease since 1895. This is largely due to the fact that Chile during this time has greatly increased its domestic herds, thereby diminishing the demand for imported cattle, and is thus supplying the needs of the people. Taking this into consideration the condition of the cattle industry during 1899 was exceedingly satisfactory, and indicates that that industry is being rapidly developed. The movement of cattle in the coastwise trade of the Republic during the last three years, is shown by the following table:

Years.	Head.	Value.
1897	22,383	$2,507,380
1898	26,986	3,211,964
1899	37,286	4,363,704

These figures show a large yearly increase in the shipments of Chilean cattle since 1897.

During 1899 there were exported 17,311 tons of copper and 75,563 kilograms of silver. The figures show that the exportation of wheat has decreased considerably, there being exported only 45,000 tons in 1899 as compared with 77,000 tons in 1898. The articles showing the greatest increase in exports during the year 1899 were nitrate, iodide, and copper.

The values referred to in the foregoing are expressed in Chilean currency.

INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS.

In a report to his Government on the industrial state of Chile, published in the "Moniteur Officiel du Commerce" of September 27, 1900, Mr. CROUZET, of the French Consulate at Valparaiso, says that Chile, "which was formerly given to commerce, is daily becoming more important from the industrial point of view. Considering the relatively short time that this country has had to develop, and taking into consideration its geographical situation, the results attained are astonishing. This industrial development is not, however, due alone to the Chilean people, but, in part, is attributable to the foreign element.

"The geological formation of the Cordilleras and the inexhaustible wealth which they contain have been described and made known by such European engineers and scientists as PISIS, DOMEYKO, PHILIPPI, and NOGUÈS. The zoological and botanical studies of Mr. GAY have served as bases for agricultural exploitations. Mr. WEELRIGHT, an Englishman, was the first to enter Chile upon steamers and open up the markets of the Old World to Chilean products. Still another English-speaking gentleman, Mr. MEIGGS, by the introduction of railways, transformed the central part of Chile into a vast field of industrial activity.

"The agricultural and mining industries are the first in importance.

It can even be said that since the beginning of its existence Chile has been an agricultural and mining country. The exhausted lands of Europe and the large manufactories of chemical products have consumed almost 2,000,000,000 *piasters* worth of saltpeter and iodine produced in Chile. Silver, copper, and gold have also contributed their part to the industrial development. The Chanareillo mine alone furnished wealth to the value of 138,000,000 *piasters*. And this is not the maximum; the day that the means of communication are increased and the mining methods are improved, the production will be trebled. Unfortunately for Chile, the mines of saltpeter are, it appears, destined to decrease in importance, not through any falling off in production, but because of the competition of fertilizers and artificial products with the natural nitrates, a fact that is causing some uneasiness in the country.

"The agricultural industry is in a less flourishing condition. The cultivation of grapes has principally attracted the attention of agriculturists, although this branch of industry has contributed the smallest percentage to the exportation. More than 60,000,000 *piasters* or 120,000,000 *francs* have been expended on the vineyards. While the production is large and of good quality it has not yet been able to take the place accorded to imported wines. Sugar raising is another prosperous industry. As early as 1871 a sugar refinery was established at Vina del Mar, near Valparaiso. This factory has always prospered, and to-day has a working capital of 6,000,000 *francs*. Since then other factories have been established, the last one being the Penco factory for beet sugar. Large plantations of beets have been set out, and there is every reason to believe that they will prove successful. Oil mills have also been erected and, independently of olives, oil is extracted from the cocoanuts coming from Samoa and Tahiti.

"The importation of beer has been almost completely suppressed. This manufacture was undertaken by the German colony, and the progress realized is really enviable. It has reached such a point that to-day the exports from the Chilean breweries to Central America, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia amount to almost 10,000,000 *francs*. Almost all the breweries are under German control. There are also numerous factories for canned goods and chocolate, equipped with the latest improvements.

"In regard to the manufacture of cotton and woolen tissues, the situation is not so bright. Nevertheless, thanks to the protectionist law of February 12, 1896, which admits cotton yarns free of duty and taxes the importation of the tissues, serious efforts in this direction have been attempted. The English are now trying to establish weaving mills, and in view of the large consumption of these goods, the development of this industry is hoped for.

"The press is at present decrying against the little protection afforded to mechanical industries. According to the newspapers the legislative body, when it voted the law of December 23, 1897, revising

the customs tariff, did not sufficiently take into consideration the progress realized in the country.

"In the last fifty years metallurgical and mechanical industries have been established and occupy an important place, the neighboring countries addressing themselves to Chile to fill their orders. These establishments furnish steam engines, pipes, cylinders, and agricultural machinery, locomotives, railroad and shipbuilders' supplies, mining machinery, etc. These houses have attracted South American trade, and are established on a footing permitting them to compete with similar European establishments. To these industries must be added the manufacture on a large scale of cements which formerly came from Germany, England, and Belgium."

In concluding his report Mr. CROUZOT says that Chile is a field of commercial activity of first importance, and the investment of capital in that country can not be too strongly urged. He says: "the Germans have been the first to understand this, and at the present time one sees only German machinery and German capital. Numerous mining enterprises which give every indication of success are at a standstill from lack of capital, and this same condition exists with regard to agricultural enterprises."

COLONIZATION CONCESSION.

The "Diario Oficial" of Santiago, in its issue No. 6,665, dated August 9, 1900, publishes a decree accepting the proposal of Señor Don AUGUSTIN GARCÍA to engage in Galicia, Spain, fifty families of fishermen and agriculturists for the purpose of founding a colony at El Volcán, situated at the north mouth of the Aysen River, between the Gay Canal and the Aysen Strait, opposite Puerto Americano, under the following conditions:

Señor GARCÍA is obligated to personally accompany the colonists to Chile, bringing such emigrants as are acceptable to the Chilean representatives in Europe; he must oversee and superintend the operations of the colonists under the authority and official title of "Director," during the first year. He must establish, at his own expense, a factory for the preservation of fish and oysters, sufficiently large for the handling of 30,000 kegs annually.

The State agrees to deliver the land destined for the use of the colonists properly surveyed and to make a landing at some suitable point, to construct the habitations necessary for the provisional housing of the colonists, and to furnish Señor GARCÍA passage to and from some port of Spain in his journeys connected with the business of the colony.

According to the contract each of the colonists binds himself to settle upon the land designated and cultivate personally during the first year at least half a hectare of ground and construct within that period a dwelling house. During the first three years no colonist

will be permitted to leave the colony without the permission of the director. Each colonist is obligated to return the advances made him by the Government either in money or its equivalent, making the payments in ten annual installments, the first payment falling due at the end of the third year. The colonists shall not transfer any of the objects or utensils received for use in the performance of their work and must keep the same number of animals as the number originally given them until they have completely reimbursed the Government for their value. They are also restricted from making any transfers of lands until they receive definite titles to same.

The Government further agrees to pay the expenses of the colonists, including the transportation of their families and baggage, from Spain to Chile, conducting them free of charge to the landing place of the colony. The Government has agreed to supply each of the colonists with a horse, three milch cows, one yoke of oxen, and an American plow; also to provide a dwelling or sufficient lumber to build one, and a lot of ground containing 60 hectares for each head of family, and 30 hectares more for each male child over 12 years of age. The Government will provide free medical attendance and medicines, in case of sickness, for the colonists for a period of one year after their arrival. At the expiration of three years a complete title will be given to each colonist who has complied with the terms of the contract. During the first year an allowance of $30 per month will be made to the colonists, either in money or supplies.

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS IN SIX MONTHS.

The customs receipts at all ports of the Republic for the first six months of 1900 were as follows: From imports, $13,737,107; from exports, $19,459,250; a total of $33,196,358. The receipts for the same period of 1899 were: From imports, $9,832,175; from exports, $19,984,205; a total of $29,816,280, or a difference in favor of the present year of $3,389,978.

SATISFACTORY FINANCIAL CONDITIONS.

Most of the banks and public companies of the Republic have published their half-yearly statements. These are generally very satisfactory, showing a prosperous financial condition. A dividend of 6 per cent has been declared by the "Banco Hipotecario," of Chile, the Talca Bank, Melepilla Bank, and Curico Bank; 5 per cent by the International Bank, and 3 per cent by the Bank of Serena. One of the indications of prosperity is the report of brisk trade in nitrate from the northern ports in the first six months of the year 1900. The consumption of this article throughout the world for the time specified has exceeded by 571,000 Spanish quintals (25,849 tons) that of the same period in 1899.

ESTIMATED POPULATION.

The estimated population of Chile on December 31, 1899, was 3,110,083. The population of each of the principal cities at that date was, according to data furnished by the authorities, as follows: Santiago, 320,638; Valparaiso, 143,022; Concepción, 55,458; Talca, 42,625; Chillan, 35,052; Iquique, 38,852; Antofagasta, 18,883; Serena, 16,561; Talcahuano, 15,376; Curicó, 14,638.

AMENDMENT TO TRADE-MARK LAW.

A foreign Consul reports that an act improving the trade-mark laws was adopted by the National Congress in 1899. This provides that in case of an action for infringement the judicial authority may be allowed, providing the original mark has been duly registered, to use his discretion as to whether or not the infringing mark is intended to deceive the public. Formerly to successfully bring an action, the infringing mark had to be an exact copy, the slightest alteration being sufficient to render prosecutions useless.

INTERNATIONAL MINING AND REFINING COMPANY.

The by-laws of the International Mining and Refining Company, of Huantajaya, were published in the "Diario Oficial," of Santiago, on August 6, 1900. This important company has its principal office in Iquique. It is incorporated for thirty years and has a capital of $300,000. The object of the company is to buy, denounce, and exploit mines in the mining district of Huantajaya. It contemplates the buying of ores and the operation of a smelter.

RAILROAD CONCESSIONS.

The "Diario Oficial," of Santiago, official organ of the Republic of Chile, in its issue of July 13, 1900, publishes a decree approving the plans, specifications, and estimates made by the Department of Public Works for the construction of a railway from Talca to San Clemente. Bids have been requested for the construction of this road. Plans, specifications, and full information can be obtained from the Department of Industry and Public Works at Santiago.

Mr. Norman Walker, or the company or companies that he may organize, has been granted permission to construct and operate a steam railway from the mining district of Chuquicamata, to connect with the Antofagasta and Bolivia Railroad. The plans of this railroad must be submitted to the President within six months from July 30, 1900, for his inspection and approval, and the construction of the road must be concluded within eighteen months from the approval of the plans by the President. Freight and passenger tariffs must be submitted to the President every three years for his approbation.

INVESTIGATION OF HAT MANUFACTURING.

The Chilean Government has commissioned Señor Don Agusto Biant to investigate and study, in Europe, the hat manufacturing industry. On the return of the commissioner he will render a full report to the Department of Industry and Public Works covering his investigations. He will pay particular attention to all the latest improved machinery used in the manufacture of hats, and will embody in his report detailed descriptions and information regarding every branch of this growing and important industry.

GERMAN BANK AT ANTOFAGASTA.

The "Banco Aleman Transatlantico," of Valparaiso, has established a branch bank in Antofagasta. The Valparaiso bank is itself a branch of the Deutsche Ueberseeische Bank, of Berlin. The United States Consul at Antofagasta believes that this new banking institution will take much of the business now transacted at a profit by the Chilean and English financial institutions now located in that city.

IMPORTANT PATENTS.

A patent has been granted to Messrs. Folsch & Martin covering their process for the separation of salts, and especially the perchlorate of potash found in saltpeter. Mr. William H. Balker has also obtained a patent covering improvements in his process and apparatus for separating the precious metals from ores. These patents run nine and six years, respectively.

A patent has been issued to M. C. Jackson, John McDonough, and A. J. Clark, covering certain improvements of their invention relating to rock drills. The patent runs for nine years.

A patent has been granted to the Marine Torch Company, of Baltimore, Maryland, for the exclusive use in the Republic of Chile, for a period of nine years, of a marine torch of that company's invention.

Mr. George A. Laury has been granted exclusive privilege for nine years on his invention for compressing fibers or other materials.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

The "Chilean Times" reports that an important agreement has been entered into between Bolivia and Chile. By the terms of this compact Bolivia is to submit the claims of its citizens against the Republic of Chile for losses sustained during the civil war to the representative of Great Britain in Santiago, who is to be the sole arbitrator.

The National Congress has passed a law exempting the Chilean Street Railway and Electric Light Company, of Santiago, from customs duties for a period of two years on materials imported for use

in the construction and equipment of the line and electric plant, provided the articles brought in do not exceed $350,000 in value.

Mr. Melvin D. Compton, a citizen of East Orange, New Jersey, has solicited a patent covering his invention for obtaining and using the force of water resulting in the difference of level between high and low tide. Drawings and a full description of the apparatus or tide motor accompanies the application.

The "Diario Oficial" of August 9, 1900, publishes in full the statutes of the Exploration Company, of Chuquicamata, the offices of which are at Valparaiso. The object of this company is the exploitation of some valuable copper mines in the district of Chuquicamata, Department of Antofagasta.

Advices from London are to the effect that the repeated attempts to unite the several nitrate companies have now resulted successfully, and the consolidated companies are busy framing by-laws for the organization, which will commence business on January 1, 1901.

The correspondent in Valparaiso of the "Chicago Record" states that the Chilean Government will appropriate $500,000 for the exhibition of national products at the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo.

Señor F. Valdes Cuevas, Minister of Industry and Public Works, recently resigned. Señor Abraham Gazitua Brieba has accepted the appointment as his successor.

Quellon Bay, in the Department of Castro, Chiloe Island, has been declared a minor port of entry under the control of the Ancud Custom House.

The "Argentinisches Wochenblatt" says that the Chilean Government has issued a decree admitting live stock from the Argentine Republic.

Reports from Valdivia are to the effect that an English company is about to prospect for gold in the mountains of San José.

COLOMBIA.

DEMAND FOR WOVEN GOODS.

The importation of woven goods into Colombia is the subject of a recent German official report. The requirements in this class of goods are met by the manufacturers of England, the United States, Germany, France, Belgium, and Italy. Exact statistical figures are not obtainable. In addition to the imported goods of this class, the local indus-

tries manufacture them to a certain extent. The local manufactures are, however, of the ordinary qualities used by the poorer people, and they have certain advantages over the foreign goods, while the improvement in their manufacture, while slow, is certainly marked. They are of great durability and of fast colors and their patterns appeal peculiarly to the tastes of the consumer, who is able to purchase them cheaper than the imported goods. The following articles are produced in Samacá, in the Department of Boyacá: Cotton stuffs for pantaloons in pieces (coupons), also stuffs for the making of *ponchos*, ready-made *ponchos*, half-cotton and woolen bed and saddle blankets, and a rough woolen stuff for women's dresses and shawls.

COSTA RICA.

FREE EXPORTATION OF BANANAS.

"La Gaceta," official organ of the Republic of Costa Rica, published at San José, in its issue of September 12, 1900, contains the following important decrees:

"Whereas it is in every way desirable for the development of the public wealth to promote the recent industry of the cultivation of bananas in the country, and insure to the planters the greatest confidence with respect to the free exportation of this fruit, the Constitutional Congress of the Republic of Costa Rica, in the exercise of its powers, decrees:

"Only Article: For a period of ten years, counting from the publication of the present decree, the exportation of bananas shall not be burdened with any duty whatever."

MODIFICATION OF POSTAL-PARCELS DECREE.

The National Congress has enacted the following law:

"Only Article: Article 360, chapter 4, of the Fiscal Code, in the part relating to postal parcels, is modified in the following manner:

"Parcels sent from and to places connected by rail with this capital, shall pay 0.05 of a *colon* for each 200 grams or fraction thereof, and those sent from and to other points shall pay 0.05 of a *colon* for each 100 grams or fraction thereof."

EXPORT TAXES ON CATTLE.

"La Gaceta," in its issue of August 9, 1900, contains the following important decree:

"The Congress of the Republic of Costa Rica, with the object of protecting the cattle industry of the country, decrees:

"ARTICLE 1. The exportation of bovine cattle and the importation

of lean and young cattle shall be free from all duty for a period of ten years.

"ART. 2. Fat cattle imported into the country during the first year shall pay 2, during the second year 4, during the third year 6, and in the following years 8 *colones* per head.

"The provisions contained in article 2 shall commence to be effective one year from the date of the publication of the present decree."

THE NORTHERN RAILWAY.

The "New York Journal of Commerce," of September 17, 1900, stated that the Northern Railway of Costa Rica had recently been organized under the laws of Costa Rica by the United Fruit Company, Pier 1 (old), North River, of New York City. This railway is capitalized at $1,600,000 stock and $1,600,000 5 per cent bonds. It will run from the coast inward a distance of 69 miles, largely through the plantations of the United Fruit Company. The $1,600,000 bonds have all been underwritten by a syndicate, composed largely of Boston capitalists. These bonds will be sold, when the market conditions are more favorable, to complete the building of the road, which is now about one-half constructed. The Northern Railway will derive a large portion of its income, it is said, from the carrying of fruit grown on the properties of the company named.

EXTENSION OF ELECTRIC RAILWAY.

The "Electrical World" reports that the city of San José has made a contract with the Costa Rica Electric Light and Traction Company by which it is authorized to extend its tramway to the street called Escasú, following the south side of the village of Sabana and parallel to the Pacific Railway's roadbed, in conformity with the plan presented by the Department of Public Works. The company is also authorized, should it so desire, to encircle with its line the village of Sabana and return to the city in accordance with the plans already approved, and which form a part of the contract. The company shall in no case charge more than a 15-cent fare for any trip over its line. Uniformed postal and telegraph messengers as well as policemen shall be carried free.

POSTAL MONEY-ORDER SERVICE WITH FRANCE.

The convention relative to the exchange of postal orders between France and the Republic of Costa Rica was promulgated in the French Official Journal of September 6, 1900.

CUBA.

COAST SURVEY.

In compliance with instructions given by the chief of the Bureau of Equipment an extensive survey of the south side of the island of Cuba is to be begun during the winter of 1900–1901, by the United States Government. Beginning at Cape Maysi, the surveying vessels will carefully chart the coast of the island to Cape Antonio, the extreme westerly point of the island. The waters along the south shore of Cuba are filled with obstructions, many of which are uncharted. At many points the old charts are defective, and the Navy Department deems it essential to navigation that a survey be made which will completely establish the dangerous points existing in that part of the Cuban waters.

As a result of occupancy by the United States, the harbors of Santiago, Guantanamo, and Carbanito have been completely surveyed. The survey of Port Padre, on the north side of the island, will soon be completed, and after that surveys will be begun at Manzanillo. Before the surveying vessel goes to Cape Cruz to commence work there she will chart the harbor of Nipe, on the north side of Cuba.

ESTIMATED OUTLAY FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

On September 28, 1900, Señor Villalon, Secretary of Public Works, submitted to the Governor-General the annual report of his department. This is a very elaborate document and records many great improvements. Among the most noticeable features is an excellent general plan for constructing roads throughout the island. During the Spanish régime only 275 kilometers of public roads were built, as compared with 440 kilometers now actually under construction. Besides this, 492 kilometers have been surveyed and 1,347 projected. A map accompanies the report, showing the location of the roads already constructed, those that have been surveyed, and those which are likely to be surveyed. The Secretary estimates that the outlay will be about $13,000,000. The length of time required to complete the work will depend upon the question of finances.

IMPORTS OF LIVE STOCK AT HAVANA.

During the month of August, 1900, there were imported at the port of Havana the following live stock: Cattle, 9,825; horses, 1,290; mules and donkeys, 395; sheep, 91; swine, 1,688, and other animals. None of the cattle imported were for breeding purposes. Of the importations of cattle, 4,491 were from Mexico and 1,572 from Venezuela, the balance being from the United States. Of the other animals, 830 were from Mexico.

AGRICULTURAL PROSPERITY.

A press dispatch from Havana, dated October 6, 1900, states that agricultural prosperity is reported throughout that part of the island of Cuba lying between the cities of Havana and Cienfuegos. The reconstruction of the cane and sugar "centrals" is actively proceeding, and the restoration of commercial confidence in agricultural ventures is gradually made evident by the importation from the United States of large quantities of refining and agricultural machinery.

Both the sugar and tobacco industries are settling down to a large and permanent production, and the earnings are now estimated at over $6,000,000. New sugar machinery is at present in course of erection in various parts of the island.

During the first week in October, 1,860 immigrants from the Canary Islands and Barcelona arrived at Havana on their way to the interior districts, where employment is readily obtained. This continued influx partially solves the labor question, many of the plantations having been idle owing to lack of sufficient workmen to cultivate them. Señor Perfecto Lacoste, the Minister of Agriculture, extends every inducement to desirable immigrants.

EXPORTS OF TOBACCO.

Leaf tobacco to the value of $5,973,557 was exported from the Island of Cuba during the first seven months of 1900. Of this amount $5,046,778 was taken by the United States. The exportation of cigarettes amounted in value to $192,505, the value of such articles taken by the United States being $21,239. The exportation of all other tobacco during the period named amounted in value to $56,450, of which amount $5,773 was taken by the United States.

ECUADOR.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The Monthly Bulletin is indebted to the courtesy of the Consul-General of Ecuador in New York for a copy of the message which Señor Don Eloy Alfaro, President of the Republic, delivered August 23, 1900, on the opening of the National Congress in the capital of the nation. The following is an extract of this notable and exceedingly interesting communication:

"The President congratulates the members of Congress on the initiation of their legislative duties, reminding them of the important political and economic problems they will be called upon to solve, and expressing faith and confidence in the wisdom and patriotism of the

representatives of the people in guiding the ship of state safely through the difficulties that may be encountered."

PAN-AMERICAN CONGRESS.

Referring to the second Pan-American Congress, the President says: "I congratulate myself upon being able to announce to you the early assembling of another International American Congress. All that tends to strengthen the bonds of fraternity by means of general reciprocal agreements between friendly and sister nations has always deserved the preferential attention of our Government, and therefore Ecuador will participate in the coming Congress, which may be the means of realizing many of the aspirations of America, such as giving uniformity and force to American common law, establishing a uniform monetary system in the New World, and reducing to a practical form the stupendous project of an intercontinental railway, etc."

DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVE AT WASHINGTON.

The President states that the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Ecuador, Señor Don Luis F. Carbo, near the governments of Colombia and the United States of North America, has removed temporarily from Bogotá to Washington.

REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES.

The receipts during the last economic year amounted to $7,565,963.99. To this sum there must be added $59,866.37 on hand in the Treasury on the 1st of January, 1899, making the total receipts $7,625,830.36. The disbursements during this period were $6,662,944.73, which leaves an excess of receipts over expenditures of $962,885.63. The customs receipts during the year amounted to $6,184,623.17, or an increase of $108,105.11 over those of the preceding year. A considerable source of revenue resulted in the tax on salt. This amounted during the year to $247,587.57. Other sources which were also productive of a large amount of revenue were the following: Liquors, $337,552.57; excise duties, $203,377.52; tobacco, $39,031.81; powder, $41,391.96; stamps, $152,628.23; postage stamps, $62,244.32; total collection from these sources, $837,226.41.

EXTERNAL DEBT.

The President says that the payment of the public debt has been arranged for in a most favorable manner, subject to the approval of Congress, without which requisite the negotiations are void. He enters at length into the details of the arrangement, and sets forth clearly and concisely the advantages that will accrue to the Republic from the ratification of the agreement.

HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS.

Continuing, the President stated that "the road from Quito to Chone is being rapidly constructed; that from Ibarra to Pailon is completed to a point called Achiotal, near the Lito River, and 500 laborers are rapidly pushing the work of construction forward to the coast. The iron bridge which will span the river of Guayabamba has arrived at Guayaquil, and will soon be sent forward to its desti nation. The road from Calcali to the Nanegal Mountain is being rapidly constructed. The stone bridge at Cusiacu, which was destroyed last year by the heavy rains, has been solidly rebuilt. Great activity is shown concerning the completion of the road from Pilahuin to Guanujo. When this important highway is finished, the distance between Curanda and Ambato will be greatly shortened, and traveling around the peak of Chimborazo will be avoided.

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE LINES.

"In 1898 there were 1,904 kilometers of telegraph lines in the Republic. At the present time there are in operation 2,200 kilometers of telegraph lines, and a number of branch lines are in course of construction. Telephone service has been established in Quito and extended to Ibarra.

RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION.

"The Guayaquil and Quito Railway Company has deposited in bank in London the sum of £295,000 in bonds of the external public debt, which sum at the present rate of exchange is equal to about $500,000, American gold, as a guaranty of the fulfillment of its contract." The President expresses entire confidence in the integrity of the railway company and its ability to comply with its agreements, and entertains the firm conviction that the work of construction of the railroad will be carried forward to a successful termination.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS.

The "Revista Comercial" (Commercial Review), published at Guayaquil, in its issue of July 31, 1900, states that the internal trade of the Republic has entered upon a period comprising the most busy season.

The stock market, owing to a temporary stringency in financial circles, has been very quiet for some time. The shares of the street railway company of Guayaquil have greatly increased in value, but there has been little movement in other securities.

The construction of the Southern Railway will be pushed forward to completion, a contract having been made with the firm of MacDonald & Co., of New York, for the conclusion of the work of construction. Representatives of this company are now in Ecuador arranging the preliminary work of building the road, making investigations and preparing estimates, etc. Funds to the amount of

£1,000,000, to be used in the construction and equipment of the road, are now in the hands of London bankers, and will be drawn upon as the work progresses.

The opening of this railway will prove of inestimable benefit to the Republic of Ecuador, and will doubtless be a powerful factor in the development of the latent resources of the country. The part of the Republic that will be traversed by this iron highway is exceedingly rich in natural wealth, and only awaits the magic hand of industry and progress to transform it into a busy mart of commerce. A railroad in exploitation over the route projected can not fail, if wisely operated, to be a profitable enterprise, yielding a handsome return upon the capital invested.

EXPORTS IN SIX MONTHS.

The exports of Ecuador during the first half of the present year were, according to the "Commercial Review" of Guayaquil, 12,822,601 kilograms of products, valued at 6,565,332 *sucres*. The principal articles exported were as follows: Cacao, 8,575,323 kilograms, valued at 4,895,714 *sucres;* coffee, 981,814 kilograms, valued at 301,803 *sucres;* hides, 235,399 kilograms, valued at 124,300 *sucres;* fruits, 1,389,298 kilograms, valued at 39,785 *sucres;* tagua nuts, 1,066,288 kilograms, valued at 73,425 *sucres;* hats, 13,083 kilograms, valued at 104,590 *sucres;* crude rubber, 134,743 kilograms, valued at 301,626 *sucres*. The other exports were made up of cotton, tobacco, silver bullion, etc.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS IN THREE MONTHS.

During the first three months of 1900 the value of the merchandise imported by Ecuador was $2,389,278, gold. The principal items were: Cotton goods, worth $650,054; canned goods, $430,277; hardware, $253,485; wines and liquors, $203,956. No other item reached as high a valuation as $100,000.

The imports from Great Britain were valued at $715,198; from the United States, $548,899; from Germany, $509,636; from France, $181,765; from Peru, $109,180; from Belgium, $105,294, and from all other countries, $219,306.

According to the British Trade Journal, the exports of cacao for the first three months of the present year were as follows:

Countries.	Bags.	Value.
France	12,701	$546,602
England	7,120	313,456
Germany	5,238	234,994
Spain	4,580	189,779
United States	3,207	115,589
Holland	300	12,788
Total	33,146	1,413,208

CONTRACT RAILROAD LABORERS.

A dispatch from Colon, Colombia, dated October 8, 1900, stated that 1,000 of the 5,000 Jamaican laborers engaged by J. P. MacDonald, the contractor, to work on the Guayaquil-Quito (Ecuador) railroad, had arrived in that city in transit, accompanied by a representative of Jamaica, who will act as their protector. The men are engaged for two years' service in Ecuador, and are to receive 60 cents a day and free lodging, hospital, and medical attendance while there.

THE MANUFACTURE OF PANAMA HATS.

In a recent report from Guayaquil Consul-General De Leon gives an interesting account of the manufacture of "panama" hats in Ecuador. The Monthly Bulletin for May, 1900 (pp. 879–880), contained an article regarding these hats, more properly called "jipijapa," which are manufactured from the "*Carludovica palmata*," according to the Belgian Consul. The United States Consul says they are made from a native grass which greatly resembles the "saw palmetto" of the United States.

The process of manufacture is described in the following manner: When the grass attains the proper height it is cut just before ripening, boiled in hot water, and after being thoroughly dried is sorted for use. The straw is first carefully selected, dampened to make it pliable, and then very finely divided into requisite lengths, the little finger or thumb nail being used for the purpose. The plaiting commences at the apex of the crown and is continued in a circular form until the hat is finished. The work is carried on while the atmosphere is humid, from about midnight to 7 a. m. It requires from three to five months' daily labor of three hours per day to make one of the finest hats. The business in its highest development is really a work of art, requiring patience, fine sight, and special skill. The plaiting completed, the hat is washed in clean, cold water, coated with a thin solution of gum, and polished with dry powdered sulphur. The best hats are so pliable they can be rolled up without injury and put in one's pocket. They will last for years and can be repeatedly cleaned. Natives of both sexes and all ages are engaged in this work. The wholesale prices range from $7.92 to $100 per dozen.

During the past three years there has been a gradual decrease in the exportation of panama hats from Ecuador, but there has been a corresponding increase in the exportation of the material from which they are manufactured. This would indicate that other nations are engaging in the industry.

TEACHERS FROM THE UNITED STATES.

The "New York Tribune" calls attention to the opening of schools in October under the direction of North American professors. There

are evening schools in the capital, Quito; at Guayaquil, the commercial capital of the Republic, and also at Cuenca. A school for women will soon be opened in Ecuador, but it is not known whether it will be under the management of professors from the United States, who are already much in demand in other countries of Spanish America. The MONTHLY BULLETIN of March, 1900 (p. 420), stated that a contract had been entered into between Mr. THOMAS B. WOOD, a citizen of the United States, and the Ecuadorian Government by which the former bound himself to secure teachers, either in the United States or Chile, for the national normal schools. From the information obtained by the "Tribune" it must be inferred that Mr. WOOD's efforts have been successful.

GUATEMALA.

THE NORTHERN RAILROAD.

The Central American Improvement Company, of which Mr. MINOR C. KEITH is president and Mr. RICHARD BARTHEL is secretary and treasurer, with headquarters at New Orleans, recently made a proposition to the Guatemalan Government, which was subsequently accepted, to complete the Northern Railway to the city of Guatemala. This railway during the rainy season of 1900 suffered considerable damage, owing to the unusually high water in the rivers. Bridges were washed away and part of the track and the roadbed also suffered. The railway line at present extends from Puerto Barrios to El Rancho, a distance of about 133 miles, with a roadbed practically level. The real engineering difficulty will be encountered in the building of the 60 miles from El Rancho, the present terminus, to the city of Guatemala, where the grades will be very heavy.

The conditions are in substance as follows, according to the report of Mr. JAMES C. MCNALLY, Consul-General of the United States in Guatemala: The Central American Improvement Company guarantees to complete the railway in thirty months without cost of any kind to the Government of Guatemala. The company is to have the privilege of operating the road for ten years, after which time the Government of Guatemala shall pay to the said company the sum of $4,000,000 gold, with interest. The time condition may be increased at the option of the Government. In consideration of this the Government cedes to the Central American Improvement Company 500,000 acres of land contiguous to the railway. These lands are to be used in the cultivation of bananas.

PUBLIC RECORD OF CONCESSIONS.

"La República," of Guatemala, in its issue of September 4, 1900, publishes an important legislative decree promulgated on the 28th of August last, an extract of which is as follows:

"Railroads and their concessions, canals, and other public works of a like nature shall be recorded in the Register of Real Property as public property. For this purpose a special book shall be kept, to be used only for registrations of this kind.

"The registration shall be made by presenting the title, issued by a Government notary, granting the definite concession, accompanied by the other documents determining the rights conceded or the identification of the concessionaire.

"If the registration is made during the construction of the public work, it may be added to or corrected on the conclusion of same or of each one of the sections, accompanied by a certificate issued by the Government Notary certifying that the Executive Power considers the work or the section placed at the service of the public received.

"The inscription shall be made in the registration book of the department corresponding to the starting point or head of the road or canal, and shall be transcribed into the register of the other departments whose territory is crossed by the public work.

"Stations, warehouses, reservoirs, bridges, aqueducts, and other works which constitute an integral part of the road or canal, as necessary for its existence and exploitation, do not require a special and separate registration, but shall be included in general in the public work; but other real or urban property that the concessionary company may acquire, and which are separate from the road or canal, shall be registered separately in accordance with the conditions and requirements of the law.

"The first registration of a road, canal, or other public work must state whether the concessionary company is or is not authorized to issue mortgage bonds payable to bearer, and if such is the case the principal steps which have been taken regarding same, and the extent and limit of the powers of the company with regard to this point.

"Mortgage bonds payable to bearer, with the special designation that may be given them, such as titles, bonds, etc., issued by the concessionary company are not to be registered separately; but for the purpose of securing, without prejudice to third parties, the hypothecary rights that may be established in favor of same, the mortgage shall be constituted into a public document and registered in the register according to the form prescribed by law.

"With respect to concessions made to foreigners, the inscription in the register shall not be proceeded with without the consent of the concessionaires, expressed in a public document, manifesting that they

will be governed by the laws of the country in all that refers to the contract; and in no case shall questions be settled through diplomatic channels.

"In order to verify the registration referred to by this law, the provisions upon the subject contained in the Civil Code shall be observed."

CONCESSION FOR CUTTING MAHOGANY AND CEDAR TIMBER.

"El Guatemalteco," the official organ of the Guatemalan Government, in its issue of September 4, 1900, publishes an important contract (consisting of 19 articles) made with the Department of Public Works by Mr. F. ARTURO RAMÍREZ, an extract of which is as follows:

"The Government grants to Señor RAMÍREZ permission to cut mahogany and cedar timber in the public lands embraced between Las Animas and Morales stations within a belt extending five miles on each side of the Northern Railroad to an amount not to exceed 2,500 tons.

"For this privilege the concessionaires shall pay into the National Treasury for each metric ton of mahogany and cedar $3, and for each metric ton of mahogany *caracolillo* (veined or plum-patterned mahogany), $4. For account of these payments Señor RAMÍREZ must deposit in the National Treasury, at the time of signing this contract, the sum of $5,000 on account.

"The employees of the concessionaire shall enjoy all the exemptions that are granted to the employees of coffee and sugar-cane plantations. The concessionaire has the privilege of importing such labor as he may require, with the exception of Chinese.

"The Government shall establish at convenient places such offices as may be necessary for the collection of the respective duties, and for the counting, measuring, and re-marking of the timber with the Government's brand. The concessionaire is obligated to convey the timber cut to these offices.

"When the timbers are transported by navigable rivers, the concessionaire must detain it at the places fixed by the Government for the purpose of counting, measuring, and re-marking.

"Any questions or doubts that may arise concerning the interpretation of this contract shall be submitted to arbitration, and the decision of the arbitrators shall be final and binding on both parties."

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE RATES.

"El Guatemalteco"—No. 49, dated August 31, 1900—publishes an important decree regarding the modifications of the tariffs of the Government telegraph and telephone lines of the Republic. The charges heretofore made for the services, compared with the cost of maintain-

ing and operating the lines, have been exceedingly low, and not sufficient to cover the expenses of exploitation. The decree is as follows:

"ARTICLE 1. The tariffs governing the national telegraph and telephone lines are modified as follows:

"(*a*) Telegraph service: For the first five words, 37½ cents; for each five words additional or fraction thereof, 12½ cents.

"(*b*) Telephone service: For each five minutes' conversation, $2. The notice shall be free the first time, and in case it is disregarded there shall be collected for succeeding notices the tariff now in force. Persons having official telephone instruments in their houses shall be charged $1 additional monthly for the rent of same.

"ART. 2. All the private telephone lines established in the Republic shall pay monthly to the respective administration of rents $1 for each of the instruments that they may have in use, with the understanding that the amount which the telephone companies of Los Altos may have to pay on this account shall be used exclusively and in equal parts for the support of the Quezaltenango, Retalhuleu, and Mazatenango hospitals; and likewise that which may be produced by the private telephone company of this capital shall be given to the hospitals of Antigua, Amatitlan and Escuintla.

"The present modifications shall be effective from the 1st of September, 1900."

HAITI.

EXPIRATION OF TREATY WITH SANTO DOMINGO.

The Secretary of State for the Finance and Commerce Department of Haiti, on June 21, 1900, issued a circular, published in "Le Moniteur" of June 23, a translation of which reads as follows and is self-explanatory:

"In consequence of the expiration of the treaty concluded in 1874 between the Dominican Republic and the Republic of Haiti, products of Dominican industry and soil can no longer be exempted from customs duties.

"Moreover, Dominican products specified in article 30 of the law dated July 13, 1858, shall henceforth be liable to the prohibition contained in said article."

TREATY OF COMMERCE WITH FRANCE.

The Deputy United States Consul at Port au Prince has transmitted to Washington a translation of the text of a new commercial treaty sanctioned by the Haitian Congress on August 4, 1900. Before this treaty becomes effective it will have to be ratified by the French Gov-

ernment, and there is but little doubt that this will be done within a few weeks.

Under the terms of this treaty the articles produced in Haiti which receive the greatest benefit are coffee and cacao. Under the old tariff Haitian coffee paid 156 *francs* ($30.11) per 100 pounds, but according to the new tariff rates it will pay only 136 *francs* ($26.25) per 100 pounds.

French goods imported into Haiti are exempted from the 50 per cent and 33⅓ per cent additional dues imposed on all other goods. French sailing vessels are exempted from the same dues. French steamers also enjoy the same exemption for the merchandise brought by them.

The importation of French goods into Haiti has gradually fallen off, so that their import value, which ten years ago exceeded 10,000,000 *francs* ($1,930,000), in 1898–99 scarcely reached 2,000,000 *francs* ($386,000), which latter figure should produce $250,000 in revenues to the Government. Thus the reduction of the 50 per cent and 33⅓ per cent additional dues will cause a falling off of $120,000 in the Government's revenues.

On the other hand, the application of the minimum duty on Haitian coffee presents compensations to the producer, for, taking the estimate of 40,000,000 pounds of Haitian coffee sold in the French market annually, the reduction of 20 *francs* per 100 pounds gives 8,000,000 *francs* ($1,544,000), which is a little more than the export dues paid on that quantity. It is therefore to be supposed that the Haitian producers and the French consumers will be equally benefited by the reduction, and as the reduction of the importation duties on French goods may possibly stimulate trade, the Government may make up the deficit caused by this reduction in its revenues.

EXPORT DUTIES ON TROPICAL FRUITS.

The National Legislature on July 30, 1900, enacted a law sanctioning a contract with the Railway Society of the North at Camp Haitien whereby the Government exempts from exportation dues for a period of twenty-five years certain tropical fruits, and also from export tonnage dues fruit vessels arriving at Cape Haitien in ballast. A translation of the law with appended contract is forwarded by Alexander Battiste, Deputy Consul of the United States. It reads as follows:

"Article 1. The contract made July 12, 1900, between the Secretary of State for Agriculture on the one part and the railway society on the other is and remains sanctioned in all the clauses and terms excepting the following modifications made in articles 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, which become 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8.

"'Art. 1." The Government of Haiti, for the effective and immediate

encouragement of agriculture, engages itself not to impose during twenty-five consecutive years any fiscal exportation taxes, except a statistics tax, on the so-called tropical fruits, such as bananas, pineapples, oranges, limes, cedrats, and castor-oil seeds. The statistics tax is one-half of 1 cent national currency per ten bunches of bananas, 3 cents per barrel of the other fruits above mentioned. Castor-oil seeds shall pay 3 cents per 100 pounds.

"'ART. 2. Added. The present exemption constitutes neither a monopoly nor a privilege in favor of the Railway Society of the North, but is for all who may wish to cultivate or export the above-mentioned fruits.'

"The present law, to which shall be annexed the said contract, abrogates all the provisions of laws that are contrary thereto."

Given at the Nation House the 30th of July, 1900, ninety-seventh year of the independence.

THE CONTRACT.

"For the cultivation of bananas, pineapples, oranges, cedrats, limes, etc., designated under the commercial name of tropical fruits, between the undersigned:

"The Secretary of State of the Department of Public Works and of Agriculture, duly authorized for that purpose by a deliberation of the Council of the Secretaries of State on July 10, 1900, on the one part, and the railway Society of the North, authorized by Presidential decree of date of June 17, 1899 (Moniteur of June 24 of same year), having its domicile at Cape Haitien, and represented by its council of administration, on the other part; it has been agreed—

"ARTICLE 1. The Government of Haiti, to give an effective and immediate encouragement to agriculture, engages itself not to impose during twenty-five consecutive years any fiscal dues for exportation, except a statistics tax, on so-called tropical fruits—bananas, pineapples, oranges, limes, and cedrats, and castor-oil seeds, etc.

"ART. 2. The Railway Society of the North engages itself to cultivate the said tropical fruits, principally bananas, on the lands situated alongside of its railway, belonging either to private parties or to the State, of which it has the privilege of lease.

"ART. 3. To avoid repeated handling that would cause damage to the produce, the Railway Society of the North is authorized to construct a special wharf at the railway depot near the Cape Haitien bridge.

"ART. 4. The plans of this wharf shall be submitted to the approval of the Secretary of State for Public Works before being put in execution.

"ART. 5. This wharf is the property of the Railway Society of the North, and can not be at the service of private parties without the special authorization of the Government.

"ART. 6. To permit the cultivator to obtain the best price possible for his crop of tropical fruits, and to compete with other countries, the State will exempt the vessels in ballast that come especially to load these fruits from all custom dues and taxes, except those that have been the object of a special concession.

"ART. 7. The State grants thirty months from the signing of the present contract for the Railway Society of the North to effect its first exportation of tropical fruits, after which period the contract shall be considered null and void, except in case of *force majeure*."

EXPORT DUTIES ON CERTAIN SPECIFIED PRODUCTS.

The Deputy Consul of the United States at Port au Prince, under date of August 23, 1900, forwarded to the Department of State at Washington a translation of a law, which was to become effective on October 1, placing an export duty on skins, gum guaiacum, cattle, horses, asses, goats, and sheep. Previously no export duty had been charged on these articles. In 1899 a law was presented before the Legislature imposing a heavy export duty on animals, but it failed to pass. The present act imposes a light export duty until further measures are taken.

The act provides that—

"ARTICLE 1. After the 1st of October next the following articles shall pay—

		Gourde.
1. Skins of goats, sheep, hogs, and horses	per pound	0.01½
2. Gum guaiacum	per 100 pounds	.50
3. Oxen	each	1.00
4. Horses	do	.75
5. Asses	do	.50
6. Goats, sheep, hogs	do	.15

"ART. 2. The surtaxes of 20 per cent and 10 per cent shall be imposed only on skins and gum guaiacum."

A *gourde* is worth 96.5 cents in United States currency.

HONDURAS.

MINERAL WEALTH OF THE REPUBLIC.

The principal mining basins actually under development in Honduras, says the "Recueil Consulaire Belge," are the following:

In the Department of Tegucigalpa: The San Juancito basin, producing gold and silver ores. The mines of the New York and Honduras Rosario Mining Company are found here; the Santa Luzia basin, with the El Socorro and Las Animas silver mines; the Orica basin, in the Eureka mine, producing gold, silver, and copper ores.

In the Department of Valle: The El Transito mine, from which are extracted gold and silver ores, and the mine belonging to the Aramecina Gold and Silver Mining Company, Limited.

In the Department of Copan: The silver mines of La Labor.

In the Department of Olancho: Mr. FEDERICO BELL'S diggings and mines.

In the Department of Gracias: The Erandiqué basin, with the San Andres opal mines; and in the Department of Choluteca the gold mines of San Martin and Clavo Rico.

The rich basin of Yuscarán, in the Department of Paraiso, is not being worked at the present time, but the development of the MONSERRAT mine is expected to soon be taken up again. Companies are also being organized for the development of the claims in the Olancho Department and the San Andres mines in the Department of Copan, which from examinations made have proved to be very rich.

The ore deposits of Agalteca, in the northwestern part of the Department of Tegucigalpa, which were declared State property by a legislative decree of February 28, 1899, deserve special mention.

These ores, for the most part magnetic, contain up to 69 per cent of metallic iron and are besides very pure, containing no phosphorous and only a very small quantity of sulphur, consequently they are suited to the manufacture of steel of superior quality. Limestone is found in abundance near these deposits and water in sufficient quantity to furnish motive power. These iron deposits are said to be so considerable that the extraction of the ore on the surface would alone give rise to an important exploitation during fifty years.

The mining wealth of Honduras is considerable and merits the attention of foreign investors. Gold, silver, and iron undoubtedly exist in abundance, while copper, lead, and zinc are also found. The Erandiqué opals are equal in quality to the Hungarian. Calcareous formations, from limestone to marble, are common, and mineral combustibles, petroleum and asphalt, are found in certain parts of the territory. The Government claims that the mining industry offers the best investment to foreign capital, and believes that if during former years certain mining companies have ceased work it is entirely due to their own bad management.

PROPOSED ICE MANUFACTORY.

"La Gaceta," of Tegucigalpa, in its issue of September 5, 1900, states that Señor Don EDUARDO VIADA has solicited a concession from the Government of Honduras allowing him to establish and operate an ice plant and a soda-water manufactory in the city of La Ceiba, under the following conditions:

Exclusive privilege for a period of ten years counting from the date of the installation of the machinery. The importation into the

Republic, without the payment of Federal or municipal duties of the machinery and accessories, fuel, and other necessary materials for the manufacture of ice and gaseous waters, as well as all the furniture that may be required for the equipment of the factory.

Señor VIADA proposes to erect the buildings, install the machinery, and put the factory in working order within a year from the date of the concession. He further agrees to in no case charge more than 10 *centavos* a pound for ice, and to always have a sufficient quantity on hand to meet the wants of the daily consumption of the port of La Ceiba.

REPRESENTATIVES OF UNITED STATES COMPANIES.

"La Republica," of Guatemala, is authority for the statement that the Government of Honduras has granted the petitions of various citizens of the United States, permitting them to act as representatives of North American companies. Among these are "The Honduras Syndicate" and the "Monserrat Consolidated Mining Company."

MEXICO.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The Twentieth Congress of the Republic of Mexico convened on September 16, 1900. The message of President DÍAZ on that occasion contains a complete review of the public business of the nation since the adjournment of the previous Congress. The following is an extract of this important communication taken from a partial translation published in the October number of "Modern Mexico:"

THE MINING INDUSTRY.

"The mining industry continues to develop without interruption. The number of title deeds issued during the last fiscal year was 2,184, covering 33,899 claims of one hectare each, an increase of 489 title deeds over the previous fiscal year. The States in which there are the largest number of mining properties, are, in the order mentioned, Durango, Sonora, and Chihuahua. The increase in the exploitation of copper in the Republic is worthy of note, as in the returns of exports it appears that the figures for the last fiscal year were almost double those of the preceding year, amounting to a little less than $10,000,000. The country's industrial development has also led to greater activity in prospecting for coal and to the establishment of new workings in the deposits already discovered, as, for example, at Las Esperanzas, in Coahuila, where arrangements are in progress for initiating the operation of the mines on a large scale.

THE POSTAL SERVICE.

"The following progress has taken place in the postal service: Six new local post-offices and 49 agencies have been established. One thousand and eighty kilometers of new postal routes have been opened, the annual distance traveled over same being 431,000 kilometers. The carriage of postal packages exceeded that of the previous period by 37,000, the total number handled having been 187,000 packages. The total correspondence dispatched increased by 7,000,000 pieces, amounting as it did to 74,000,000 pieces.

"Postal drafts were exchanged between Mexico and the United States to the value of $177,000 in Mexican money, the drafts coming from the United States amounting to $39,000 and those going from Mexico to $138,000.

"Interior postal drafts were issued to the value of $9,700,000, showing an increase of $4,300,000. In the special department of publishers' drafts there was a collection of $224,000 against $210,000 in the previous period. The total earnings of this branch were $970,000, an increase of more than $70,000. In the whole fiscal year of 1899–1900 there was an increase over the previous year of $270,000.

"At the suggestion of the general post-office administration of Mexico arrangements are being negotiated for the exchange of postal drafts with Germany, France, Italy, and Great Britain.

INCREASED RAILROAD MILEAGE.

"Since April, 1900, the length of railroads in the Republic has increased by 859 kilometers, the following companies having chiefly contributed to that augmentation: The International Railroad, 72 kilometers; the Central, 82 on the lines from Guadalajara to Manzanillo, Yurecuaro to Ario, and La Vega to San Marcos; and the San Marcos and Tecolutla, 37 kilometers; and the rest of the increase has to be credited to the other companies. The aggregate length of our railway system is now 14,573 kilometers.

AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS.

"The exportation of agricultural products increased to a marked degree during the last fiscal year, inasmuch as the value of vegetable and animal products exported amounted to $61,500,000, which is an increase of $12,000,000 over the value in the preceding year.

REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES.

"The total collection of Federal revenues during the fiscal year which has just terminated amounted to more than $63,500,000, thus exceeding the collection of the previous fiscal year by about $3,500,000.

The expenditure of the federation, although not yet fully accounted for, did not equal the revenue, and this in spite of the many and considerable additions to the budget that were voted by the Chamber during the course of the fiscal year, so that the fiscal year of 1899–1900 terminated, as had the previous ones, with a substantial surplus in the Treasury.

EXHIBIT AT PARIS EXPOSITION.

"The exhibit which the Republic sent to the Paris Exposition, having been duly installed in the special building constructed in the exposition grounds, was examined and passed upon by the three separate juries to which the articles severally appertained, with the result that 1,078 prizes were awarded to our exhibitors, including 29 grand prizes, 112 gold medals, 244 silver medals, 341 bronze medals, and 352 honorable mentions. The prizes obtained are certainly a reward for the efforts of the exhibitors and the Government to be suitably represented at that great event.

THE PAN-AMERICAN CONFERENCE.

"The representatives of the Republics of America, having accepted the proposal of the Government of the United States to hold a second conference, similar to that which took place in 1889, but to assemble not in the American capital but in some other city of the New World, also accepted the private suggestion of the Secretary of State at Washington and decided that the next conference should be held in this city, leaving the date of its assembly to be determined by us.

"Therefore, considering the situation of the city by reason of the improvements in progress in the streets and the probable condition of Veracruz during the summer months, the Government suggested that the meeting should take place in October of the coming year, by which time the street improvements will be well advanced and the climate of the port in question will be more salubrious. Our proposal having been accepted, the Department of Foreign Affairs addressed a suitable invitation to all the Governments of the Republics of America, with a view to their sending delegates to the conference, who, it was added, would be received in Mexico with the most cordial welcome. Setting aside the practical importance of the decisions of this international assembly, after they shall have received the sanction of the Governments represented therein, the mere fact of delegates from all the Republics of this continent meeting at this capital is an event of keen interest to the Mexican people, affording, as it will, a favorable opportunity for cultivating the good will of the Governments and peoples professing political institutions that are so dear to us. On the other hand, the choice of our capital as the meeting place for the conference is an honor which, from the mere fact of its having been

unsolicited, ought to be prized all the more by those who have the good name of Mexico at heart."

FOREIGN COMMERCE IN 1900.

The Government statistics for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900, show a wonderful increase in the volume of trade between that Republic and the United States, and especially is this true with reference to Mexican imports. The total exports for the fiscal year 1900 were $149,992,920, as compared with $138,478,137 for 1899. In both these years more than three-fourths of the value of the exports were to the United States; that is to say, $116,098,456 in 1900, and $103,553,486 in 1899. With respect to the imports the statistics show that more than half of all the imports into the Republic during the fiscal year just closed came from the United States.

"El Economista Mexicano" of August 25, 1900, contains a number of statistical tables which give a résumé of the foreign trade of the Republic for the fiscal year ending with June 30, 1900. The figures, which were obtained from the Bureau of Statistics of the Treasury Department (Sección de Estadística de la Secretaria de Hacienda), are very complete, and exhibit a flattering state of affairs. The imports for the year aggregated $61,304,914 gold, a gain of $10,435,720 over 1898. The exports amounted to $149,992,925 silver, a gain of $11,514,788.

The classification of the imports with the value of each class for the years 1899 and 1900 and the gain or loss for each were as follows:

Classification.	1900.	1899.	Gain.
Animal products	$4,356,038	$3,551,109	$804,929
Vegetable products	8,365,920	7,246,284	1,119,636
Mineral products	16,547,451	12,284,413	4,263,038
Textile products	9,928,366	9,605,894	322,472
Chemical and pharmaceutical products	2,450,028	2,078,405	371,623
Spirits and beverages	2,809,985	2,662,256	147,630
Paper and paper products	2,126,630	1,829,164	297,466
Machinery and apparatus	9,843,880	7,988,362	1,855,518
Vehicles	1,392,847	1,069,979	322,868
Arms and explosives	1,715,575	1,231,665	483,910
Miscellaneous	1,768,193	1,321,563	446,630
Total	61,304,914	50,869,194	10,435,720

The totals for the grand divisions were as follows, with the gain for each:

Division.	1900.	1899.	Gain.
Europe	$29,747,312	$26,267,378	$3,479,934
Asia	181,121	152,221	28,900
Africa	25,667	20,266	5,400
America	31,350,814	24,429,328	6,921,486
Total	61,304,914	50,869,194	10,435,720

The imports from the principal European countries were: Germany, $6,678,393—gain, $1,000,468; Spain, $2,918,323—loss, $51,613; France, $6,754,015—gain, $836,848; Great Britain, $10,479,512—gain, $1,268,291; Belgium, $801,156—gain, $93,748; Austria, $415,218—gain, $95,000; Italy, $464,352—gain, $83,463; India, $436,928—gain, $99,922; Switzerland, $322,318—loss, $10,421; Holland, $173,054—gain, $21,495.

The trade with Asia was almost wholly with China and Japan, and about three-fourths of that with Africa was with Egypt.

With regard to America the imports were nearly all from the United States, as the following table will show:

Country.	1900.	1899.	Gain.
United States	$31,020,136	$24,164,687	$6,855,449
Argentine Republic	21,937	126	21,811
Bolivia	1,012	96	916
Brazil	5,988	5,621	367
Colombia	82,792	48,764	34,028
Costa Rica	2,795	.....	2,795
Cuba	49,628	24,205	25,423
Chile	4,763	3,787	976
Ecuador	71,852	87,315	[1]15,463
Guatemala	41,741	21,388	20,353
Honduras	26	4,803	[1]4,777
Paraguay	55	12	43
Peru	2,906	9,834	[1]6,928
Salvador	1,746	813	933
Santo Domingo	285	145	140
Uruguay	402	341	61
Venezuela	42,750	57,391	[1]14,641
Total	31,350,814	24,429,328	6,921,486

[1] Loss.

The following were the classes of exports and the valuation of each for the two years:

Class.	1900.	1899.	Gain.
Mineral products	$85,004,955	$86,257,851	[1]$1,252,896
Vegetable products	50,885,734	40,371,661	10,514,073
Animal products	10,607,763	9,205,128	1,402,635
Manufactured products	2,819,814	2,615,768	204,046
Miscellaneous	674,659	27,729	646,930
Total	149,992,925	138,478,137	11,514,788

[1] Loss.

There were no exports in 1900 to Africa, and the exports to Asia amounted to only $4,260. The large number of silver dollars shipped to China principally via San Francisco are not taken into account in these statistics. The exports to Europe in 1900 amounted to $27,624,283, against $28,717,888 in 1899, a decrease of $1,094,605. To America the figures for 1900, $122,365,382, show a gain of $12,605,133. Almost all of this gain was due to the purchases of the United States

and Cuba. The principal European countries receiving Mexican products in both years and the amounts for each year were:

Country.	1900.	1899.	Gain.
Great Britain	$12,414,733	$14,094,978	[1] $1,680,245
Germany	5,051,187	4,020,307	1,030,880
France	6,637,815	6,252,293	385,522
Belgium	1,926,103	2,577,688	[1] 615,585
Spain	912,173	1,172,948	[1] 260,775
Holland	237,912	477,709	[1] 239,797
Russia	137,173	53,199	83,974
Italy	84,657	34,952	49,705
Canada	8,317	.....	8,317
Austria	30,990	25,838	5,152

[1] Loss.

The American countries taking Mexican products were:

Country.	1900.	1899.	Gain.
United States	$116,098,456	$103,553,486	$12,544,970
Porto Rico	3,650	3,000	650
Cuba	5,882,129	5,258,084	624,045
Brazil	.....	245	[1] 245
British Honduras	181,873	.....	181,873
Colombia	49,517	64,977	[1] 15,460
Costa Rica	5,207	3,354	1,853
Chile	283	.....	283
Ecuador	1,635	366	1,269
Salvador	86,799	61,024	25,775
Guatemala	230,374	483,375	[1] 253,001
Honduras	.....	195,299	[1] 195,299
Nicaragua	840	702	138
Peru	6,492	967	5,525
Santo Domingo	.....	124,170	[1] 124,170
Venezuela	.....	11,200	[1] 11,200
Total	122,547,255	109,760,249	12,787,006

[1] Loss.

EXPORTS OF SILVER DOLLARS.

A press dispatch from El Paso, Texas, dated October 6, 1900, stated that the advance in the price of silver bullion and the exportation of great quantities of silver dollars to the Orient during the past few weeks had caused an advance in Mexican money. At the date of the dispatch the banks in El Paso were paying 49½ cents in United States gold for each Mexican dollar, while another advance was expected. During the preceding six weeks there had been over $15,000,000 in silver shipped through El Paso en route for the Orient. The reason of this sudden exportation of silver has not been explained, but the supposition is that the money is needed for the increased trade of China and the oriental islands.

Señor LEANDRO FERNANDEZ, Director of the Mint, says the demand in the East for Mexican silver *pesos* is increasing, but the production of silver in the country is not commensurate with that demand. The smelters are shipping a large portion of their output to the United States, paying the 5 per cent export tax. The silver that is exported

is mostly argentiferous lead silver, of which the stock in the banks and stores of the Republic is 100,000,000 *pesos*. The production in 1899 was about 80,000,000 *pesos*. The present heavy use of silver is due only in part to the demand in the far East for Mexican dollars, of which 9,000,000 to 10,000,000 were shipped to China in the last year to be converted into Chinese dollars. The Mexican *peso* contains $24\frac{4}{19}$ grams of fine silver, being thus unusually rich in the white metal, and hence a favorite with the Chinese, Philippines, and Straits settlers. The demand is due also to the increased industrial enterprises in Mexico, requiring silver coin for expenses and wages.

Silver coinage in Mexico reached its maximum in 1892 with 30,000,000 *pesos*. This decreased in 1897 to 22,000,000 and in 1899 to 19,000,000. The mints during 1900 are coining 1,500,000 *pesos* monthly. On the other hand, silver exports are increasing. The maximum in exports of silver reached in 1892 was 46,000,000 *pesos*, coincident with the date of the first sterling loan contracted by Mexico. Since that time the exports have increased, being 57,000,000 *pesos* in 1897. In 1899 the silver exports were as follows: Ores, 13,000,000; bullion, 34,000,000; coin, 15,000,000.

CORDOBA AND HUATUSCO RAILWAY.

"El Reproductor," of Vera Cruz, in its issue of September 6, 1900, publishes the decree of Governor Teodoro A. Dehesa, from which it will be seen that the Legislature of the State of Vera Cruz has approved the contract made with Señor Juan A. Navarro on the 17th of August last, for the construction of a railroad between Córdoba and Huatusco. By the terms of this concession the railroad company is granted a subsidy of $108,000, $20,000 of which becomes payable upon the opening of the road to public traffic and upon its acceptance by the Government, the balance being payable in annual installments of $20,000 each until the amount of the subsidy is liquidated.

This railroad will lie entirely in the State of Vera Cruz, and will pass through a region wonderfully rich in natural resources. The climate is salubrious, the soil exceedingly fertile and productive, and the valley is watered by a multitude of living springs and running brooks, which only await the hands of progress to transform them into powerful agents in the production of wealth, and into real fountains of light, heat, and motion, which can be easily harnessed and utilized for the benefit of the entire community. But until now all these forces have only been partially used, due to the great difficulties of communication between that district and the surrounding country.

The coffee of Huatusco has long been famous and the production and life of the coffee tree phenomenal. In fact, this neighborhood is one of the garden spots of Mexico, the picturesqueness of which is known and acknowledged throughout all the adjoining country. The

valley of Huatusco is isolated from the rest of the State of Vera Cruz by lofty mountains and deep *barrancas*, rendering travel and the transportation of machinery and merchandise very difficult and costly.

Notwithstanding all these drawbacks, Huatusco is a rich and prosperous community, in which poverty is unknown and suffering and want almost unheard of. It is said that when MAXIMILIAN visited that part of Vera Cruz he sent to the Mayor of Huatusco a sum of money to be distributed to the poor. The amount was returned to him with the statement that his wish could not be complied with, as there were no poor in the rich and productive valley of Huatusco.

The agricultural land of this valley is divided into small tracts among a large number of proprietors and is in a high state of cultivation; and now that that district will soon be in easy communication with the rest of the Republic, it is predicted that its agricultural growth and commercial activity will be marvelous.

IRRIGATION CONCESSIONS.

The "Diario Oficial" in its issue of September 7, 1900, publishes an important contract made between the Department of Public Works and Señor MANUEL CUESTA GALLARDO, authorizing the use for irrigation purposes of Lake Chapala and Santiago River, in the State of Jalisco, an extract of which is as follows:

"The concessionaire or company that he may organize is authorized to construct the hydraulic works necessary to utilize for irrigation purposes a quantity of water, not exceeding 25,000 liters per second, from Lake Chapala and Santiago River. The water shall be taken at some point between the Atequiza Ranch and La Barca.

"The concessionaire shall commence the survey of the land for the hydraulic works within ten months from the date of the promulgation of this contract, and within three years from that date the plans and sketches relative thereto must be submitted to the Department of Public Works and duly approved before the construction is commenced. Within ten months from the date of the approval of the plans by the Department of Public Works the concessionaire shall commence the work of construction, and shall terminate same, at latest, within ten years from that date.

"With the object of fixing precisely the bed of Lake Chapala, the concessionaire agrees to survey same at such a time as may be designated by the Department of Public Works.

"The concessionaire may construct over the irrigation canals such bridges as he may deem necessary, and must bridge said canals at the crossings of public roads. In addition to the width of the canals he shall have a right of way of 6 meters on both sides of the canals. He shall have the right to the free use of such public lands as he may

require for receptacles, water deposits, stations, and other buildings, and may expropriate the lands of individuals for the purposes indicated, provided he can not obtain them by private agreement.

"The concessionaire shall have the right to construct such telegraph and telephone lines along the route of the canals as he may deem convenient, but before doing so shall obtain the previously approbation and consent of the Department of Public Works. He shall have the right to import free of duty all the machines, scientific instruments, and apparatus necessary for the survey, construction, and exploitation of the works. The capital invested in the enterprise shall be free from all taxes of whatever kind, except the stamp tax, for a period of five years from the promulgation of this contract.

"The concessionaire shall have the right to transfer in whole or in part, with the consent of the Department of Public Works, this contract, as well as to mortgage it to individuals or corporations; he may also issue on same common and preferred stock, bonds, and other obligations, and dispose of them as he may deem best.

"As a guarantee for the fulfillment of the conditions of this contract the concessionaire shall make a deposit of $5,000 in bonds of the consolidated public debt, which deposit shall be returned on the completion of the hydraulic works and upon due compliance with the terms of this contract."

The Federal Government has granted a valuable concession to A. J. STEWART, of New Windsor, Illinois, for the famous Fuerte River Valley, in the State of Sinaloa, close to Sonora. Fuerte Valley has an area of 200,000 acres, and Mr. STEWART owns 65,000 acres near Topolobampo Bay, on the line of the proposed Kansas City, Mexico and Orient Railroad. The concession grants the holder the right to use one-half of the water from the Fuerte River.

The "Diario Oficial" (Daily Official Journal) of the City of Mexico, in its issue of September 11, 1900, publishes an important concession granted by the Mexican Government to Señor IGNACIO DE LA TORRE Y MIER authorizing the use, for irrigation purposes, of the waters of the Cuautla River in the State of Morelos.

The concessionaire may take from said river, at a point called the "Tunel," a quantity of water not exceeding 3,500 liters per second. Plans for the construction of the hydraulic works must be presented to and approved by the Department of Public Works.

The free importation of the machinery, scientific instruments, and necessary apparatus for the construction and exploitation of the works is conceded to Señor TORRE Y MIER. The concession may be transferred to a third party, mortgaged to individuals, associations, or companies.

A similar contract has been made with Señor PERFECTO MÉNDEZ PADILLA and brothers for the use, for motive power, of 1,940 liters

of water per second from the river Duero in the State of Michoacan. This concession consists of twenty-nine articles.

NEW TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ORGANIZATON.

The Technical and Financial Mexican Company is the name of a new corporation just organized in the City of Mexico. The president and secretary of this company is Capt. PORFIRIO DÍAZ, and its officers and shareholders comprise some of the most prominent and influential citizens of the capital. The object of the company is to furnish reliable reports and information to promoters and investors in business of a technical and mercantile nature within the Mexican Republic.

FIRST STEEL-FRAME STRUCTURE.

A handsome new business house, belonging to a United States corporation, was dedicated in the City of Mexico on July 3, 1900. This is the first building with a steel frame, manufactured in the United States, erected there. The structure, which is three stories in height and covers more than 2,500 square meters, was completely built in a little more than twelve months, a period that has never been approximated before in the Mexican capital in the erection of a building of such size and completeness. About 1,000 tons of structural steel were employed in its construction. The outside finish is the beautiful white stone of Real del Monte. The formal inauguration of the building was an imposing ceremony, at which President DÍAZ presided.

RIVER IMPROVEMENTS IN TABASCO.

The work of improving the condition of the rivers of the State of Tabasco, so as to make them navigable for boats of commerce, has been commenced. Several gangs of men have been at work cleaning out parts of the river where the water is shallow at low water. But this is not the only difficulty, for in many places where the water is quite deep the bed of the river is blocked up with fallen trees and dead wood, which has been further augmented by débris of other sorts. As soon as the bed of the river has been cleared of all this foreign substance the work of making canals, where necessary, will be commenced. In many places there are heavy beds of sand which obstruct the passage of boats of any size. The work of clearing this away, though not very difficult, will require time and will be tedious. Among the rivers to be made fit for traffic are the Gonzalez, parts of the Grijalva, the Sierra, and Puscatan.

MEXICAN-AMERICAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

The "Mexican Herald," published in the City of Mexico, states that before the close of the year 1900 international business between Mexico

and the United States will enjoy the advantages of another strong steamship line that will operate boats between Mexican and American gulf ports. The formation of the new company was brought about by the reorganization of the Mexican Gulf Steamship Company under the name of the Mexican-American Steamship Company. The old company's boats operate between New Orleans and Tampico. The new company will at once extend the service to include the ports of Veracruz and Progreso.

The headquarters of the new company will be located in St. Louis, Mo., and Mr. O. F. SPINDLER, agent of the Mexican Gulf Company at New Orleans, has been elected president.

The Mexican-American Steamship Company proposes to establish semimonthly sailings, and the new service will begin about November 1.

LA UNIÓN FLOUR MILL, OF TOCULA.

The Mexico City branch of the EDWARD P. ALLIS COMPANY has just entered into a contract with HENKEL BROTHERS, of Tocula, for furnishing the La Unión flour mill in that city with machinery for turning out 400 barrels of flour per day. The installation will be complete throughout, and will include grain elevators, storage bins, etc., and motive-power plant consisting of tandem compound engine, high-pressure boilers, etc. Everything will be of the most modern description throughout, and in keeping with the reputation the company in question have attained as builders of high-grade machinery.

NEW RUBBER PLANTING COMPANY.

"El Tiempo," of the City of Mexico, in its issue of September 11, 1900, affirms that a new company has been organized in Chicago for the cultivation of rubber in the southern part of the Republic. Dr. H. W. PARSONS, a well-known practicing physician of the Mexican metropolis, is the Mexican representative of the company. Three hundred thousand rubber trees will be planted on 2,200 acres of land. Although the cultivation of rubber is the principal object of the company, considerable attention will also be devoted to the raising of corn, rice, and sugar cane. It is reported that the company will invest $500,000 in the enterprise, $100,000 of which is now on deposit in bank in the City of Mexico.

OLIVE PRODUCTION IN SONORA.

"La Gaceta Comercial," of the City of Mexico, states that an olive grove at Santa Ana, State of Sonora, owned by parties at Guaymas, will commence bearing this year. This is a new industry for the west coast of Mexico, and was initiated about six years ago by a Spaniard who had previously been engaged in the cultivation of olives in Spain.

The climatic conditions in the part of Sonora mentioned are exceedingly favorable for the raising of this fruit, and there is every reason to believe that the experiment will prove to be not only successful, but profitable.

DEPARTMENT STORES.

A syndicate of American capitalists has organized a company for the purpose of introducing the department store in the City of Mexico. The company was incorporated in the State of New Jersey (U. S. A.) with a capital of $1,000,000. It is called the "General Stores Company of Mexico." As far as practicable American methods will be followed. The principal of concentration will be adopted. Among the incorporators are WILLIAM D. KELLOGG, GEORGE S. HOBART, and GEORGE T. VICKERS.

IMPORTANT PATENTS.

The "Diario Oficial," of the City of Mexico, under date of September 7, 1900, states that a patent has been issued to GEORGE F. KUETT covering improvements on needle looms; also to the International Society of Flour Mills for improvements in flour-mill machinery, and for an improved bake oven in use by this company. Both these patents concede exclusive rights in the Republic for a period of twenty years.

MEXICAN TOBACCO IN THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Through the efforts of the Mexican Consul-General at Buenos Ayres to introduce Mexican tobacco into the Argentine Republic, a syndicate for the importation of Mexican tobacco is to be formed in the near future. This company will deal directly with the producers.

According to official information the annual tobacco imports of the Argentine Republic from the United States and the Antilles amount to $1,000,000. It is expected that the Mexican tobacco will be the object of marked preference on account of its superior quality and its low price.

TROPICAL FRUITS.

"La Gaceta Comercial," of the City of Mexico, under date of September 17, 1900, states that the recent exports of tropical fruits from the Republic of Mexico to the United States have amounted to about 160 tons, or, in other words, 16 carloads of 10 tons each.

Mexican lemons are in demand in the United States, and the exports of this fruit to that country are increasing. The raising of lemons for foreign markets is a comparatively new industry in Mexico and is rapidly growing in importance.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

Considerable prospecting for gold and copper ores is being done in the neighborhood of Concepción del Oro, State of Zacatecas. The new railroad to that point has greatly increased business in that locality. This region contains some of the richest mines in northern Mexico and will be a rich field for experienced prospectors.

An important company has been formed in Mexico for the development of the precious stones which abound in the southern zone of the State of Guerrero. These mines contain especially emeralds which are as pure as those of Tejupilco, in the State of Mexico.

Recent reports from the Dewey mine, near Willard Station, State of Sonora, are to the effect that a 15-foot ledge of graphite has been encountered. A Boston firm contemplates taking 500 tons monthly of this graphite.

A new three-story hotel is being constructed in Monterey. It will contain 100 rooms, will be elegantly furnished, and will be one of the largest, best kept, and most commodious hotels in northern Mexico.

Pittsburg capitalists have recently organized the Mexico Jupiter Steel Company with a capital stock of $500,000. The company intends to erect a plant at Tampico in the near future.

The Fort Wayne Electric Company has completed the electric-light plant for the city of Queretaro. This plant has a capacity of 200 incandescent and 60 arc lamps.

According to the census taken in August last, the city of Guadalajara, State of Jalisco, contains 11,707 houses, 20,500 families, and 100,311 inhabitants.

A company has been organized to establish a brewery in Cuernavaca. The principal stockholders are Mexican capitalists of the City of Mexico.

The ratifications of the Franco-Mexican treaty for the enforcement of the copyright law were exchanged in the City of Mexico, September 14, 1900.

The "Semana Mercantil" states that the Saltillo Mining Company has authorized the payment of its fifth dividend, amounting to $5,000.

A 5-ton ice plant and other new machinery were recently shipped to the Hermosillo brewery from the United States.

NICARAGUA.

MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT ZELAYA.

"El Comercio," of Managua, has published some of the most notable paragraphs of the important message which the President of the Republic of Nicaragua addressed to the Congress at the opening of its regular session for the year 1900.

BOUNDARY WITH COSTA RICA.

Referring to the fixing of the boundary line between Nicaragua and Costa Rica, the President says:

"Inspired by the purest patriotism and not wishing to close my Presidential term without removing the principal source of discord between neighboring peoples whose common interests are united by the strongest bonds and whose destinies are identical, I took particular interest in the continuation of the works of demarcation between Nicaragua and the adjoining Republic of Costa Rica commenced in May, 1897, in conformity with the MATUS-PACHECO treaty, because, in my opinion, no better service could be done the country after the reintegration of her territory than that of fixing her boundaries, in order to eliminate the principal cause in the greater number of instances of dissensions between contiguous nations.

"On the 25th of last month there was signed in this same office by the commissioners of Nicaragua and Costa Rica, and the arbitrator, General ALEXANDER, the act establishing the boundaries and dissolving the commissions.

"In the arduous and important work of the demarcation of our southern frontier, the cheerful and disinterested cooperation of Gen. P. A. ALEXANDER, the arbitrator designated by ex-President CLEVELAND in compliance with the provisions of the MATUS-PACHECO treaty, is worthy of mention; and I took advantage of the solemn occasion of the signing of the notable document of which I have just spoken to give public testimony of my thanks to the Government of the grand Republic and to such distinguished arbitrators, in the name of the Nicaraguan Government and people, for the eminent services rendered the country.

"There is no greater pleasure, gentlemen, than the witnessing of examples of courtesy such as on this occasion have been shown by the Governments of Nicaragua and Costa Rica in adjusting the boundary differences which have at repeated times placed in jeopardy the tranquillity and welfare of both peoples, by the harmonious medium of arbitration, and which although advised by reason and equity, and as the most humane and productive of results, unfortunately is not the

most frequently chosen, not even among the most civilized countries of both continents; and I cherish the hope that, the ancient source of dissensions between the Central American nations being removed, there will commence a period of real peace, concord, and fraternity."

INRERNAL TRANQUILLITY.

Treating of the internal situation of the country, President Zelayas makes the following remarks:

"The dark clouds that threatened to envelop the Republic in the horrors of anarchy have disappeared, and, the principles of authority having been established and the germs of revolution annihilated, there has been taken from the country's horizon every vestige that might darken the heaven of peace and tranquillity."

THE INTEROCEANIC CANAL.

Speaking of the question of the Interoceanic Canal, the President says:

"I have little to add to that which I communicated to you last year with respect to the affairs of the canal. The great interest of the Nicaraguan people and Government in this important work, which will make this privileged portion of the continent a veritable emporium of wealth, is too well known to necessitate at the present time a lengthy discussion of this subject. It is enough to say that we shall never place any obstacles in its way, but, on the contrary, we shall employ all our influence and all our activity toward the realization of such a grand ideal."

EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS.

The Executive says that the high schools of the Republic for both sexes are in a highly satisfactory condition, their number having been increased and notable improvements made in a number of the districts. Due interest is being taken in primary instruction, and the advantages of the public school system extends to the humblest homes and most secluded habitations of the country.

FINANCIAL CONDITIONS.

The President states that the finances of the nation are in a satisfactory condition, and that the machinery of the Government is being run systematically and economically in all departments of the public service. Considerable sums have been devoted to the promotion of education, the repairing of public buildings and roads, and to the payment of the subvention granted to the contractors of the Sílico Railway. Other public works which will redound to the advancement and progress of the country will be encouraged, and the interest on the

foreign debt, which has been promptly met in the past, will continue to be punctually provided for in the future.

CUSTOM-HOUSE REGULATIONS.

The British Consul forwards to the Foreign Office in London a copy of a Government decree, dated May 4, 1900, relative to the customs regulations in force in Nicaragua. The decree provides that in the case of importation, exportation, or deposit of goods of any class, even when not subject to duty, a written application must be presented, which, when authorized and when the corresponding duties have been liquidated, is to be known as a *poliza*. Each *poliza* must be presented in triplicate on stamped paper (stamped to the value of 1 *peso*), and must contain the following particulars: (1) Reference to the manifest of the ship in which the goods are imported or exported; (2) declaration as to the destination of the goods; (3) name of the owner; (4) marks and numbers on each package; (5) contents of each package, following the specifications and nomenclature of the tariff reports; (6) number of the section under which each article appears in the said tariff.

In the case of imported goods the *poliza* must be accompanied by two copies of the consular invoice and bill of lading of the goods; and if these documents can not be had in duplicate, the head of the custom-house shall provide for copies being made at the expense of the interested party. In the case of goods stored in the custom-house the *poliza* of importation or exportation, respectively, must be accompanied by a request for a release of the packages, written in duplicate and signed by the interested party, designating the marks and countermarks, number and contents of packages, and number of the *poliza*.

NEW ISSUE OF TREASURY NOTES.

The Vice-Consul of the United States at San Juan del Norte reported under date of August 23, 1900, that the Government of Nicaragua had contracted with an engraving house in London, England, for a new issue of treasury notes. These are to be in denominations of 50 cents, $1, $5, $10, $25, and $50, and will be in different colors, with secret countermarks. The new notes are to be exchanged for those outstanding, especially those in bad condition, as soon as practicable, and the latter are to be burned.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Nicaragua imports chiefly cotton goods, wines and liquors, flour, woolen goods, crockery, glassware, drugs and pharmaceutical products, wire fencing, canned goods, coffee-bags, etc. Of these articles, England, the United States, Germany, and France furnish the greater part, England figuring for about 50 per cent of the total imports.

The exports consist principally of coffee, bananas, gold, wood, cattle, skins, etc., which are mostly shipped to the four above-mentioned countries.

PERU.

NUMBER OF REGISTERED MINES.

The Department of Public Works has published a list of all the registered mines of the Republic, giving the name, extent, and amount of taxes assessed against each, corresponding to the first half of the present year. The number of *pertenencias* registered is 4,714, as against 4,041 registered in the last half of the year 1899, or an increase of 673 *pertenencias* during the first six months of the year 1900.

The tax on these mines for 1900 amounts to 70,710 *sols*, being an increase of 9,690 *sols* over the amount corresponding to the last half of the year 1899. The principal mines, together with the names of the minerals and number of *pertenencias* covered, were as follows:

Silver, 2,225; gold, 1,113; petroleum, 421; coal, 350; sulphur, 223; copper, 104; silver and copper, 104; gold and silver, 57; salt, 33; gold and copper, 21; cinnabar, 16; silver and lead, 13; tar and petroleum, 10; peat, 9; tar, 3; gold, silver, and copper, 2; oxide of iron, 2; antimony and silver, 2; quicksilver, 2; silver and quicksilver, 1; not specified, 3; total, 4,714.

The Department having the greatest number of *pertenencias* was Junín, with 1,616, after which came Puno with 911, Ancachs 522, Piura 362, and Lima 238.

These figures show a very satisfactory condition of mining in the Republic at the present time, and indicate that there is an increasing interest in Peru in the mining not only of gold and silver ores, but of many other useful minerals.

IMPORTATION OF WHEAT FROM CALIFORNIA.

From all accounts it would appear that the importation of United States wheat into Peru continues to increase. The bark *Easton Ham*, from San Francisco, discharged 2,611 tons of California wheat at the Peruvian port of Callao during the latter part of August. Other articles of United States production or manufacture are also being taken by Peru in larger quantities than heretofore, a fact which is easily understood, since articles previously bought in Europe can be produced at cheaper rates in the United States, the latter also having the advantage of greater proximity. The reverse has, however, been the case in regard to cereals, as they have been received from Chilean ports almost at the door of Peru. Chilean wheat is as well known as

California wheat. The crop has not, however, been sufficient during the last year or two for home consumption, which partially explains the imports by Peru from California.

SALVADOR.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MINISTER OF FINANCE.

The "Nouveau Monde" of September 15 says that the Minister of Finance has presented two very important bills to the National Assembly. The first authorizes the Executive Power to introduce a quantity of fractional silver money, not exceeding 5,000,000 *pesos;* the second authorizes the Government to grant, without legislative ratification, a concession for the establishment of a Mortgage Credit Bank enjoying all the facilities, privileges, and guarantees necessary to its creation and operation. The capital of this bank can not be less than £400,000, of which £200,000 must be subscribed and paid up before operations can be begun. While the headquarters of this bank can be established abroad, it must have a responsible representative in San Salvador. The issue of bonds and notes must not exceed the total value of the constituted mortgages. The interest on the mortgage notes will be 10 per cent per annum, and in no case can this rate be increased. The Government will have the right to inspect the operations of the bank, and the difficulties which may arise between it and the Government will be submitted to an arbitral tribunal in accordance with the Salvadorian laws.

CERTIFICATION OF CONSULAR INVOICES.

The President of Salvador, on July 16, 1900, promulgated an important decree, a translation of which is as follows:

"Whereas, various consular officers in foreign countries have addressed the Department of Foreign Relations regarding certain doubts that have arisen respecting the application of the decree of April 3, 1900 [published in the MONTHLY BULLETIN for June, 1900, p. 1013], relative to the certification of consular invoices, and that it is desirable to establish a set of rules that shall simplify and facilitate compliance with said decree: Therefore the Executive Power decrees:

"ARTICLE 1. According to the terms of article 3 of the aforesaid law, the packages shown on each invoice may bear any mark or marks that may be desirable, but each package must bear its separate serial number. The repetition of a number on two or more packages shown on the same invoice is prohibited.

"ART. 2. The foregoing article does not prohibit the serial number being marked more than once on the package, or on the casing, pack-

ing, or wrapping thereof, nor does it apply to unpacked iron, building lumber, machinery, or other material that may be shipped without packing. To consign goods to two or more parties on the same invoice is, however, strictly prohibited.

"ART. 3. Consular officers shall certify invoices signed by merchants or manufacturers, or their legal representatives, when they know such signatures to be genuine. In the case of a person signing an invoice for the first time, he must do so in the presence of the consular officer who certifies to the invoice, in order that the latter may take note of the signature for the purpose of being able to recognize it on a future occasion. Consular officers are not to certify any invoices for those persons specified in the second insertion of article 5 of the aforesaid law.

"ART. 4. Consular officers shall not certify invoices that are not dispatched from the consular district under their jurisdiction, under penalty of nullification of said certification.

"ART. 5. When the persons specified in the first insertion of article 3 of this decree do not care to advise the local Consul of their shipments, they may make a sworn statement, as set forth in article 5 of the aforesaid law, before the Consul-General, in the form prescribed by article 3 of this decree; then the Consul-General will certify to the invoice.

"ART. 6. Consular officers shall render a detailed account of the funds in their hands every three months, in accordance with article 119 of the Consular Regulations. This account will be remitted to the Secretary of Foreign Relations, who shall in turn transmit the same to the Chief Auditor's office.

"ART. 7. The above office shall consider and audit said accounts according to the law of finance, and, should any alteration be necessary, the facts shall be communicated to the Secretary of Foreign Relations, who in turn shall advise the respective Consuls, and the Chief Auditor's office shall render the appropriate decision, according to the explanations of the latter officers."

PROPOSED RAILWAY LINE.

Mr. HENRY C. STUART has submitted a plan to the Government for the construction and operation of a railroad connecting San Salvador to La Ceiba de Guramel, where it will join the Sonsonate line to Santa Ana.

SANTO DOMINGO.

COMMERCIAL STATISTICS AND CONCESSIONS.

Through the kindness of Señor A. Recio Amiama, of Santo Domingo, the Monthly Bulletin is enabled to publish interesting data concerning the exports of the Republic of Santo Domingo for the year 1899, as well as those for the first six months of the present year.

EXPORTS IN 1899.

In 1899 the exports were as follows: Bananas, 389,600 bunches; dividivi, 744 tons; horns, 4,288 pounds; mora wood, 335 tons; cedar, 136,818 feet; lignum-vitæ gum, 3,140 pounds; espinilla wood, 99,686 feet; hides, 16,643; beeswax (yellow), 269,133 pounds; coffee, 1,963,718 pounds; cocoa, 5,235,180 pounds; leaf tobacco, 7,997,494 pounds; sugar, 99,331,829 pounds; bera, 628 tons; goatskins, 68,350; lignum-vitæ, 729 tons; mahogany, in forks, 50,015 feet; logwood, 931 tons; honey, 64,626 gallons; mahogany, in logs, 783,358 feet; abey, 1¼ tons; palm wood, 7 tons; turtle shells, 114 pounds; starch, 31 barrels; beef cattle, 277 head; rum, 51 gallons; annotta, 800 pounds; dyewood (*mangle*), 80 pounds; panther skins, 1½ dozen; molasses, 47,886 gallons.

EXPORTS, JANUARY–JUNE, 1900.

From January 1 to June 30, 1900, inclusive, the exports have been as follows: Beeswax (yellow), 149,648 pounds; honey, 35,082 gallons; tobacco, 2,758,936 pounds; mahogany, 384,016 feet; coffee, 2,962,990 pounds; campeachy wood, 1,213 tons; cowhides, 216,336 pounds; cacao, 7,025,461 pounds; sugar, 96,179,669 pounds; goatskins, 23,523; cedar, 123,488 feet; guaiacum (wood), 143 tons; bera wood, 990 tons; dividivi, 383 tons; mora wood, 61 tons; molasses, 31,195 gallons; horns, 3,085 pounds; turtle shells, 33 pounds; gum guaiacum, 3,538 pounds; starch, 65 barrels; beeves, 214 head; lima wood (*Braziletto*), 2 tons; sponges, 14 barrels; horses, 25 head; rum, 100 gallons; mahogany forks, 4,580 feet; espinilla wood, 35,680 feet; abey wood, 3 tons; bananas, 85,000 bunches; bones, 900 pounds.

PORTS OF ENTRY.

The foregoing articles were exported principally through the ports of Sanchez, Puerto Plata, Samaná, Montecristi, Barahona, Santo Domingo, Azua, and San Pedro Macoris.

GOVERNMENT RECEIPTS.

The total receipts at the custom-house from imports and exports from January to June, inclusive, 1900, amounted to $1,170,991.65;

the receipts from Central Railway during the same period were $65,035.06; or a total revenue of $1,236,026.71.

CONCESSIONS GRANTED.

From January 1 to June 30, 1900, the National Congress granted the following concessions: To Señor Don ANTONIA NASICA, for the exploiting of a copper mine situated at a point called Barrero, in the jurisdiction of San Cristobal; to Messrs. EMILE LACROIX and LEOPOLDO JULIEN, for the establishing in the country of one or more factories for the manufacture of starch; to the city of Puerto Plata, for the construction of an aqueduct; to Señor Don M. C. GRULLOW, for the erection of an aqueduct for the city of San Carlos; to Señor SALVADOR B. GAUTIER, permission to establish in the country one or more rubber plantations; to FRANCISCO SEZZATI, authority to work a copper mine in the San Cristobal district; to Messrs. FABIÁN, VENTURA, and CRISTOBAL GIRAET, permission to establish a paper factory; to Mr. EDWARD TORRES, authority to work the metal-bearing sands of the Yaque River; to Señor FRANCISCO DIEZ, a concession to exploit a gold, silver, and copper mine in the San Francisco mountains, district of San Cristobal; to FRANCISCO DIEZ, authority to explore the gold veins at a place called the "Recodo," in the jurisdiction of Bani; to ALEXANDER WAY, authority to exploit a mine of magnetic iron at Maymon; to Messrs. EUGENIO VINCI and ADOLFO CAMBIATO, permission to establish a match factory; to Señor Don PEDRO REDONDO, a concession for establishing a street railway in the city of Santiago; to Messrs. AMIAMA and MARTINEZ, authority to establish a plantation for the cultivation of textile plants; to Mr. FELIX E. SALER, permission to cultivate textile plants in the southern part of the Republic; to Señor Don FRANCISCO HERRERA, authority to engage in the industry of apiculture in the vicinity of Santo Domingo; to Señor RAMÓN CACERES and others, authority to construct a railway from Moca to La Vega, and to Señor Don SEBASTIÁN VALVERDE, permission to work gold-bearing sands in the neighborhood of Sabaneta, jurisdiction of Monte Cristi.

UNITED STATES.

TRADE WITH LATIN AMERICA.

STATEMENT OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The following is the latest statement from figures compiled by the Bureau of Statistics, United States Treasury Department, showing the value of the trade between the United States and the Latin-American countries. The report is for the month of August, 1900, with a com-

parative statement for the corresponding month of the previous year, also for the eight months ending August, 1900, compared with the corresponding period of the calendar year 1899. It should be explained that the figures from the various custom-houses, showing imports and exports for any one month, are not received at the Treasury Department until about the 20th of the following month, and some time is necessarily consumed in compilation and printing, so that the returns for August, for example, are not published until some time in October.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

Articles and countries.	August—		Eight months ending August—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Chemicals:				
Logwood (*Palo campeche; Páu campeche; Campeche*):				
Mexico	$430	.....	$11,995	$14,244
Coal, bituminous (*Carbón bituminoso; Carvão betuminoso; Charbon de terre*):				
Mexico	15,889	$4,407	152,392	53,075
Cocoa (*Cacao; Coco ou cacao crú; Cacao*):				
Central America	.....	469	809	13,315
Brazil	3,080	96,227	253,540	825,514
Other South America	206,120	274,491	1,201,880	1,275,426
Coffee (*Café; Café; Café*):				
Central America	123,071	149,593	4,941,805	4,015,864
Mexico	95,767	51,198	2,448,406	2,725,002
Brazil	2,150,937	2,221,222	25,057,234	22,793,190
Other South America	430,913	361,303	5,113,790	3,517,927
Cotton, unmanufactured (*Algodón en rama; Algodão em rama; Coton, non manufacturé*):				
South America	12,070	8,617	116,924	225,777
Fibers:				
Sisal grass (*Henequen; Henequen; Hennequen*):				
Mexico	481,716	645,744	5,405,134	8,396,906
Fruits:				
Bananas (*Plátanos; Bananas; Bananes*):				
Central America	213,708	194,199	1,404,942	1,668,962
South America	106,643	70,844	741,075	648,854
Oranges (*Naranjas; Laranjas; Oranges*):				
Mexico	2,298	193	10,923	2,784
Fur skins (*Pieles finas; Pelles; Fourrures*):				
South America	19,313	29,714	126,521	85,510
Hides and skins (*Cueros y pieles; Couros e pelles; Cuirs et peaux*):				
Central America	43,154	43,687	228,572	367,975
Mexico	150,999	140,094	1,427,076	1,672,881
South America	832,953	489,890	7,425,087	7,024,626
India rubber, crude (*Goma elástica; Borracha crua; Caoutchouc brut*):				
Central America	57,420	38,856	620,452	538,736
Mexico	16,392	4,767	129,769	131,700
Brazil	576,414	611,879	12,605,495	12,043,049
Other South America	102,822	63,708	661,572	370,878
Lead, in pigs, bars, etc. (*Plomo en galápagos, barras, etc.; Chumbo em linguados, barras, etc.; Plombs en saumons, en barres, etc.*):				
Mexico	278,234	241,584	1,476,001	1,730,247
Sugar, not above No. 16 Dutch standard (*Azúcar, no superior de la escala holandesa; Assucar não superior ao No. 16 de padrão hollandez; Sucre, pas au-dessus du type hollandais No. 16*):				
Central America	498	1,289	161,862	51,591
Mexico	851	92	64,893	11,198
Cuba	1,436,247	420,016	16,497,951	16,634,845
Brazil	.....	3,818	681,865	1,770,689
Other South America	565,939	312,766	3,484,927	3,208,237

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	August—		Eight months ending August—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Tobacco, leaf (*Tabaco en rama; Tabaco em folha; Tabac en feuilles*):				
Mexico	$1,929	$1,250	$22,348	$36,744
Cuba	349,574	552,404	4,375,139	5,289,062
Wood, mahogany (*Caoba; Mogno; Acajou*):				
Central America	52,875	1,833	11,706	275,048
Mexico	39,556	55,695	216,848	333,825
Cuba	5,981	32,439	387,581	219,079
South America	1,000	2,677	10,921	15,525
Wool (*Lana; Lã; Laine*):				
South America—				
Class 1 (clothing)	5,890	33,099	470,166	2,223,642
Class 2 (combing)	.....	4,108	101	52,607
Class 3 (carpet)	7,604	135,039	365,110	705,858

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE.

Agricultural implements (*Instrumentos de agricultura; Instrumentos de agricultura; Machines agricoles*):				
Central America	$4,407	$187	$5,651	$2,681
Mexico	34,083	39,244	206,334	392,964
Santo Domingo	28	236	744	1,084
Cuba	16,795	11,239	63,667	122,688
Argentine Republic	480,486	195,030	1,267,364	834,335
Brazil	1,862	815	24,618	20,428
Colombia	32	21	477	783
Other South America	29,699	76,976	167,243	188,790
Breadstuffs:				
Corn (*Maíz; Milho; Mäis*):				
Central America	3,458	1,109	28,739	20,196
Mexico	14,660	98,350	99,803	267,595
Santo Domingo	.....	.....	315	327
Cuba	29,072	69,876	319,489	484,822
South America	3,035	478	20,043	10,658
Wheat (*Trigo; Trigo; Blé*):				
Central America	.....	5,458	13,944	16,719
Mexico	.....	.....	609	118
South America	723	30,159	68,599	454,104
Wheat flour (*Harina de trigo; Farinha de trigo; Farine de blé*):				
Central America	56,951	68,719	612,499	581,928
Mexico	13,376	8,641	103,632	87,244
Santo Domingo	.....	20,449	95,973	136,889
Cuba	211,679	200,785	1,385,675	1,388,976
Brazil	145,184	241,896	1,841,489	2,014,957
Colombia	35,084	25,720	323,407	133,833
Other South America	210,922	103,380	1,124,846	939,961
Carriages, cars, etc., and parts of (*Carruages, carros y sus accesorios; Carruagens, carros e partes de carros; Voitures, wagons et leurs parties*):				
Central America	1,857	5,007	13,511	29,300
Mexico	85,907	173,548	593,709	724,793
Santo Domingo	.....	3,007	11,414	18,229
Cuba	11,913	55,055	96,610	180,686
Argentine Republic	17,061	68,130	164,772	343,186
Brazil	37,380	2,387	141,981	37,112
Colombia	2,404	202	11,291	10,804
Other South America	3,542	7,779	29,197	50,473
Cycles, and parts of (*Bicicletas y sus accesorios; Bicyclos e accessorios; Bicyclettes et leurs parties*):				
Central America	405	258	3,819	1,044
Mexico	2,967	849	32,707	10,761
Santo Domingo	.....	24	298	152
Cuba	17,366	1,813	49,842	63,377
Argentine Republic	26,015	1,544	200,762	61,538
Brazil	3,899	839	23,397	14,351
Colombia	1,157	103	6,198	3,400
Other South America	7,348	3,204	41,893	30,705

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	August—		Eight months ending August—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Coal (*Carbón; Carvão; Charbon*):				
Central America	$2,751	$1,068	$11,953	$24,716
Mexico	136,565	201,814	988,163	1,384,328
Santo Domingo	656	883	6,536	11,358
Cuba	23,853	41,075	467,181	607,248
Brazil	8,819	33,101	94,649	125,845
Colombia	6,216	7,650	49,606	33,369
Other South America	1,854	4,085	45,809	137,676
Copper (*Cobre; Cobre; Cuivre*):				
Mexico	3,603	6,150	182,505	456,971
Cotton, unmanufactured (*Algodón no manufacturado; Algodão não manufacturado; Coton, non manufacturé*):				
Mexico	1,662	42,442	415,738	636,996
South America		232		6,607
Cotton cloths (*Tejidos de algodón; Fazendas de algodão; Coton manufacturé*):				
Central America	60,400	53,156	414,719	504,005
Mexico	57,587	28,795	359,170	255,687
Santo Domingo		22,070	132,912	135,207
Cuba	72,044	15,227	560,672	155,725
Argentine Republic	8,427	7,937	87,047	60,309
Brazil	47,169	15,124	293,989	193,928
Colombia	29,347	18,276	283,183	141,505
Other South America	85,596	143,295	793,686	996,460
Wearing apparel (*Ropa de algodón; Roupa de algodão; Vêtements en coton*):				
Central America	26,661	23,842	193,064	278,914
Mexico	31,350	54,447	291,564	364,956
Santo Domingo	12	8,102	12,894	36,856
Cuba	21,092	3,286	129,859	76,189
Argentine Republic	2,771	1,728	34,307	8,520
Brazil	4,618	2,465	21,918	24,464
Colombia	4,926	3,667	29,058	29,486
Other South America	8,131	8,998	51,253	48,236
Instruments:				
Electric and scientific apparatus (*Aparatos eléctricos y científicos; Apparelhos electricos e scientificos; Appareils électriques et scientifiques*):				
Central America	7,231	4,184	44,076	44,671
Mexico	64,942	29,844	338,335	228,795
Argentine Republic	34,061	21,983	190,905	117,607
Brazil	6,722	14,680	65,678	143,096
Other South America	10,526	9,946	87,677	178,043
Iron and Steel, Manufactures of:				
Steel rails (*Carriles de acero; Trilhos de aço; Rails d'acier*):				
Central America	4,453	8,165	17,734	9,124
Mexico	17,434	131,462	311,064	801,537
South America	1,331	79,664	90,176	344,632
Builders' hardware, and saws and tools (*Materiales de metal para construcción, sierras y herramientas; Ferragens, serras e ferramentas; Matériaux de construction en fer et acier, scies et outils*):				
Central America	8,032	9,127	59,540	80,285
Mexico	30,316	43,425	297,585	344,847
Santo Domingo	242	2,600	6,453	13,257
Cuba	49,203	30,833	276,230	203,518
Argentine Republic	42,301	25,923	174,032	190,898
Brazil	21,821	13,775	160,076	154,309
Colombia	5,784	2,868	72,380	28,263
Other South America	27,478	42,224	163,687	213,285
Sewing machines and parts of (*Máquinas de coser y accesorios; Machinas de coser e accessorios; Machines à coudre et leurs parties*):				
Central America	2,594	2,056	13,693	23,219
Mexico	4,803	31,565	204,680	232,037
Santo Domingo		1,203	1,355	5,284
Cuba	8,982	7,950	24,511	84,737
Argentine Republic	28,540	14,256	119,144	131,034
Brazil	16,307	9,526	95,529	87,204
Colombia	2,493	420	38,071	5,834
Other South America	13,131	22,953	92,179	115,694

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	August—		Eight months ending August—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Typewriting machines and parts of (*Máquinas de escribir y accesorios; Machinas de escribir e accessorios; Machines à écrire et leurs parties*):				
Central America		$330	$1,213	$2,339
Mexico	$5,062	3,998	39,429	50,365
Santo Domingo		93	187	828
Cuba	2,669	2,075	18,966	26,487
Argentine Republic	6,291	4,439	25,019	21,496
Brazil	192	722	5,218	6,520
Colombia	320	100	2,138	1,459
Other South America	1,324	3,841	20,284	24,027
Leather, other than sole (*Cuero, distinto del de suelo; Couro não para solas; Cuirs, autres que pour semelles*):				
Central America	2,349	1,845	8,760	23,442
Mexico	5,996	1,091	12,958	23,391
Santo Domingo		1,653	1,057	5,872
Cuba	3,281	4,362	20,247	27,255
Argentine Republic	10,033	11,753	36,250	67,056
Brazil	4,978	3,909	49,055	72,313
Colombia	25	47	3,166	1,219
Other South America	5,688	4,998	30,091	30,991
Boots and shoes (*Calzado; Calçados; Chaussures*):				
Central America	9,351	9,099	76,990	93,270
Mexico	28,449	28,590	206,880	229,593
Colombia	5,907	5,487	28,154	32,939
Other South America	2,530	5,062	16,755	34,723
Naval stores:				
Rosin, tar, etc. (*Resina y alquitrán; Resina e alcatrão; Résine et goudron*):				
Central America	1,573	527	9,831	7,788
Mexico	1,608	293	7,108	3,975
Santo Domingo		669	2,954	2,247
Cuba	1,975	875	9,052	9,311
Argentine Republic	13,500	7,960	67,322	55,681
Brazil	16,298	12,908	150,515	88,503
Colombia	1,049	1,296	7,545	7,315
Other South America	8,306	7,151	43,332	50,928
Turpentine, spirits of (*Aguarrás; Agua-raz; Térébenthine*):				
Central America	434	457	3,290	5,768
Mexico	313	198	3,358	2,672
Santo Domingo		82	385	497
Cuba	4,895	4,035	37,209	26,502
Argentine Republic	6,385	18,284	45,539	125,778
Brazil	12,027	12,299	44,743	62,566
Colombia	546	324	4,804	2,187
Other South America	5,506	11,794	41,994	68,405
Oils, mineral, crude (*Aceites minerales, crudos; Oleos mineraes, crús; Huiles minérales, brutes*):				
Mexico	40,752	43,583	355,684	349,532
Cuba	21,431		149,438	274,953
Oils, mineral, refined or manufactured (*Aceites minerales, refinados ó manufacturados; Huiles minérales, raffinées ou manufacturées*):				
Central America	8,621	10,169	97,049	111,687
Mexico	12,850	13,440	145,569	145,646
Santo Domingo	396	6,529	18,280	48,301
Cuba	6,241	8,022	86,536	50,625
Argentine Republic	140,931	143,152	712,083	941,401
Brazil	158,813	236,463	994,589	1,589,770
Colombia	15,524	16,476	92,478	119,894
Other South America	86,714	135,989	785,485	1,091,368
Oils, vegetable (*Aceites vegetales; Oleos vegetaes; Huiles végétales*):				
Central America	125	455	3,558	4,432
Mexico	73,548	39,432	383,822	657,010
Santo Domingo		8,100	19,057	57,814
Cuba	4,701	2,578	25,715	12,161
Argentine Republic	4,704	10,922	28,726	57,738
Brazil	20,865	57,350	140,461	265,167
Other South America	9,429	12,810	80,092	111,654

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	August—		Eight months ending August—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Provisions, comprising meat and dairy products:				
Beef, canned (*Carne de vaca en latas; Carne de vacca em latas; Bœuf conservé*):				
Central America	$2,585	$1,722	$14,567	$17,249
Mexico	1,812	1,331	14,666	13,591
Santo Domingo	.....	3	88	81
Cuba	778	349	10,783	2,385
Argentine Republic	365	.....	1,484	1,007
Brazil	1,241	2,232	10,060	14,298
Colombia	1,091	261	4,756	5,004
Other South America	3,097	914	12,128	11,265
Beef, salted or pickled (*Carne de vacà salada ó en salmuera; Carne de vacca sal gada ou em salmoura; Bœuf, salé ou en saumure*):				
Central America	3,979	4,111	25,484	27,648
Mexico	421	37	994	1,359
Santo Domingo	210	463	4,007	3,174
Cuba	716	1,790	19,805	12,713
Brazil	116	.....	1,233	1,200
Colombia	1,728	1,432	12,403	15,838
Other South America	12,092	20,307	105,135	134,430
Tallow (*Sebo; Sebo; Suif*):				
Central America	7,070	12,960	64,325	71,682
Mexico	1,241	2,191	21,246	16,958
Santo Domingo	.....	1,109	13,070	9,359
Cuba	396	53	1,976	3,529
Brazil	1,430	.....	20,456	51,279
Colombia	1,223	1,003	13,375	4,056
Other South America	532	29,950	28,543	85,001
Bacon (*Tocino; Toucinho; Lard fumé*):				
Central America	2,610	3,231	13,076	20,784
Mexico	2,088	1,939	13,660	13,455
Santo Domingo	.....	181	1,387	1,433
Cuba	96,168	37,470	626,732	422,362
Brazil	17,839	10,671	144,992	80,000
Colombia	.....	317	1,484	2,143
Other South America	375	1,899	10,812	13,833
Hams (*Jamones; Presunto; Jambons*):				
Central America	2,943	2,916	16,917	19,670
Mexico	3,249	3,918	21,726	26,137
Santo Domingo	.....	1,062	4,525	8,139
Cuba	80,239	54,406	508,497	421,216
Brazil	264	598	2,149	3,681
Colombia	1,225	1,326	12,437	14,119
Other South America	9,579	7,028	69,742	42,526
Pork (*Carne de puerco; Carne de porco; Porc*):				
Central America	7,738	9,498	45,600	65,543
Santo Domingo	.....	513	3,684	6,201
Cuba	11,351	48,107	46,644	370,852
Brazil	28	.....	2,908	1,490
Colombia	915	2,100	27,975	13,692
Other South America	18,598	28,469	129,568	165,290
Lard (*Manteca; Banha; Saindoux*):				
Central America	16,345	17,298	118,972	140,398
Mexico	49,232	37,932	168,622	262,067
Santo Domingo	.....	3,577	16,544	27,530
Cuba	158,436	282,879	1,237,176	1 809,855
Argentine Republic	397	481	3,301	5,658
Brazil	90,426	85,583	713,334	573,238
Colombia	22,280	11,497	94,521	85,592
Other South America	95,309	119,542	512,404	586,298
Butter (*Mantequilla; Manteiga; Beurre*):				
Central America	5,289	3,966	32,486	31,000
Mexico	3,521	2,578	34,093	28,049
Santo Domingo	.....	1,458	5,606	18,886
Cuba	3,296	1,810	81,625	23,407
Brazil	17,555	32,010	145,363	121,726
Colombia	1,033	1,240	11,201	9,543
Other South America	52,181	24,113	158,506	72,697
Cheese (*Queso; Queijo; Fromage*):				
Central America	1,791	25,607	11,959	16,031
Mexico	1,658	1,825	15,468	14,113
Santo Domingo	.....	1,765	3,029	6,806

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	August—		Eight months ending August—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Cheese—Continued.				
Cuba	$4,902	$375	$51,299	$25,417
Brazil	8	16	217	64
Colombia	775	870	5,427	5,051
Other South America	1,476	464	9,275	5,023
Tobacco, unmanufactured (*Tabaco no manufacturado; Tabaco não manufacturado; Tabac non manufacturé*):				
Central America	6,466	2,376	21,442	25,358
Mexico	23,592	22,662	106,583	120,034
Argentine Republic			17,372	21,511
Colombia	608		4,714	9,844
Other South America	13,359	11,150	72,443	75,518
Tobacco, manufactures of (*Manufacturas de tabaco; Manufacturas de tabaco; Tabac fabriqué*):				
Central America	6,806	6,492	36,848	37,788
Mexico	689	2,286	14,387	8,209
Cuba	17,176	12,278	146,895	151,196
Argentine Republic	2,415	68	5,978	6,833
Brazil				105
Colombia	648	1,109	5,225	4,635
Other South America	3,569	6,313	49,456	55,628
Wood, unmanufactured (*Madera no manufacturado; Madeira não manufacturado; Bois brut*):				
Central America	543	6,748	19,050	31,393
Mexico	9,503	25,751	106,021	230,093
Cuba	6,688	244	41,311	34,965
Argentine Republic	788	213	13,636	12,906
Brazil			240	17,992
Colombia	3,998	695	14,518	2,299
Other South America	253	445	35,513	19,987
Lumber (*Maderas; Madeiras; Bois de construction*):				
Central America	3,481	5,403	38,360	33,217
Mexico	95,185	122,528	643,420	911,121
Santo Domingo	3,330	5,267	26,774	29,331
Cuba	100,912	79,581	662,255	884,424
Argentine Republic	101,622	33,663	692,272	709,477
Brazil	11,998	16,239	277,742	124,370
Colombia	3,467	6,990	34,026	40,038
Other South America	95,930	31,685	431,893	324,713
Furniture (*Muebles; Mobilia; Meubles*):				
Central America	1,754	6,947	23,288	36,431
Mexico	31,261	39,286	200,626	286,714
Santo Domingo		2,811	6,181	13,584
Cuba	17,377	25,817	115,972	536,671
Argentine Republic	24,436	7,905	76,425	55,954
Brazil	4,073	2,401	23,871	18,583
Colombia	2,508	735	22,264	10,945
Other South America	9,476	6,834	46,666	40,930

IMPORTS OF INDIA RUBBER.

More than $100,000,000 worth of india rubber has been imported by the United States during the four years ending June 30, 1900. A decade ago the annual importations of that article by the United States amounted to about $15,000,000; now they exceed $30,000,000 and are steadily increasing. Almost all the imports of rubber are in a crude form, for the use of manufacturers who are constantly extending its application to various new lines of industry. A considerable proportion of that which reaches the United States from European countries is, however, partially refined.

Northern Brazil, southern Mexico, Central America, the West Indies, central Africa, the Straits Settlements, and the Dutch East Indies sup-

ply this increasingly important feature of the import trade of the United States. Probably no single article has experienced a more rapid growth in its relations to manufactures and commerce in the past few years. As a consequence, attention is now being given to the cultivation and systematic growing of the various plants and trees from which rubber can be obtained.

The above statement is suggested by a publication which records the systematic efforts which have been employed in the cultivation of india-rubber trees and plants in the British colonies, especially those of central and South Africa. This, coupled with the fact that the Department of Agriculture of the United States has already begun experiments and inquiries in this line in recently acquired island possessions, adds greatly to the interest in the question.

The fact that southern Mexico and Central America are natural producers of india rubber in considerable and increasing quantities, and that large production and export is the rule from the islands and mainland immediately adjacent to the Philippines, suggests great possibilities in this direction, and also in Porto Rico and Hawaii.

As so often noted in the MONTHLY BULLETIN, india rubber is not the product of a single species of tree, but, on the contrary, is produced from a variety of trees and plants. Some of these flourish only in a moist soil and atmosphere, while others thrive on a stony soil provided they receive ample though intermittent rainfall. In all cases, however, a tropical or subtropical climate is requisite. Most of the india rubber of South and Central America and India is obtained from trees, but in the islands of the Indian Archipelago the supply is derived chiefly from a gigantic creeper which, in five years, attains a length of 200 feet and is from 20 to 30 inches in circumference, yielding annually from 50 to 60 pounds of caoutchouc. Java, Sumatra, Penang, Singapore, and French Indo-China are already large producers of crude india rubber, and its production in the West Indies has been sufficient to indicate the entire practicability of its being made an important industry in Cuba and Porto Rico.

The value of the importations of india rubber, crude, since 1890 has been as follows:

1891	$18,020,804	1897	$17,558,163
1892	19,833,090	1898	25,545,391
1893	17,964,667	1899	31,875,207
1894	15,162,333	1900	31,555,483
1895	18,475,382		
1896	16,781,533	Total	212,772,053

The number of pounds of rubber imported by the United States in 1900 was 49,377,138, against 51,063,066 in 1899. The average price per pound in 1900 was 63.1 cents, against 62.1 in 1899. The imports of rubber in 1900 were from the following countries, the total valua-

tion together with the average price per pound in cents being also given in the table:

Countries.	Quantity.	Valuation.	Average price.
	Pounds.		
Brazil	28,175,787	$17,954,490	63.7
Other South America	1,642,191	876,584	53.4
Central America	1,428,224	792,250	55.5
Mexico	420,612	201,326	47.8
West Indies	12,291	4,639	37.7
Great Britain	8,611,061	5,562,580	64.8
Germany	1,750,498	892,346	50.9
Other Europe	6,626,648	4,776,989	72.1
East Indies	643,793	284,141	44.1
Other countries	66,033	31,522	47.7
Total	49,377,138	31,376,867	63.1

IMMIGRATION THROUGH THE PORT OF NEW YORK.

The Commissioner of Immigration at the port of New York has furnished his report of the year ending June 30, 1900. The period covered is the last year of the first decade of Federal control of immigration, the States in which ports of entry are located having previously enacted the laws covering this branch of the national life. In his report the Commissioner urges legislation for the prevention of the immigration in this country of undesirable persons.

According to the statistics furnished, the total arrivals at New York for the twelve months named were 500,602. Of these, 99,790 were citizens of the United States returning home and 400,842 were aliens. Of the aliens, 3,994 were in transit through the United States and 36,765 were alien residents of this country returning from abroad, thus leaving 304,947 individuals as bona fide immigrants. Of the citizens, 21,257 arrived as steerage passengers and 345,706 of the aliens arrived in the same manner.

The Commissioner reports that the illiterate immigrants are usually the ones having the smallest amount of money when they arrive, and some comparative figures are given to demonstrate this fact. Thus, 45.73 per cent of the Portuguese are illiterate, with an average of $7.57 each. The percentage of illiteracy among the south Italians was 46.56, having on an average $8.79 each. On the other hand, the English, with a percentage of but 2.21 illiterates, had an average of $29.51; the French, with an illiteracy averaging 3.13 per cent, had an average of $31.97, and the Germans, with a percentage of 2.70 illiterates, had an average of $29.16. Attention is called to the fact that immigration continues to increase for the countries in the south of Europe, while it decreases relatively from northern Europe.

There were 3,751 immigrants deported during the year, these being 1.041 per cent of the total arrivals. Under the heading "undesirable immigrants," the Commissioner gives at length the immigration from

Italy. He says the agreement with Italy of furnishing penal certificates by criminal immigrants has not been kept and that a great many undesirable characters have consequently come into the country. This immigration, in his opinion, is not spontaneous, but forced, and unless drastic measures are taken to check it the United States will soon become the harboring place of the malcontents and criminals of the world. It is also stated that the Syrians and Greeks are more undesirable than the Italians.

ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTS.

The Secretary of the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists, Prof. H. W. WILEY, Chief Chemist of the United States Department of Agriculture, announces that the seventeenth annual meeting of the association will be held in the city of Washington, beginning Friday November 16, 1900, and continuing through Saturday and Monday, or until the business of the association is completed. The meeting will be held in the Columbian University and the following order of business will be observed: (1) The President's address; (2) reports of the referees. These reports will be discussed in the following order: (1) Report on nitrogen; (2) potash; (3) phosphoric acid; (4) soils; (5) ash; (6) foods and feeding stuffs; (7) liquor and food adulteration; (8) dairy products; (9) sugar; (10) tannin; (11) insecticides; (12) reports of special committees (abstract committee, food standards, fertilizer legislation, and volumetric standards).

CONSTRUCTION OF TRAMP STEAMERS.

According to a Boston dispatch, a well-known business house in that city has been successful in forming a syndicate for the purpose of building two large steamships with capacities of 11,200 tons each. The contract for the construction of these vessels is stated to have been given to the Maryland Steel Company, of Sparrows Point, Md., and the estimated cost of the two ships is $1,200,000. These ships are to be what are ordinarily known as "tramp" ships—that is to say, vessels belonging to no particular line but free to go to any port where a cargo may be secured. The tramp steamship belongs to a class well known on every sea; the British flag floats from the majority of such vessels, British capital having found the investment a profitable one. They carry no passengers and are fitted with every economical appliance for loading and unloading cargoes.

For very many years there have been no cargo-carrying ships belonging to the United States merchants engaged in foreign trade. Prior to the Civil War, large sums of United States capital were invested in shipping, and its flag was known on every sea. The depredations of the Confederate cruisers, and more general employment of steel and iron vessels, forced the old-time "American clipper" from the business.

The construction of the two tramp ships by the Maryland Steel Company is a move in the right direction, and should they prove successful, much more United States capital will be invested in such vessels, making it independent of European shipping, upon which the merchants of the United States are now compelled to rely.

EXPORTS OF COTTON.

Cotton is again "king" in the export record of the United States. In 1898 "dollar" wheat brought the exportation of breadstuffs far above the value of cotton exports, but "10-cent" cotton in 1900 brings that agricultural product again into first place in the record of exports by single items. During the seven months ending with July, 1900, the exports of cotton amounted to $142,576,097, while the total value of breadstuffs exported during the same period was $138,304,509.

Cotton exports and manufactures are measured usually by what is termed the "cotton year," which ends with the month of August. The Bureau of Statistics of the Treasury Department has received the record for August, 1900, exports, and has thus been able to make up the figures of the cotton year and compare them with those of the preceding year. These reports, which are of a preliminary character, include about 98 per cent of the cotton exports, and as the comparison for the present year is made with the similar reports for the preceding year, the relative showing for the two periods is a fair one. A study of cotton exports in accordance with these figures shows that the exports of raw cotton during the year ending with August, 1900, were greater in value than in any preceding period since 1892, and that the average price per pound was greater than at any time since 1893, except in 1896.

The average export price of cotton in August, 1900, was 9.7 cents per pound, as against an average of 5.6 cents per pound during the year 1899 and 5.8 cents in 1896, and was higher than the average for any year since 1891. The following table shows the quantity, value, and average price per pound of the cotton exported during each "cotton year" from 1887 to 1900:

Year.	Quantity.	Value.	Price per pound.
	Pounds.		*Cents.*
1887	2,150,780,791	$204,740,804	9.51
1888	2,259,626,754	222,805,494	9.86
1889	2,365,095,768	235,898,233	9.97
1890	2,464,460,578	250,571,334	10.16
1891	2,925,109,652	291,499,029	9.93
1892	2,948,400,103	258,628,371	8.74
1893	2,242,625,388	190,837,234	8.84
1894	2,653,122,567	206,117,277	7.88
1895	3,477,300,269	201,536,926	5.79
1896	2,380,629,953	193,987,848	8.15
1897	3,059,915,757	227,728,459	7.44
1898	3,897,200,752	232,325,992	5.96
1899	3,798,486,844	211,278,139	5.56
1900	3,081,571,252	245,485,209	7.96

Regarding the cotton situation on September 1, 1900, the "American Cotton Reporter" says that the new cotton year began with the smallest amount of old cotton at home and abroad ever known. The possibility of a yield larger than that of 1899 seems to have been removed by the hurricane, which injured the best portion of the Texas cotton belt. Foreign spinners are lightly stocked, the Indian crop will be light, and the Egyptian crop only fair. There is therefore ground for the prediction that cotton may sell at 12 cents, or even higher, before the end of next August. The total visible supply of the world is only about 682,999 bales, compared with 2,171,515 bales a year ago and 1,579,207 bales two years ago. English spinners will be obliged to buy cotton whether the price is high or low, unless they shut down their mills. The decision at Manchester not to use American cotton for a month has not prevented further advance in price.

Meantime cotton goods can not be made with a profit at current prices for cotton and cotton goods without a decrease in the cost of manufacture. The cotton contained in a cut of cloth costs about 80 cents, while the cut at present prices is worth about $1.32. The cost of manufacture and the profit, therefore, have to come out of 52 cents per cut. Weavers were getting 19 cents per cut when the margin was over 78 cents, and they are receiving 19.8 cents now, with a margin of 52 cents. There must be either lower prices for cotton, higher prices for goods, reduced wages, or the stopping of mills.

DEPOSITS IN NATIONAL BANKS.

The "New York Financier" has compiled a table showing the relative standing of the national banks in the United States reporting gross deposits in excess of $5,000,000 on September 5, 1900. According to this compilation there are now 113 banks in the country with deposits above the minimum named, a gain of three since July 1, 1900. Of these 32 are located in New York, 12 in Chicago, and 10 each in Philadelphia and Boston. The gain in the deposits of these 113 banks since October, 1896, approximates $1,000,000,000. The National State Bank of New York heads the list with the enormous total deposit of $159,000,000, a gain since October, 1896, of over $127,000,000 or a gain in percentage of about 400. Ten banks report gains of deposits within the period named in excess of $20,000,000 each.

THE OYSTER INDUSTRY.

In connection with the opening of the oyster season in the United States on September 1, it is interesting to note some figures regarding this industry. According to the last report of the Fish Commission of the United States 23,000,000 bushels of this bivalve are annually consumed in the country. The Chesapeake Bay alone yields twice as many oysters as are produced by all other countries put together.

Within the last century 400,000,000 bushels of oysters, selling for $250,000,000, have been taken from this bay. This is a sum more than four times as great as the entire valuation of the taxable property in all the counties of the State of Maryland where the oyster fishery is prosecuted. Outside of the city of Baltimore 225,000 persons are employed in this industry.

The Fish Commission estimates the available oyster-growing area in the Chesapeake at about 1,000 square miles, and that with proper cultivation its annual value would be about $100 per acre. Long Island Sound also is the field of a large oyster-growing business, nearly one-third of the area of that bed of water being occupied by oysters. Nearly 80,000 beds are under cultivation, some being over 8 miles from the shore and at a depth of more than 12 fathoms. The Commission estimates that the starfish, which attack the beds in great numbers, annually destroy $1,000,000 worth of oysters in Long Island Sound alone.

VALUE OF GOVERNMENT LANDS.

The General Land Office at Washington reports that the total area of the land surface of the United States is 2,270,567,440 acres, of which 929,308,068 acres still belong to the Government. This is over one-third of the total area of the country, but the greater part of the unappropriated lands are in Alaska, estimated at about 359,492,760 acres. In the United States proper the public lands are located in twenty-two States and three Territories, ranging from 69,073,491 acres in the State of Montana down to 285,730 in the State of Mississippi.

When the new acquisitions are opened for settlement there will probably be some very valuable land which can be purchased from the Government or cleared under the homestead law. But a comparatively small proportion of unoccupied public land, aside from that portion to which the Indian titles have not yet been finally extinguished, is suitable for agricultural purposes without irrigation.

The areas of the new possessions of the United States are estimated by the General Land Office to be as follows: Philippine Islands, 91,250,900 acres; Hawaiian Islands, 4,313,600 acres; Porto Rico, 2,304,000; Guam, 32,000; a grand total of 97,900,500 acres.

POSTAL REVENUES.

The Auditor of the Post-Office Department recently made public a statement which shows that the receipts of the postal service for the year 1900 have been $102,354,579.29, and the expenditures $107,249,298.13, showing an excess of expenditures over receipts of $4,894,718.84. The net deficit of the postal service of the country is about $1,500,000 less than the deficit of the preceding year.

The total financial transactions of the postal service, including the

money-order statement, were $714,394,191.22 for the fiscal year which ended June 30 last. Compared with the transactions of four years ago, there is shown to be an increase of $108,000,000. The principal item of revenue is the sale of stamps and stamped paper. That item for the year 1900 amounted to $94,013,699.63, an increase of $6,733,045.62 over the preceding year.

The tabulated statement of the postal money-order business exhibits an enormous increase for the year 1900 over the previous year. During the fiscal year ending June 30 last, 33,163,050 money orders were issued, the average amount of each order being $7.70. The total transactions of the money-order system of the Post-Office Department are valued at $255,670,027, and the money orders paid aggregated $249,120,285, or a grand total of $504,790,313. In 1899 the value of money orders issued was $224,958,363, and the value of money orders paid was $217,524,991, or a grand total of $442,483,364. This shows an increase in one year of $62,306,949, or over 14 per cent. This is the largest increase in amount and in percentage that has ever occurred in the history of the postal service.

LARGE RECEIPTS OF GOLD.

Receipts of gold at the San Francisco mint and the Seattle assay office from July 1 to September 30, 1900, the first three months of the fiscal year, amounted to $33,234,810. This included not only production in the United States, but Australian and Alaska gold. The output from the Klondike region in Alaska was $16,047,655, and from the Nome district, in the same Territory, $2,311,801. The Director of the Mint at Washington says that the Alaska receipts are unprecedented in amount when compared with any corresponding period from that district

EXPORT EXPANSION IN MANUFACTURES.

In 1860 the value of articles manufactured in the United States which were exported to foreign countries averaged $3,362,000 per month; in 1870 the monthly average of such exports was $5,690,000, while in 1880 it had grown to $8,571,000. The expansion of trade during the next decade increased the value of the manufactured exports to a monthly average of $12,592,000, but in 1899 the enormous monthly average of $28,225,000 was reached, or more than double the amount cited for 1890. The fiscal year 1900, however, developed the greatest increase ever reported, the monthly average from July 1, 1899, to June 30, 1900, being $36,524,000. These figures show an increase in the monthly average of 1870 over 1860 of 69 per cent; of 1880 over 1870 of 51 per cent; of 1890 over 1880 of 47 per cent, and of 1900 over 1890 of 186 per cent.

PRODUCTION OF STEEL.

A British contemporary ("Commercial Intelligence") for September 22, 1900, says that no better illustration can be given of the extraordinary strides made by the United States in the production of steel than the fact that the Carnegie Company turned out last year one-tenth of all the steel produced in the world. The world's production was 26,841,755 tons; that of Germany being 6,290,434 tons; of Great Britain, 4,933,010 tons, and of the United States, 10,702,209. The Carnegie output was 2,600,000 tons—over 25 per cent of the whole product of the United States, 53 per cent of Great Britain's, and 42 per cent of that of Germany. This output of 2,600,000 tons, huge as it is, will, however, it is anticipated, be increased to 3,400,000 tons this year, which will probably represent 13 per cent of the entire steel production of the world. It is interesting to note that while the world's production of steel has increased a little more than sixfold since 1880, that of the United States has increased eightfold.

BRITISH PURCHASES AT NEW ORLEANS.

From August, 1899, to October, 1900, the British Government had a purchasing department in operation in the city of New Orleans. During that period 15,000 horses and 42,000 mules, together with large quantities of forage and other supplies, were forwarded to Cape Town, South Africa. The total amount of money expended by Great Britain in that city was nearly $10,000,000.

DISPOSAL OF CALIFORNIA'S EXHIBITS AT PARIS.

The commissioners from the State of California to the Paris Exposition have decided to present their effects and exhibits to prominent Frenchmen and to the museums, hospitals, and schools of Paris. A beautiful redwood table, 8 feet in diameter, made from a California tree, and which attracted much attention, has been accepted by President Loubet. A large number of forestry specimens, which secured a grand prize, have been given to the Vincennes Forestry Museum. Similar gifts have been made to other museums. The great Paris hospital, the Hotel Dieu, has received a selection of Californian wines, fruits, and other food stuffs.

RECOGNITION OF CONSULAR OFFICERS.

The following consular officers have been recognized by the United States:

Arthur Cameron Humphreys, Vice-Consul of Mexico at Norfolk, Va.

Carl Herman Lundt, Consul of Germany at San Juan, Porto Rico.

William Robert Hoare, Consul of Great Britain at Honolulu, Hawaii.

MANUEL ALGARA Y TERREROS, Consul *ad interim* of Mexico at San Diego, Cal.

CARL B. MELTZ, Consul of Austria-Hungary at San Juan, Porto Rico.

EMILIO FIGUEREDO VOGGIO, Vice-Consul of Venezuela at New York.

FREDERICK W. JOB, Vice-Consul of the Dominican Republic at Chicago.

FRANKLIN J. MORTON, Consul of the Argentine Republic at Baltimore.

DANIEL W. KEARNEY, Vice-Consul of Great Britain at Aguadilla, Porto Rico.

URUGUAY.

NEWSPAPER DIRECTORY.

Artigas:
- Deber, El. (Political; semiweekly.)
- Derecho, El. (Political; semiweekly.)

Canelones:
- Aprendiz, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Chispa, La. (Literary; weekly.)
- Eco de Migues, El.
- Eco Pedrense, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Independiente, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Plata, El. (General news; weekly.)
- Pueblo, El.
- Único, El. (Political; weekly.)

Cerro Largo:
- Deber Cívico, El. (Political; semiweekly.)
- Democrata, El.
- Idea, La.

Colonia:
- Civismo, El. (Political; semiweekly.)
- Deber, El. (Political.)
- Democracia, La. (Political; semiweekly.)
- Departamento, El. (Political and commercial; daily.)
- Intelecto, El. (Literary; weekly.)
- Municipio, El. (Political; semiweekly.)
- Progresista, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Progreso, El. (Political; weekly.)

Durazno:
- Argos, El. (Political and commercial; semiweekly.)

Durazno—Continued.
- Departamento, El. (Political; semiweekly.)

Flores:
- Democracia, La. (Political; semiweekly.)

Florida:
- Ley, La. (Political; semiweekly.)
- Tesón, El. (Political; semiweekly.)
- Tiempo, El. (Political and general news; semiweekly.)
- Prensa, La. (Political and commercial; semiweekly.)
- Voz de Florida, La. (Political and general news; semiweekly.)

Maldonado:
- Bandera Uruguaya, La. (Political and religious; semiweekly.)
- Conciliador, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Idea Cívica, La. (Political; weekly.)
- Libertad, La. (Political; weekly.)
- Propaganda, La. (Political; semiweekly.)

Minas:
- Campaña, La. (Political and commercial; triweekly.)
- Clamor Público, El. (Political; triweekly.)
- Combate, El. (Political; semiweekly.)
- Criollo, El. (Literary; weekly.)
- Estudio, El. (Literary; semiweekly.)
- Opinión, La. (Political; triweekly.)
- Orden, El.
- Patria, La. (Political; semiweekly.)

Minas—Continued.
Paz Católica, La. (Religious; semimonthly.)
Unión, La. (Political; triweekly.)
Voz del Pueblo, La. (Political; triweekly.)

Montevideo:
Abono, El. (Literary; semimonthly.)
Alborada, La. (Political and literary; weekly.)
América Intelectual, La. (Literary and scientific; trimonthly.)
Amigo del Obrero, El. (Labor organ; weekly.)
Amigo del Pueblo, El. (Political; irregular.)
Anales de la Universidad. (Irregular.)
Anales del Departamento de Ganadería y Agricultura de la República Oriental del Uruguay. (Agriculture and stock raising; monthly.)
Anales del Museo Nacional de Montevideo. (Natural history; irregular.)
Ansonia Periodico Artistico Letterario. (Literary.)
Antorcha, La. (Miscellaneous; weekly.)
Asociación Rural del Uruguay. (Agriculture and stock raising; semimonthly.)
Aurora, La. (Political; irregular.)
Auxiliar del Maestro, El. (Educational; semimonthly.)
Bien, El. (Political.)
Boletín Bibliográfico Uruguayo. (Bibliographical; irregular.)
Boletín de Enseñanza Primaria. (Official. Educational; monthly.)
Boletín de la Cámara de Comercio Española en Montevideo. (Financial and commercial; monthly.)
Boletín de la Dirección General del Servicio Meteorológico Nacional. (Meteorological; official.)
Boletín Mensual del Observatorio Meteorológico del Colegio Pio de Villa Colon. (Meteorological; monthly.)
Boletín Mensual Demografico de Montevideo. (Statistical; monthly.)

Montevideo—Continued.
Boletín Estadistico Mensual de la República Oriental del Uruguay. (Official. Statistical; monthly.)
Bolletino Ufficiale della Camera di Commercio Italiana en Montevideo. (Financial and commercial; monthly.)
Bordadora, La. (Needlework; semimonthly.)
Centro Comercial de Productos del País. (Commercial; semimonthly.)
Centro Farmacéutico Uruguayo. (Medical; monthly.)
Combate, El. (Political; daily.)
Comercio Español, El. (Commercial; semimonthly.)
Cotorrita Liberal, La. (Literary.)
Cotorrita Uruguaya, La. (Humorous.)
Courrier Franco Oriental. (Political; daily.)
Criterio, El.
Cruz del Sud, La. (Religious; weekly.)
Debates, Los. (University Review; semimonthly.)
Derecho á la Vida, El. (Political; irregular.)
Día, El. (Political.)
Entreacto, El. (Literary; semimonthly.)
España, La. (Commercial; weekly.)
España, La. (Organ of Spanish interests.)
Estímulo, El. (Educational; semimonthly..)
Estudiante, El. (Literary; weekly.)
Fogón, El. (Literary; weekly.)
Fraternidad Obrera. (Labor; monthly.)
Helvecia. (Organ of Swiss interests.)
Industria y Comercio. (Commercial and industrial.)
Instituto, El. (Scientific and literary; monthly.)
Iris, El. (Political; semimonthly.)
Lanterne, La. (Political; weekly.)
Letras, Las. (Literary and scientific; trimonthly.)
L'Independant.
Libertad, La. (Political.)
Lucero del Alba, El. (Literary and general news; weekly.)

Monteviedo—Continued.
Lucero, El. (Literary; weekly.)
L'Italia al Plata. (Political; daily.)
L'Unión Française. (Organ of the French interests; daily.)
Magisterio Uruguayo, El. (Educational; semimonthly.)
Más Chismoso, El. (Political; weekly.)
Mercurio, El. (Political; daily.)
Montevideo Musical. (Trimonthly.)
Montevideo Times, The. (Political; daily.)
Mosca, La. (Humorous; weekly.)
Mundo Científico, El. (Scientific; semimonthly.)
Nacional, El. (Political and commercial; daily.)
Nación, La. (Political; daily.)
Oro y Azul.
País, El.
Patria, La. (Political; daily.)
Paz, La. (Political; weekly.)
Playa, La. (Humorous; semiweekly.)
Primeros Pasos, Los. (Literary; trimonthly.)
Razón, La. (Agriculture and stock raising; semimonthly.)
Razón, La. (Political; two editions daily.)
Razón, La. (Literary.)
Reforma, La. (Literary and scientific; semimonthly.)
Reclamo Uruguayo, El. (Advertising.)
República, La. (Political; daily.)
Revista, La. (Literary; semimonthly.)
Revista de la Associión de Tenderos.
Revista General del Centro Comercial de Productos del País.
Revista de Derecho, Jurisprudencia y Administración, La. (Legal; semimonthly.)
Revista de Frutos del País. (Agricultural; semimonthly.)
Revista de la Sala de Comercio de Productos del País. (Commercial; semimonthly.)
Revista de la Unión Industrial Uruguya. (Industrial; semimonthly.)
Revista Medica del Uruguay. (Medical; monthly.)

Monteviedo—Continued.
Revista Mercantil del Centro de Corredores. (Financial and commercial; semimonthly.)
Revista Militar del Uruguay.
Revista Quincenal del Centro de Almaceneros Minoristas. (Commercial; semimonthly.)
Revue Commerciale, Maritime et Financiere de la Chambre Française. (Financial and commercial; semimonthly.)
Rojo y Blanco.
Semana Religiosa, La. (Religious; weekly.)
Siglo, El. (Political; daily.)
Social, El. (Literary; weekly.)
Telégrafo Marítimo, El. (Political; daily.)
Toreo, El. (Sports; weekly.)
Tradición, La. (Political; semiweekly.)
Tribuna Literaria, La.
Tribuna Popular, La. (Political; daily.)
Unión Católica, La. (Religious; weekly.)
Union Industrial Uruguaya.
Unión, La. (Political; weekly.)
Uruguay Ilustrado, El. (Literary and scientific; semimonthly.)
Uruguay News Letter, The. (Political; weekly.)
Uruguay Weekly News, The. (Political.)
Uruguayo, El. (Religious; weekly.)
Vanguardia, La. (Political.)
Venus, El. (Scientific and literary; semimonthly.)
Voz de España, La. (Political; daily.)
Voz del Empleado, La. (Labor; semimonthly.)
Voz del Obrero, La. (Labor; monthly.)
Voz del Paso Molino, La. (General news and commercial; semiweekly.)

Paysandú:
Día, El. (General news; daily.)
Obrero, El. (Labor; daily.)
Paysandú, El. (Political; daily.)
Perseverante, El.
Uruguay, El. (Political; daily.)

Río Negro:
- Campaña, La. (Political; semiweekly.)
- Comercio, El. (Political; triweekly.)

Rivera:
- France, La.
- Idea, La.
- Lealtad, La. (Political; semiweekly.)
- Luz Mala, La.
- Norte, El. (Political; weekly.)
- O'Canabarro. (Political; semimonthly.)
- O'Maragato. (Political; semiweekly.)
- Semanario. (Literary; weekly.)
- Verdad, La. (Political.)

Rocha:
- Democracia, La. (Political; daily.)
- Noticias, Las. (General news; daily.)

Salto:
- Colectivista, El.
- Correo Latino, El.
- Ecos del Progreso. (General news; daily.)
- Familia, La. (Religious; weekly.)
- Heraldo del Norte, El. (Political and commercial; weekly.)
- Patria, La. (Political and literary; weekly.)
- Prensa, La. (Political; daily.)
- Reforma, La. (General news; daily.)
- Revista del Salto. (Literary; weekly.)

San José:
- Activo Industrial, El.
- Lecturas Escogidas. (Religious; weekly.)
- Ley, La.
- Nueva Revista, La. (Literary; weekly.)
- Paz, La. (Political; semiweekly.)
- Pueblo, El. (Political and commercial; four times a week.)
- Uruguay, El. (Political; weekly.)

Soriano:
- Butifarra, La. (Humorous; weekly.)
- Departmento, El.
- Diario, El. (Political; daily.)
- Propaganda, La. (Political; semiweekly.)
- San Salvador, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Semana, La.
- Teléfono, El. (Political; triweekly.)

Tacuarembó:
- Centinela, El. (Political; weekly.)
- Instituto de Tacuarembó, El.
- Luz, La. (Political; weekly.)
- Noticioso, El. (Political; semiweekly.)
- Tradición, La. (Political; semiweekly.)

Treinta y Tres:
- Deber Patrio, El. (Literary; weekly.)
- Heraldo, El. (General news.)
- Orden, El.
- Prensa, La. (Political and commercial; semiweekly.)

STATISTICS REGARDING MONTEVIDEO.

The "Boletín Estadístico Mensual" (Monthly Statistical Bulletin), of Montevideo, in its issue for July, 1900, shows that the capital and the districts belonging to it are in a very satisfactory sanitary condition.

The Health Department employs a force of 310 active and energetic men, whose constant aim is to improve the cleanliness of the city by a rigid enforcement of the laws regarding the removal of refuse, and at the same time to use the necessary precautions for checking and preventing the spread of contagious diseases. During this month (July) 1,602,100 meters of streets were sprinkled and 8,826,170 were swept.

Strict watch and inspection has been observed regarding the sale of food stuffs, and the laws covering same have been strictly enforced, all of which has greatly assisted in improving the general health of the inhabitants of the city. This fact is borne out by statistics, which

show that the births for the month have been at the rate of 36 per 1,000 inhabitants, while the death rate has fallen to 20 per 1,000.

The consumption of fresh meats, consisting of beeves, mutton, and pork, amounted to 2,932,695 kilograms, and the consumption of vegatables rose to 1,404,627 kilograms. There were 100,000 kilograms more meat used in July than were used in the previous month of June.

The water consumed in Montevideo during the month of July last amounted to 220,773,968 liters. During this month there were entered at the port of the capital 147 Spanish ships and 143 Italian; during the same month there were cleared from the same port 268 Spanish ships and 257 Italian. The duties collected on this trade during the month of July amounted to $717,624. The importations into Montevideo from the surrounding country for the same period consisted of 298,880 kilograms of wool; 35,152 head of bovine cattle; 158,013 head of sheep; 402,282 kilograms of tallow and lard; 5,518,305 kilograms of wheat; 881,020 kilograms of alfalfa and other forage; 144,990 kilograms of bran; 2,703,867 kilograms of corn, and 158,830 liters of wine.

The exportations to foreign countries during the same month were as follows: 2,546,696 kilograms of jerked beef; hides, cattle, 90,965; hides, sheep, 101,514; flour, 924,620 kilograms; tallow and lard, 373,722 kilograms.

PATENT TO UNITED STATES FIRM.

A patent has been granted at Montevideo to the Singer Manufacturing Company, of New York, covering improvements on their sewing machines.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS.

During the month of July, 1900, there were registered in the Republic 267 mortgages amounting to $479,664. The sale of real estate during the same period in the Department of Montevideo consisted of 305 transactions aggregating $789,148.

VENEZUELA.

NEW POLITICAL DIVISIONS.

The "Gaceta Oficial" of August 4, 1900, contains an important legislative decree regarding the territorial division of the Republic of Venezuela, an extract of which is as follows:

"ARTICLE 1. Until the National Assembly decrees a fundamental charter for the Republic, the States which the decree of October 28, 1899, declared independent and united to form the Venezuelan federation, and which are now called Apure, Aragua, Barcelona, Barinas, Barquisimento, Carabobo, Caracas, Cojedes, Coro, Cumaná, Guárico, Guyana, Maracaibo, Maturín, Margarita, Mérida, Portuguesa, Táchira, Trujillo, and Yaracuy, are constituted, with the exception of the State of Margarita, which provisionally and for certain reasons shall be con-

sidered as federal territory, into fifteen political departments, to wit: The State of Apure, which shall include Apure and Barinas; the States of Aragua, Barcelona, Carabobo, which shall be composed of Carabobo and the former Nirgua department; the States of Coro, Guárico, Guyana, and Lara, which shall be composed of Barquisimento and Yaracuy (with the exception of the department of Nirgua); the State of Caracas, which shall be renamed Miranda; the States of Maracaibo, Mérida, and Sucre, which shall be composed of Cumaná and Maturín; the States of Táchira, Trujillo, and the State of Zamora, which shall be composed of Portuguesa and Cojedes. And these are constituted so as to form a free, sovereign, and independent nation, under the name of United States of Venezuela.

"ART. 2. The boundaries of these States shall be determined by those which were declared of the former Provinces by the law of territorial division of 28th of April, 1856.

"ART. 3. The territory of the United States of Venezuela is the same as that which in 1810 belonged to the General Captaincy of Venezuela.

"ART. 4. The States, which according to the present decree are grouped to form the new divisions, shall be called sections and shall have equal rights.

"ART. 5. In so far as they do not interfere with the political régime now in force, the sections defined by the preceding article and the territory of Margarita shall continue to be governed by the same laws as are at present in force; and for immediate government shall have an official called a Governor, freely elected; and directly dependent upon the National Executive the Federal Territory of Margarita; and freely elected those of the sections in question by the provisional President of the States to which they may be grouped, or to the official to whom they may be directly subordinated.

"ART. 6. The President shall appoint the provisional Governors of each one of the States of the Union.

"ART. 7. The place at which the government of each State shall be provisionally situated shall be designated by the Executive.

"ART. 8. The provisional Governors, as the chief civil and political authorities of their respective States, shall preserve order in all the territory under their jurisdiction, and shall enforce and execute all the laws of the Union and the decrees of the President referring to same.

"ART. 9. The provisional Governors shall not be eligible to Congress, nor shall they be chosen as constitutional Governors of the States in which they reside.

"ART. 10. The appointment of the provisional Governors and all that relates to the political and economic governments of the States of the Union and of the new Federal Territory, Margarita, shall be provided for by special decrees.

"ART. 11. The Minister of the Interior is charged with the execution of this decree."

EXHIBITION OF EUROPEAN PRODUCTS.

The "Gaceta Oficial," of Caracas, under date of July 16, 1900, publishes an important decree (referred to in the MONTHLY BULLETIN for September, 1900, page 570), a translation of which is as follows:

"The Minister of Public Works of the United States of Venezuela, duly authorized by the President of the Republic, party of the first part, and of the other part Señor FEDERICO BAUDER, of this city, have entered into the following contract:

"ARTICLE 1. FEDERICO BAUDER agrees to establish within a period of two years from this date, in the city of Caracas, a museum or permanent exhibition of European manufactures, articles, and products, for the purpose of facilitating commerce and the public in general in the study and comparison of the different centers of manufacture and production, so that they may be able to select such industrial products as may best suit their needs, considering quality and prices, and at the same time encourage the sale of products and goods of European manufacture.

"This permanent exposition shall be called 'Commercial Museum of European Manufactures.' The Commercial Museum of European Manufactures may establish branches in the cities of Valencia, Maracaibo, Ciudad Bolivar, Barquisimento, and in such other cities of the Republic as it may deem convenient.

"ART. 2. FEDERICO BAUDER agrees, before establishing the Museum referred to in Caracas, to submit to the Department of Public Works the rules of said museum for the consideration and approval of the National Government.

"ART. 3. The National Government grants to FEDERICO BAUDER permission to import through the custom-house of La Guayra, free of duties, upon the observance in every instance of the formalities of the law, all articles sent from Europe for use as samples and models, as well as catalogues and printed matter for advertising, remaining subject to the payment of customs duties such articles as may be offered for consumption, the National Government having the right at all times to inspect, by means of an officer who shall keep an alphabetical inventory showing exact dates of the articles sent, with the object of securing the payment of customs duties in case of sale.

"Should branches be established in Valencia, Maracaibo, Barquisimento, and Ciudad Bolivar, reference to which is made in paragraph 3 of article 1, they shall enjoy equal privileges for the articles destined to the branches, and which are specified in paragraph 1 of article 3 of this contract.

"The Museum and its branches are exempted from all national imposts now in force or which may be imposed during the duration of this contract, which is thirty years from this date; and

"That the Department of Public Works shall send printed copies of this contract to the Consuls and Vice-Consuls of Venezuela in Europe, instructing them to assist the contractor or his concessionaires in every way possible in obtaining from merchants and manufacturers the products of their respective localities, to be used in the founding of the Commercial Museum.

"ART. 4. FEDERICO BAUDER, or his representative, agrees to give due notice in every case to the Department of Public Works whenever there are offered for sale goods and manufactures which have been imported free of customs duties, so that the Treasury Department can collect in advance the imposts which, according to law, are due upon said goods.

"ART. 5. The Department of Public Works shall, in due time, indicate the manner in which the inspection and collection of duties by the National Government shall be made on the articles and manufactures sent to the Museum, and which are subject to this contract.

"ART. 6. The contractor or his successor may transfer this contract to any other person or company with the previous consent of the National Government; but in no case shall the transfer be made to a foreign government. In case a transfer is effected, the concessionaire remains exempted from the payment of registration fees.

"ART. 7. Any doubts or controversies that may arise in the interpretation and execution of this contract shall be decided by the courts of the Republic, according to law, and shall never be the subject of international reclamation."

EXPLOITATION OF SULPHUR DEPOSITS.

"El Cablegrama" (The Cablegram), a newspaper published at the port of Carúpano, in its issue of August 22, 1900, states that the German Exploration Company, which has been authorized by the Venezuelan Government to exploit the sulphur deposits of the Chaguaramas district, has recently commenced work. The company has at the present time in its employ about 100 laborers. With this force and with the additional help that will be added when the abundance of the product to be extracted renders it necessary, the company expects to mine a large quantity of sulphur. The crude sulphur will be shipped from the port of Carúpano to Europe and the United States. The indications are that the product of these mines will soon become a vast and important industry of the Republic.

NIGHT SCHOOL AT CARACAS.

By decree of the Governor of the Federal District a night school has been established at Caracas, and 400 *bolivars* per month appropriated for its support. This school will be patronized exclusively by young men who are employed during the day and who are desirous of

devoting their evenings to study and intellectual improvement. A competent corps of teachers has been engaged and every effort will be made to make the experiment a practical success. The material at hand is abundant and the school seems destined to enjoy for many years a life of exceeding usefulness.

CONTRACTS FOR GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHTING.

The "New York Journal of Commerce," of September 22, stated that a contract to furnish the city of Caracas with illuminating gas, manufactured at the seaport of Laguayra, 12 miles distant, has been let to a United States company. The cost of gas coal in Caracas is said to be $12 per ton, while at the seaport it is only $4, consequently the projected pipe line. Another United States firm is reported to have a contract for an electric plant at Laguayra to furnish light and power both to that city and Caracas.

THE PORT OF MANOA.

The "Gaceta Oficial" of Venezuela, official organ of the Government, published at Caracas, in its edition of July 28, 1900, contains a decree making the port of Manoa, situated in the western part of the delta of the Orinoco, available only for the exportation of iron ore from the Imataca mines. The large steamships in which this mineral is exported, whether they arrive in ballast or loaded with machinery for the mine, which machinery according to law is exempt from duties, may terminate their voyage at Manoa without having to go to Ciudad Bolivar. This machinery may be received and dispatched by a customs officer appointed by the administrator of the custom-house at Ciudad Bolivar.

HONORARY CORRESPONDING MEMBER.

The MONTHLY BULLETIN takes pleasure in announcing that there has been added to its list of Honorary Corresponding Members the name of Señor Dr. Don SALVADOR GALLEGOS, a resident of the capital of the Republic of Salvador.

Señor GALLEGOS is a distinguished Central American lawyer and one of the most accomplished and eminent statesmen of the Republic of Salvador. He was born in 1844 in the city of Intibuca, Honduras, but while still a child his parents removed to Salvador, settling in the capital of the nation, at which place he was educated. He studied law, was wonderfully successful in the practice of his profession, and was soon recognized as one of the brightest minds and one of the most prominent men in the legal fraternity of that progressive Republic.

He has served his country in many capacities, having held the following important positions under the Government: Judge of the First Instance, Consulting Attorney for the Government, Professor of Law in the National University, Minister Plenipotentiary, Assistant Secretary of State and Minister of Foreign Relations, Minister of Public Instruction and Justice, and is now senior member of the Faculty of Jurisprudence of the Republic of Salvador. His public services have always been highly satisfactory to his Government, and he enjoys to a remarkable degree the confidence of the people of the nation.

Señor GALLEGOS is a writer of considerable reputation, and his contributions on legal and international subjects concerning Central America have been widely read and favorably commented upon throughout all Latin America. His style is concise, entertaining, and correct, and his ideas are clothed in words that are both impressive and entertaining. The MONTHLY BULLETIN takes pleasure in stating that it will be favored with articles, from time to time, from his pen.

KNIT GOODS IN LATIN AMERICA.

In response to the desire on the part of the manufacturers of the United States for facts as to the condition of the knitting industry in Latin America, a number of Consuls have furnished the following information regarding their various districts:

In the City of Mexico hosiery and underwear are manufactured exclusively of cotton, the machinery having been obtained in Philadelphia. The manufacturers were unwilling to state the output, but give the retail price of underwear as $1.18 per dozen, United States currency, and socks from 71 cents to $2.13 per dozen. The employees are French, Spanish, native Mexican, and a few citizens of the United States.

At Aguascalientes all kinds of knit goods are sold, but the cheap grades find the best market. At Guadalajara, where only cotton hosiery is made, there are 350 Branson knitting machines, 10 Standard knitters, and 3 German knitters in use. The product is valued at $23,650. At Oaxaca there are 40 Branson machines in use, and at Puebla about 230 machines, obtained from the United States. The output is valued at about $1,635 (gold) per annum. Cotton and woolen underwear and hosiery are largely used in these cities, and are imported from the United States, England, and the Continent of Europe. The Consul at Mazatlan states that the only manufactory of knit goods in his district is located at Villa Union, and makes only cotton goods for men, women, and children, using 15 knitting machines, obtained from Philadelphia. In that city there is very little if any knit goods from the United States on the market, the greater part of such goods being

imported from Germany and England, and consisting of cotton and silk.

In Nicaragua and Salvador there are no knit goods made, consequently no knitting machinery is used. The people depend entirely on importation for these articles.

In the Argentine Republic all kinds of hosiery and knit goods are manufactured in Buenos Ayres. There are 200 knitting machines employed, 20 of which are of United States manufacture, and the balance of German origin.

In Brazil all knit goods are imported from England, France, and Germany.

In Chile the knitting industry is almost unknown, and such goods are imported from England.

While Uruguay is a great wool producer, it has no mills or establishments of importance where yarn is manufactured. Some small establishments manufacture knit work on a small scale from imported yarn. All the knit underwear is imported, the United States supplying but a small quantity.

COCOANUT PALM PRODUCTS.

The cocoanut palm (*Cocos nucifera*) is found nearly everywhere within the Tropics, and in many tropical countries is the principal food of the inhabitants. There are many varieties of this palm, 30 species having been discovered and classified, and with each variety the fruit varies in size, in weight, in shape, and in percentage of fiber, flesh, etc. Several varieties are distinguished for producing but small numbers of nuts, but these are very large and heavy; others produce large nuts and many of them, and some species are noted for producing large quantities of small nuts. It is estimated that over 3,000,000 acres of land are under cultivation in cocoanut palms, of which 1,000,000 acres are located in South America, 250,000 acres in Central America, and 35,000 acres in the West Indies. Probably about 300,000,000 trees, bearing from 5,000,000,000 to 6,000,000,000 nuts per year, are in existence. Of late years the cultivation of the cocoanut palm has been largely extended, and its products are becoming of ever-increasing importance in the markets of the world.

It may be interesting to know that the kernels of 500 nuts give an average production of 1 hundredweight of oil, and the kernels of 240 nuts produce about 1 hundredweight of copra. The kernels of three average-sized nuts produce 1 pound of desiccated kernel. From copra, or dried cocoanut, immense quantities of oil are extracted, which is extensively used in many trades. The refuse is used for feeding cat-

tle and poultry and for fertilizing purposes. A large proportion of the kernels are desiccated and sliced, to be used in the manufacture of confectionery. It is said that for the latter purpose about 40,000,000 nuts are used annually.

The foregoing items do not exhaust the list of the products of the cocoanut palm which enter into the commerce of the world. There is a trade in mats made of the leaf, in coir mats and rugs made of the fiber, in laths and rafters made of the wood, and in a variety of articles useful and ornamental manufactured from the shells. The husks of the cocoanut contain valuable fiber, known as coir, a corruption of a word meaning rope. The refuse, or broken coir, is turned to account for stuffing mattresses, and is used in horticulture, as insects will not touch it.

The husk, which contains the fiber enveloping the nut, is divided into two classes; the first is the ordinary fiber used for spinning and for the manufacture of mats, the second is the brush fiber which lies just underneath the skin of the husk. The brush fiber is much thicker, stronger, and straighter than the spinning fiber, and is very largely used in brush making. The coir industry has become so great that special machinery has been manufactured for crushing the husk, extracting the fiber, and spinning it into yarn. When this fiber is brought to the United States, having been packed with great pressure, it has to be put through an opening machine in order to prepare it for use in manufacture. Other machinery is necessary in order to cause the fibers to be as free and parallel as possible. That which is to be spun requires a special spinning machine which produces a perfectly cabled yarn. When spun into yarn and woven by means of powerful looms, coir fiber produces an article of very extensive and daily increasing use—that is, floor matting. This fiber is also very largely used in the manufacture of door mats, for which purpose it has especial qualities, being able to stand a great deal of wear and tear and much dampness. This industry is of growing importance in the United States.

In 1900 the United States imported 3,901,384 pounds of coir yarn, valued at $141,850, against 2,530,914 pounds, worth $95,968, in 1899. The value of the cocoanuts imported was $702,947 in 1900, against $625,789 in 1899.

TRADE WITH SPANISH AMERICA.

In the report of the commerce between Uruguay and the United States for the first six months of 1900, published under this caption in the MONTHLY BULLETIN for September, a sentence was interpolated by the editor which was not authorized by the Consul-General. This was

in reference to the decrease in the exports of jerked beef, or *tasajo*, to Cuba, where it was stated that it was "due to the fact that the Cubans are now producing their own fresh beef and also using much fresh beef." Otherwise the subject-matter was the same as was furnished by the Consul-General of Uruguay.

The Acting Consul-General of Mexico at New York gives the imports from Mexico through that port during the month of August last as follows: Henequen, 11,165 bales; coffee, 5,232 sacks; hides, 669 bundles; hides, loose, 3,748; ixtle fiber, 2,129 bales; goatskins, 516 bundles; deerskins, 253 bundles; rubber, 43 bales; tobacco, leaf, 1,898 bales; cigars, 130 boxes; broom root, 6,045 bales; chicle gum, 77 bales; fustic, 13,808 pieces; tecali marble, 281 pieces; hair, 17 bales; lead bullion, 67,500 bars; metals, 130 boxes; ores, 40,756 sacks; sarsaparilla, 94 packages; vanilla, 23 boxes; alligator skins, 136; heron plumes, 3 boxes; bones, 340 packages; honey, 101 barrels; cedar, 376 logs; mahogany, 4,932 logs; jalap, 13 sacks; copper, 5,260 bars.

During the same month 18 ships, carrying 247,216 packages, were cleared, and 17 steamships, bringing 165,675 packages, were entered.

Advices from the Consul of Nicaragua at Mobile, Alabama, state that during the month of September, 1900, a schooner of 176 tons burden cleared from that port for Bluefields, having on board 99,477 feet of lumber, valued at $1,278.43; 10,000 shingles, valued at $30, and 50 bags of salt, valued at $45. There was also shipped from this port to Bluefields, via New Orleans, 7 bales of wearing apparel, valued at $636.25.

The Mexican Consul at San Francisco, California, announces that during the month of August, 1900, the total exports of American merchandise through that port to Mexico amounted to $86,206. In addition to this amount there were shipped from San Francisco to Mexican ports merchandise of foreign origin—such as rice, spices, silks, etc.—valued at $1,250. The shipments of Mexican dollars to Hongkong during the month amounted to $449,100.

The principal importations, together with their values, were as follows: Argentiferous ores, $8,356; gold bullion, $2,541; gold coin, $1,760; Mexican dollars, $162,726; silver bullion, $214,227; sundry articles consisting of hides, coffee, shells, lemons, nuts, fish, etc., $42,222; total, $431,832.

The Consul of the Republic of Haiti at Boston reports that the shipments of machinery and merchandise from the city of New York to Port au Prince, from July 7 to September 27 of the present year, were valued at $3,425.46.

The imports into the port of New York from July 16 to September 12, 1900, amounted to 17,505 tons of logwood, valued at $42,000.

The Mexican Consul at Mobile, Alabama, advises that during the month of September last there were shipped from that city to Mexi-

can ports goods to the value of $24,177.25. The importations through the same port consisted of 9,700 bundles of sisal cordage and 3,000 bales of henequen.

TRADE OPPORTUNITIES IN LATIN AMERICA.

"La Gaceta," of San José, Costa Rica, in its number 59, dated September 7, 1900, publishes specifications for the construction of waterworks in the city of Liberia. According to the plan there will be needed 220 meters of cast-iron piping of a diameter of 200 millimeters; 2,650 meters of an inside diameter of 125 millimeters; 4,424 meters of 75 millimeters inside diameter; 3,403 meters of 50 millimeters inside diameter, together with the corresponding cocks, tees, and elbows. Sealed bids marked "Cañería de Liberia" will be received up to the 3d of December, 1900. Plans and specifications can be obtained by addressing "Secretaría de Fomento" (Department of Public Works), San José, Costa Rica.

The British Vice-Consul at Tampico, Mexico, reports that for the past four months engineers sent by an English firm at the invitation of the Mexican Government have been making surveys and plans of the city of Tampico and the surrounding country with a view to supplying the town with drinking water and a complete system of sewerage. Should these works be carried out, and there is every probability that they will be, there will be an excellent opening for good plumbers.

The British Vice-Consul at Montevideo, Uruguay, reports that in the district which he represents there is a steady increasing demand for good steel hoes (*azadones*), octagonal steel bars, steels hovels, steel cables, steel rails, electric and telegraph wires, fire brick, cast-iron pipe, Portland and Roman cement, carbide for the manufacture of acetylene gas, barbed-wire fencing, typewriters, leather belting, dry and ready-mixed paints, hand and steam pumps, caustic soda, china and porcelain ware, windmills, chemical preparations, liquors, horseshoes, and carpets.

The Marowyn (Pennsylvania) Company has shipped from Baltimore for Albina, Dutch Guiana, sawmill machinery, an electric-light plant, a steam launch, steel rails, and nine cars. The Marowyn plant is on the Surinam River, 21 miles from Albina. At the latter point a pier is to be erected and a light railroad, for which material is needed, will be run to the mines from Albina.

The Brazilian Government is inviting bids from European and American smokeless gunpowder manufacturers for the erection of gunpowder works in Brazilian territory, after a test has been made of the powder selected. Bids are not to be opened until on or about February 21, 1901.

A correspondent of the "South American Journal" states that capitalists could obtain advantageous concessions from both the Argentine and Bolivian Governments for the construction of a railroad from Jujuy, Argentine Republic, to the city of Potosi, Bolivia. Jujuy is the terminus of the North Central Argentine National Railway.

Dredging machinery will be required by the State authorities at Pará, Brazil, if the undertaking of deepening the channel of the Pará River is to be accomplished. A dredging machine will be needed, capable of opening a channel of sufficient depth to float vessels of considerable size and for keeping the channel clear. Those who offer such machinery for sale should, besides giving descriptions and cost, also give details as to the cost of operating the machinery.

Señor Don Antonio Morfin Vargas contemplates constructing a railway from Aguas Calientes to La Cantera, Mexico, a distance of 8 kilometers. He will soon be ready to receive bids for the material needed in the building of this line. La Cantera is the name of a large agricultural ranch. The Wolf Company, of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, recently erected a mill on this ranch. An experienced American miller is in charge of it, and will make a specialty of the manufacture of fine flour.

The "Chilean Times" reports that the Government has obtained from Congress an appropriation of £42,000 for the purchase of a large dredge for Valparaiso and two smaller dredges for rivers in the southern part of the Republic.

A bill was passed the 30th of last July by the Chilean Senate placing at the disposal of the President of the Republic a fund of 2,500,000 *pesos* for the purchase of rolling stock for the State railroads of 1 meter standard as well as those of 1.78 meters. While Chilean builders will be employed as much as possible, foreign industrials will be asked to submit proposals.

A cablegram has been received by the Department of State at Washington from Minister Bryan, dated Rio de Janeiro, October 4, 1900, to the effect that the Brazilian Government has advertised for bids for 120,000 tons of coal, to be opened November 30. United States coal is mentioned in the advertisement. A sample of 2 tons will be required early in November. A copy of the last contract made by Brazil for coal (in December, 1899) was printed in Special Consular Reports, Foreign Markets for American Coal, page 257.

The Cananea Consolidated Copper Company, of Hermosillo, Mexico, has been granted a concession by the Mexican Government to build a railroad from Naco, situated on the line between the United States and Mexico, to La Cananea, in the State of Sonora. Surveyors are already in the field and the construction is to begin soon. Ultimately

the road will be extended to Guaymas. It is reported that all the material and rolling stock required will have to be purchased early in December.

Mr. Frank R. Cassels, of Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic, has been awarded a contract by the municipality of that city to erect a large electric power plant. Mr. Cassels also proposes to construct an electric railroad to the Matadero of Buenos Ayres. For both undertakings he will require considerable machinery, supplies, and equipment.

The Guayaquil and Quito Railroad, a new railroad being built in Ecuador, is, according to the "Railroad Gazette," said to be figuring on the necessary passenger and freight equipment. The same road is about to place contracts for a number of locomotives.

According to an English trade report porcelain goods find an excellent market in Brazil, and have a large sale. Belgium and Germany are the main exporters of said goods. This would be also a good opening for this line of American products.

BOOK NOTICES.

Books and pamphlets sent to the Bureau of the American Republics, and containing subject-matter bearing upon the countries of the International Union of American Republics, will be treated under this caption in the Monthly Bulletin.

Dr. Garcia Mérou, Minister of Agriculture, has had published in pamphlet form, for circulation throughout the country, a paper read before the recent Industrial Congress at Buenos Ayres, prepared by Don Rafael Hernandez, and for which a gold medal was awarded the author. In his paper Dr. Hernandez stated that the amount paid by Argentinians to foreigners for sacks, cord, cables, and canvas was at least $25,000,000 a year, the whole of which might be saved by making use of indigenous plants. According to his calculations, 120,000,000 linear meters of canvas, 1 meter in width, were used in the Argentine Republic, in the form of bags or otherwise, last year. All this in spite of the fact that the manufacture of canvas does not require expensive machinery and that it is the lowest grade and most elementary of woven fabrics. Twine is also made from primary matter and in a rudimentary way, yet from 7,000,000 to 8,000,000 kilograms of twine will be required for the harvest of 1900–1901, and will cost the Argentine agriculturist 40 cents gold per kilogram, though it might be produced at home of the best quality at from 7 to 8 cents gold per kilogram.

The noted civil engineer, Señor Don L. Brougniart, of Buenos Ayres, has published an extensive and important technical essay called "Teoría de las Pólvoras" (Theory of Powder). The author has enjoyed for many years a large and varied experience in the practical use of all kinds of powder employed in the army and in industrial enterprises. He has been a close observer of the explosive nature, expansive power, and projective force of this substance under different conditions, and has given special attention to the study of the powder required by the land and naval forces of the Argentine Republic. The book contains a large number of engravings illustrating the subject, and the writer shows with great force and clearness, and in a technical though ingenious manner, the effects produced by the use of powder of different grades and chemical compositions.

The manufacture of powder as carried on at the present time is discussed in an exhaustive manner, the writer showing his entire familiarity with all the complex operations of its preparation and manufacture, and describing the mechanical processes attending the production of this article in a concise and intelligent manner, and in language clear and simple. The chapter devoted to the manipulation and handling of blasting powder is of especial interest, and will be carefully read by miners and others engaged in the constant use of this powerful explosive. That part of the work which treats of the different kinds of powder used in the army and navy of the Argentine Republic will be exceedingly interesting to the naval and military forces of all nations. A careful investigation shows that the book is undoubtedly one of the best compilations on this subject that has ever come from the Latin-America press.

An interesting annual entitled "Jornal do Brasil" has recently been published at Rio de Janeiro. The book consists of more than 500 pages of neatly printed, attractive, and well arranged matter, and contains a large amount of useful information and data concerning the commerce, government, and people of Brazil. It is illustrated with numerous engravings and is replete with valuable suggestions regarding the vast undeveloped resources of this extensive Republic. Statistics relative to the national exports and imports are given and analyzed clearly and intelligently, while frequent reference is made to the rich and varied productions of the fields and forests, rivers and lakes, mountains and mines throughout the land. Included among the commercial matter and statistical data is to be found here and there a choice selection of literary articles which are highly entertaining and instructive. A casual review of this book reveals the fact that this wonderful southland has been highly favored by the Creator and is endowed with nearly every element of natural wealth. This is made more comprehensive by the vivid descriptions and lifelike illustrations

of beautiful banana fields, picturesque haciendas, and magnificent coffee plantations. Brazil is a country which is always interesting, the very name suggesting to the mind pictures of grandeur and beauty, an enormous variety of valuable products, a vast extent of productive territory, and immense stretches of virgin forests traversed by mighty rivers and peopled with fantastic forms and strange creatures.

"Revista Argentina de Ferrocarriles" (Review of Argentine Railways) has just been published in Buenos Ayres. The work contains a vast amount of information and useful data regarding the Argentine railways and connecting lines. The subjects of freight and passenger traffic are treated at length, and numerous statistics and tables illustrative of the actual tonnage hauled, passengers carried, and the operation of the lines in general are furnished. The book contains numerous engravings of the roadbeds, stations, bridges, tunnels, rolling stock, and picturesque portions of the lines, etc., and supplies in a convenient and intelligent form a fund of valuable information dear to the statistician and exceedingly interesting and instructive to the thousands of capable and intelligent railroad employees of the Argentine Republic, by whom it will be perused and extensively circulated. The book is one of a series which appear annually, and is issued under the serial No. 200. The railroad tariffs in force at the present time are published in full, as are also the rules regarding the issuing of bills of lading and the payment of storage and demurrage charges, etc. The publication is exceedingly useful as a book of reference, especially to merchants, shippers, exporters, and commission men. The binding is neat and attractive, the printing clear and artistic, and the arrangement systematic and convenient.

The well-known and able chartographer, Señor Don Pablo Ludwig, of Buenos Ayres, has just printed a reduced size of the map of that city. An edition of this same map, but of a larger size, was recently published in the metropolis of the Republic. It was an exceedingly useful work of art, was highly appreciated, and had a large circulation. The present edition is in colors, is artistically designed and printed, and will doubtless meet with a favorable reception by the Argentine people on account of its convenient size, the valuable data which it furnishes, and the abundance, thoroughness, and minuteness of detail that it contains. The map is a beautiful piece of work and reflects credit not only upon its author and designer, but also upon the talented artists and skilled workmen who assisted in its compilation. It contains an alphabetical index of all the streets of the city, arranged in such a convenient form as to render exceedingly simple and easy the locating of any given point, public or private building, instantly, by referring to the map, and is in reality a condensed guide of the capital city of the nation.

"La Ilustración Sud-Americana" (The Illustrated South American), published at Buenos Ayres, is one of the most unique and at the same time progressive publications that issues from the South American press. The subject-matter that it contains is selected with the greatest care and is both useful and entertaining. In addition to the large number of literary articles which each edition contains, it also devotes considerable space to current news, politics, science, and art, handling each of these subjects in such a manner as to merit only commendation and praise. The publication already enjoys a large and constantly increasing circulation throughout the Argentine Republic and other South American countries, and is one of the most convincing proofs of the rapid intellectual development which is actually taking place in that country, and which is also so evident in other progressive Republics of Latin America.

El Señor Dr. J. J. Hall, of Buenos Ayres, has just published the second part of the eighth volume of the "Instituta de Jurisprudencia" (Institute of Jurisprudence), established by the court of appeals of the capital of the Argentine Republic. The book contains a profusion of notes and commentaries covering the decisions of the court of appeals, arranged conveniently in numerical and alphabetical order for easy reference. The compiler of this important work has devoted a great deal of time to its arrangement, and has shown an ability and patience in the handling and arranging of legal matter that is truly admirable and which reflects great credit upon the judgment and good sense of the author. The complete series will form an exceedingly valuable and useful addition to the library of anyone interested in the jurisprudence of the Argentine Republic.

The "Century Magazine" for October, in four of its articles, considers various aspects of China and the Chinese question. Mr. Ernest von Hesse-Wartagg tells of a visit to the tomb of Confucius; Mr. Sheridan K. Read, lately United States Consul at Tientsin, writes on the "Chinese as Business Men;" Bishop Henry C. Potter contributes an article on Chinese traits and Western blunders; and Mr. Wu Ting Fang, Chinese Minister to the United States, contributes a "Plea for Fair Treatment." Sir Walter Besant and Messrs. Joseph Pennell and L. Raven-Hill write of East London types. Governor Theodore Roosevelt, of New York, has an article on "Civic Helpfulness," written before he became the Republican candidate for Vice-President.

In 1888 the Division of Entomology, United States Department of Agriculture, published a bulletin entitled "An Enumeration of the Published Synopses, Catalogues, and Lists of North American Insects, etc." This has served the purpose of answering the inquiries regard-

ing the works most useful in determining the insects native to the United States, and also with reference to the most general works of reference. The great activity in entomological work since the publication of that bulletin has made it necessary to bring up to date the matters contained in it. With this end in view, the Department has just issued as Bulletin No. 24, New Series, a new bulletin entitled "A List of Works on North American Entomology."

Among the most interesting and important publications relating to the Republic of Bolivia are the pamphlets issued by the Bolivian Government at La Paz, entitled "Breves Indicaciones para el Viajero y el Inmigrante á Bolivia" (Brief Suggestions to the Traveler and Immigrant to Bolivia), and "Estadística de Comercio" (Commercial Statistics). These pamphlets contain the data and instructions necessary to form a correct and intelligent idea of the economic and industrial resources of the Republic, and of the domestic and foreign commerce of the country. It is seldom that so much reliable data and information are to be found in so limited a space, and expressed in so clear and concise a manner.

"Anuario del Observatorio de La Plata" (Annual of the Observatory of the Plate). Under this name there has just come from the press at Buenos Ayres this exceedingly interesting and important annual, corresponding to the year 1899. In it are recorded all the observations and works of the astronomical corps made at this celebrated Latin-American Institution during the previous year. The observations of the heavens made at this thoroughly equipped, up-to-date observatory are highly interesting to astronomers of the United States, and the valuable observations and scientific research contained therein find a hearty welcome in all the principal observatories of the world.

In the course of a report to his Government, Mr. John C. Covert, United States Consul at Lyon, France, writes regarding the production of coffee on the Island of Madagascar. He states that this industry is expected to develop important proportions at an early date on the eastern coast. In time past the coffee product has been insignificant, but the Government is looking ahead and has published estimates showing that, at the present rate of development, the production for 1904 will be 713,475 kilograms (1,572,927 pounds). In this connection it is worthy of note that the imports of coffee into France, from all its colonial dependencies, in 1899, were only 963,000 kilograms (2,120,000 pounds).

A new semimonthly review called "El Recopilador Noticiero para el Fomento Nacional" (The Compiler of National Statistics) has just been established at Buenos Ayres. The first number which has

come from the press is exceedingly attractive, well edited, and full of interesting items and data concerning the domestic and foreign commerce of the Argentine Republic. The field it has chosen for its special work is a large one, active and important, representing the constantly growing trade of a wonderfully progressive people, and there will be ample opportunity for a useful and successful growth in so fertile and inviting a territory.

The "Mining and Engineering Review," of San Francisco, published in September, 1900, a "special oil edition," which is handsomely illustrated. This number of the "Review" is devoted almost entirely to descriptions of the petroleum regions in the State of California. The illustrations are reproductions of photographic views taken in several of the oil-producing counties. One of them shows the derricks which pump the oil from wells sunk in the ocean off the coast near the town of Summerland. Several maps and diagrams of those portions of the State of California in which petroleum is produced elucidate the descriptive matter.

Under the caption "A Republic in the Tropics," Eugene R. Hendrix, D. D., Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, contributes an interesting article on Brazil to a recent number of the "New York Independent." Besides quoting statistics of interest, Dr. Hendrix writes entertainingly about immigration and its influence on the laws and customs of the land. He, of course, dwells particularly upon the freedom of religious opinion and worship which is approved by the Constitution of Brazil and faithfully regarded by the Government.

One of the commemorative publications in honor of the fourth centenary of the discovery of Brazil bears the title "Historia Topographica e Bellicca da Nova Colonia do Sacramento do Rio de Prata (Topographic and War History of the New Colony of Sacramento and the River Plate). This is described as a work of great historical interest and a valuable contribution to the early history of Brazil and the River Plate, besides portraying the struggle between the Portuguese and the Spanish for the territory now forming the Republic of Uruguay.

The leading article in "Petermanns Mitteilungen," volume 46, 1900, is an elaborate review in the German language of the published report of the Intercontinental Railway Commission held at Washington, 1898, from the pen of Dr. W. Sievers. In this report the writer expresses the opinion that it must be accepted as conclusive that the great work of building the Intercontinental Railway will be accomplished at no late date. The report of the Commission has already been noted in the Monthly Bulletin.

"Revista de Tucuman" (Review of Tucuman) is the title of a new illustrated magazine issued in the city of Tucuman, the capital of the Province of the same name, known locally as the "garden province of the Argentine Republic." This publication is intended to acquaint the people of the Republic, as well as Spanish-speaking people elsewhere, with its internal affairs and advantages. For its readers in Tucuman a variety of general literary matter is included. Señor N. Perez has charge of the editorial work.

In connection with the Mexican exhibits at the Paris Exposition, M. Gostkowski, editor of "Le Nouveau Monde" (Paris), issued a work entitled "Au Mexique," which is a general handbook of the Republic of Mexico, containing a great deal of information in a compact form. The book is illustrated with portraits of President Díaz, the members of his cabinet, and of the Mexican Commission to the Exposition. A general map of the Republic and two railway maps are included.

The "New York Herald" reports that the Venezuelan Minister of War and Navy has sent to the National Academy of History a pamphlet explaining the correspondence which was carried on between General Miranda, the precursos of Venezuelan independence, and General Dumouriez, Pacha, Bournonville, and other French statesmen in 1793. Other documents of great interest, and much to the honor of the Venezuelan patriot, were sent to the Academy at the same time.

"Límites con la República Argentina," by R. M. Serrano, Santiago, Chile, 1898, is the title of a collection of articles concerning the Chilean and Argentine boundary lines. Mr. Serrano is regarded in Chile as a thoroughly competent authority on the subject, having been engaged in its investigation for a number of years and having made numerous voyages of discovery. The book is, of course, written from a Chilean standpoint.

The "South American Journal" (London) has published in pamphlet form a series of articles which have appeared in that publication recently on "South America as a Field for Enterprise." The series includes facts about the trade resources and business opportunities in Mexico and Central America as well, together with tables of moneys, weights and measures, postal statistics, etc., of all the Latin-American countries.

The "Montevideo Times" states that the President of Uruguay, Señor Don Juan Lidolfo Cuestas, is giving the finishing touches to an historical novel with the title "Una Heroina Mendocína" (A Heroine of Mendoza), which he has found time to write during his spare moments. This will be the President's first literary attempt in the line of fiction, but it is by no means his first experience as an author.

Mr. L. P. Nunes. a merchant of Rio de Janeiro, has recently issued a pamphlet entitled "Café, Sinopse; 1894–1900" (Coffee, a Synopsis; 1894–1900). This is a complete statement of the coffee receipts in Brazil in the years named, together with the total exports and their destination, the stocks on hand, receipt each month, and a table of comparison between the average price of coffee and exchange.

The National Society of Millers of the Argentine Republic have begun the publication of a periodical called "La Molinería Argentina" (The Argentine Miller). The object of this paper is to call attention to the increasing importance of the milling industry of the country, to enlist the fostering care of the Government, and for the general improvement of milling interests.

The death of Dr. Hugo Kunz, editor of the "Süd Amerikanisch Rundschau," of Berlin, is announced. Dr. Kunz, who had formerly been a member of the German Consular Corps in South America, founded his journal in 1893, and through his own individual efforts brought it to that point where it stands to-day as one of the most interesting and valuable trade newspapers in Europe.

"The Permanent Nitrate Committee," of London, recently issued a large album containing 59 photographic views of the Chilean nitrate works and pier. These pictures give a very good idea of the scenery about the nitrate fields and the process of manufacturing the product, from the extraction of the *caliche* to the actual shipment of the nitrate.

The English Directory of 1900–1901, compiled by John Grant, of Buenos Ayres, contains the names and addresses of 15,000 residents of the Argentine Republic who speak the English language. It also contains general information relative to the Republic and its customs tariff for 1900.

Mr. Juan E. Clark recently submitted to the Chilean Congress a proposal for the construction of the Transandine Railway line. This offer has been embodied in a pamphlet giving the history of the undertaking from the date of its inception, 1872, down to the present time.

LIBRARY ACCESSIONS DURING SEPTEMBER.

Cambridge Encyclopedia. Alex. Del Mar, editor. New York, Cambridge Encyclopedia Co., 1900. 8°.

Copser, Mario: Cuba, su presente y su futuro. México, Imp. de Escalante, 1899. 43 pp. 12°.

Gostkowski, G.: Au Mexique. Paris, Brunoff, [1900]. 195 pp. 8°.

International Typographical Union: Report of proceedings of the forty-sixth session. Indianapolis, 1900. 141 pp. 4°.

Mérou, Martín García: Estudios americanos. Buenos Aires, 1900. 492 pp. 8°.
New Mexico College: Tenth annual register. Las Cruces, 1900. 95 (2) pp. 8°.
Rockhill, W. W.: Bureau of the American Republics. Forum, September, 1900. New York, Forum Publ. Co., 1900.

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Argentine Republic.

Anuario estadístico de Buenos Aires. Año ix 1899. Buenos Aires, 1900. 330 pp. 4°.
Memoria del Congreso Nacional de 1900. Buenos Aires, 1900. 482 pp. 4°.
Ministerio de Agricultura. Memoria de comercio é industrias, tierras, colonias, etc. Buenos Aires, Peuser, 1899. 231 pp. 4°.

Belgium.

Recueil consulaire. Bruxelles, Weissenbruch, 1900. 498 pp. 8°.
Relevé officiel du chiffre de la population . . . Bruxelles, 1900. 11 pp. F°.
Statistique de la Belge pendant l'année 1899. Bruxelles, Mertens, 354 pp. F°.

Brazil.

Commercio e navegação de Rio de Janeiro. Rio de Janeiro, Typ. da Alfandega, 1887. F°.

Chile.

Anales de la Universidad. Junio de 1900. Santiago, Imp. Cervantes, 1900. 1,125 pp. 4°.
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores. Memoria. Santiago de Chile, 1900. 144 pp. 4°.
———. Boletín. Santiago de Chile, Mejia, 1900. 408 pp. 8°.
Sociedad Nacional de Minería. Boletín. Año xvi, Vol. xi, Ser. 1. Santiago de Chile, Imp. Nac., 1899. 395 pp. 4°.

Great Britain.

Foreign Office. Trade of Dutch and French Guiana for 1899. August, 1900. London, Harrison & Sons. 144 pp. 8°.
———. Trade of Mexico for 1899. London, Harrison & Sons, 1900. 48 pp. 8°.

Italy.

Minister of Foreign Affairs: La colonizzazione nella provincia di Cordoba. Roma, 1900. 16 pp. 4°.

Mexico.

Boletín de Estadística Fiscal. Marzo–Abril. (Nos. 204, 205.) México, 1900.
Boletín Oficial de Relaciones Exteriores. Julio–Agosto de 1900. México, León, 1900.

Peru.

Escuela de Ingenieros: Anales de construcciones civiles y de minas. Lima, 1887. 37 pp. 8°.
———. La región de Carabaya en el Perú. Lima, 1900. 21 pp. 8°.
Instituto Técnico é Industrial: Anales del Instituto. Lima, Imp. "La Industria," 1899. 24 pp. 4°.
———. Cuerpo tecnico de tasaciones, 1899. Lima, Imp. de la Escuela de Ingenieros, 1899. 93 pp. 4°.
———. Memoria de la Sociedad Nacional de Industrias. Año 1899. Lima, Imp. "La Industria," 1900. 71 pp. 4°.

Escuela de Ingenieros: Memoria de la Sociedad Nacional de Minería. Año 1897–1899. Lima, Imp. "La Industria," 1900. (3 vols.) 8°.
Ministerio del Estado: Relaciones Exteriores, 1893–1898. Lima, 1893–1898. (5 vols.) 4°.
———. Mensaje del Junta de Gobierno. Lima, 1895. 40 pp. 4°.
Ministerio de Fomento: Memoria del Director de Obras Públicas. Lima, Imp. "La Industria," 1899. 89 pp. 4°.
———. Memoria de Fomento, 1897. Lima, 1897. 48 pp. 8°.
———. Memoria de Fomento, 1899. Lima, Imp. "La Industria," 1899. 40 (1), 46 pp. (2 vols.) 4°.
———. Registro de Fomento: I. Minas. II. Industria y montaña. III. Beneficencia. Lima, Imp. Escuela de Ingenieros, 1897–98. (3 vols.) 8°.
Ministerio de Hacienda: Administración de la Sal, 1897–98. Lima, "Gil," 1898. 4°.
———. Estadística general de aduanas. Exportación. (Primer semestre de 1899.) Importación. Lima, Imp. Escuela de Ingenieros, 1899. (2 vols.) 8°.
———. Estadística general de aduanas, 1897. Importación. Comercio general. Lima, Imp. de "El País," 1899. (2 vols.) 4°.
———. Memoria de Hacienda, 1899. Lima, Imp. del Estado, 1899. 4°.
———. Memoria sobre la cuenta general de la República. Lima, Typ. "El Tiempo," 1898. 89 pp. 4°.
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Cámara de Comercio (Lima): Estatutos de la Camara de Comercio de Lima. Lima, Imp. "Gil," 1896. 14 pp. 8°.
Decretos y proyecto de ley sobre terrenos de montaña. Lima, Imp. de "El País," 1897. 19 pp. 8°.
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BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

Bulletin. August, 1900. Washington, 1900. 504, xxiv pp. 8°.
Mexico: A geographical sketch. Washington, 1900. 385 pp. 8°.

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Field operations of Division of Soils. M. Whitney. Washington, 1900. 198 pp. 4°.
Food of bobolinks, blackbirds, and grackles. Washington, 1900. 76 pp. 8°.
Publications of the United States Department of Agriculture to February 1, 1900. Washington, 1900. 37 pp. 8°.
Review of economic ornithology in the United States. Washington, 1900. 259–292 pp. 8°.
Turkestan alfalfa. Washington, 1900. 20 pp. 8°.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

Consular reports. September, 1900. Washington, 1900. 150 pp. 8°.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

Copyright enactments. 1783–1900. Washington, 1900. 83 pp. 8°.

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American commerce. 1821–1898. Washington, 1899.
Exports declared for the United States. Washington, 1900. 93 pp. 8°.

Monthly summary of commerce and finance of the United States. July, 1900. Washington, 1900. 179 pp. sq. 8°.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

Monthly summary of the commerce of Cuba. Washington, 1900. 37 pp. sq. 8°.
Monthly summary of commerce of the Philippine Islands. Washington, 1900. 186 pp. sq. 8°.
Report on the island of Guam. July, 1900. Washington, 1900. 51 pp. 8°.
Translation of railroad laws in the Philippines. Washington, 1900. 71 pp. 8°.

PERMANENT LIBRARY FILES.

Persons interested in the commercial and general news of foreign countries will find the following among the official and periodical publications on the permanent files in the Library of the Bureau of the American Republics.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Argentinisches Wochenblatt. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.
Boletín de la Unión Industrial Argentina. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.
Boletín Demográfico Argentino. Buenos Ayres. Monthly.
Boletín Oficial de la República Argentina. Buenos Ayres. Daily.
Bollettino Mensile. Rosario. Monthly.
La Industria Molinera. Buenos Ayres. Semimonthly.
La Nación. Buenos Ayres. Daily.
La Plata Post. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.
La Plata Zeitung. Buenos Ayres.
La Producción Nacional. Buenos Ayres. Semimonthly.
Le Commerce Extérieur Argentin. Buenos Ayres.
Review of the River Plate. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.

BELGIUM.

Bulletin of the Commercial Museum. Brussels. Weekly.

BOLIVIA.

El Comercio. La Paz. Daily.
Revista Económica y Financiera. La Paz. Monthly.

BRAZIL.

Brazilian Review. Rio de Janeiro.
Jornal do Commercio. Rio de Janeiro. Daily.
Lavoura (A). Rio de Janeiro. Monthly.
Revista Agricola. Rio de Janeiro. Monthly.
Revista Brazileira. Rio de Janeiro. Monthly.
Revista Industrial e Mercantil. Pernambuco. Monthly.
Revista Maritima Brazileira. Rio de Janeiro. Monthly.

CHILE.

Chilian Times. Santiago de Chile. Semiweekly.
Diario Oficial de la República de Chile. Santiago. Daily.
Revista Comercial e Industrial de Minas. Santiago. Monthly.

COLOMBIA.

Diario Oficial. Bogotá. Daily.
El Correo Nacional. Bogotá.
La Estrella de Panama. Panama. Semiweekly.
Revista de la Instrucción Pública de Colombia. Bogotá. Monthly
Star and Herald. Panama. Semiweekly.

COSTA RICA.

Boletín de la Biblioteca Nacional. San José.
La Gaceta. (Oficial.) San José. Daily.

CUBA.

La Escuela Cubana. Habana. Weekly.
Revista del Foro. Habana. Quarterly.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

El Mensajero. Santo Domingo. Three times a month.
Gaceta Oficial. Santo Domingo. Weekly.

ECUADOR.

Gaceta Municipal. Guayaquil. Weekly.
Registro Oficial de la República del Ecuador. Quito. Daily.

ENGLAND.

Board of Trade Journal. London. Weekly.
British Trade Journal. London. Monthly.
Commercial Intelligence. London. Weekly.
Diplomatic and Consular Reports. London.
Feilden's Magazine. London. Monthly.
Freir's Colonial and Foreign Register. London. Quarterly.
Geographical Journal. London. Monthly.
Journal of the Board of Agriculture. London. Quarterly.
Mining (The) Journal. London. Weekly.
South American Journal. London. Weekly.
Tenders and Contracts. London.
Times (The). London. Daily.
Trade and Navigation Reports. London. Monthly.

GERMANY.

Der Tropenpflanzer. Berlin. Monthly.
Deutsche Kolonialzeitung. Berlin. Weekly.
Handels-Kammer zu Hannover. Hannover.
Petermann's Mitteilungen. Gotha. Monthly.
Südamerikanische Rundschau. Berlin. Monthly.
Thonindustrie Zeitung. Berlin.

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Diario de Centro-America. Guatemala. Daily.
El Guatemalteco. Guatemala. Weekly.
La República. Guatemala. Daily.

FRANCE.

Le Nouveau Monde. Paris. Weekly.
Moniteur Officiel. Paris. Weekly.
Revue du Commerce Extérieur. Paris. Semimonthly.
Revue Générale des Sciences. Paris. Semimonthly.
Revue Politique et Parlementaire. Paris. Monthly.
Tableaux Mensuels de Statistique Municipale de la Ville de Paris. Paris. Monthly.

HONDURAS.

Boletín Legislativo. Tegucigalpa.
Gaceta Judicial. Tegucigalpa.
La Gaceta. Tegucigalpa.

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Japan-American Commercial Journal. Tokyo. Monthly.

MARTINIQUE.

Les Colonies. St. Pierre. Daily.

MEXICO.

American (The) Evolution. Mexico.
Boletín de Agricultura, Minería é Industrias. Mexico. Monthly.
Boletín de Estadística. Mérida. Semimonthly.
Boletín de la Red Meteorológica y Revista Científica. Toluca.
Boletin del Instituto Científico y Literario. Toluca.
Boletín Postal de la Administración General de Correos de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos. Mexico. Monthly.
Boletín Telegráfico. Mexico. Daily.
Diario Oficial. Mexico. Daily.
El Agricultor Mexicano. Ciudad Juárez. Monthly.
El Economista Mexicano. Mexico. Weekly.
El Estado de Colima. Colima. Weekly.
El Progreso de Mexico. Mexico. Weekly.
El Republicano. Aguascalientes. Weekly.
La Gaceta Comercial. Mexico. Daily.
Le Mexique. Mexico. Bimonthly.
Mexican Trade Review. Mexico. Monthly.
Resumen de la Importación y de la Exportación. Mexico. Monthly.
Semana Mercantil. Mexico. Weekly.

NICARAGUA.

Diario Oficial. Managua. Daily.
El Comercio. Managua. Daily.
La Patria. León.

PARAGUAY.

La Enseñanza. Asunción. Semimonthly.
Revista del Instituto Paraguayo. Asunción. Monthly.

PERU.

Boletín de la Sociedad Geográfica de Lima. Lima. Monthly.
El Comercio. Lima. Daily.
El Economista. Lima. Weekly.
El Peruano. Lima. Daily.
Padrón General de Minas. Lima.
Revista de Ciencias. Lima. Monthly.

PORTO RICO.

La Correspondencia. San Juan. Daily.

SALVADOR.

Diario del Salvador. San Salvador. Daily.

UNITED STATES.

American Review of Reviews. New York. Monthly.
Anglo-American Magazine. New York. Monthly.
Bulletin of the American Geographical Society. New York.
Bulletin of the Free Museum of Science and Arts. Philadelphia. Quarterly.
Century Magazine. New York. Monthly.
Chicago Record. Chicago. Daily.
Coal Trade Journal. New York. Weekly.
Cram's Magazine. Chicago. Monthly.
Export Implement Age. Philadelphia. Monthly.
Field Columbian Museum Publications. Chicago.
Forum, The. New York. Monthly.
Hispano-America. San Francisco, Cal. Monthly.
India Rubber World. New York. Monthly.
Modern Machinery. Chicago. Monthly.
Modern Mexico. St. Louis. Monthly.
National Geographic Magazine. Washington. Monthly.
New-Yorker Handels-Zeitung. New York City.
Novedades (Las). New York. Weekly.
Pan-American Magazine. Buffalo. Monthly.
Publications of the New England Free Trade League. Boston.
Scientific American. New York. Weekly.
Scientific American. Export Edition. New York. Monthly.
United States Consular Reports. Washington. Daily and Monthly.

URUGUAY.

Anales del Departamento de Ganadería y Agricultura. Montevideo. Monthly.
El Siglo. Montevideo. Daily.
La Nación. Montevideo. Daily.

VENEZUELA.

Gaceta Oficial. Caracas. Daily.
Venezuela. Caracas. Monthly.
Venezuelan Herald. Caracas.

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REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA.

LA AGRICULTURA EN 1899-1900.

El Señor Doctor Don Estanislao S. Zeballos ha tenido la bondad de remitir á la Oficina los datos estadísticos oficiales relativos á la agricultura en aquella República en 1899–1900. Dichos datos se publican á continuación:

"La División de Estadística del Ministerio de Agricultura acaba de terminar la recopilación de los datos correspondientes á las cosechas de 1899–1900, tomados de las libretas de los chacareros, por los cuales ha sido posible establecer, aproximadamente, los resultados de las siembras de trigo, lino, cebada, avena, semilla de alfalfa y otros productos agrícolas.

"Los datos recopilados alcanzan hasta el 15 de julio próximo pasado, y comprenden el trabajo de 2,230 trilladoras de las 3,253 que deben haber trillado en la cosecha pasada. Faltarían, pues, las anotaciones de 1,023 libretas.

"Según las libretas recibidas hasta el 15 de julio, el resultado de la cosecha de trigo en cada provincia ha sido el siguiente:

Provincias.	Número de chacras.	Trigo.	
		Sembrado.	Cosechado.
		Hectáreas.	*Kilos.*
Buenos Aires	8,179	534,942	582,364,106
Santa Fe	11,471	1,154,434	893,389,278
Córdoba	2,451	333,583	243,778,301
Entre Ríos	4,043	167,485	128,884,984
Total	26,144	2,190,444	1,848,416,669

"Estos datos, como es natural, no son completos, pues faltan las cifras correspondientes á 1,023 libretas.

"La División de Estadística ha hecho el siguiente cálculo sobre el rendimiento total, incluyendo el trigo de las libretas que faltan:

	Toneladas.
Resumen de 2,230 libretas	1,848,000
Resumen probable de las 1,023 libretas por compilar	848,000
En otras provincias y territorios	60,000
Rendimiento total	2,756,000
Á deducir consumo y semilla	870,000
Queda para la exportación	1,886,000

"La estadística nos da los siguientes detalles sobre el número de hectáreas sembradas con otros productos, y el rendimiento total:

	Área sembrada.	Cosechado.
	Hectáreas.	*Kilos.*
Lino	258,412	170,445,835
Avena	8,102	9,829,377
Cebada	6,496	5,558,779
Alpiste	5,216	3,553,217
Centeno	1,113	887,325
Semilla de alfalfa	1,592	345,729

"El término medio general del rinde por cada hectárea sembrada ha sido de 844 kilos en el trigo, 660 en el lino, 1,213 en la avena, 856 en la cebada, 681 en el alpiste, 797 en el centeno y 217 kilos en la semilla de alfalfa."

CÁMARA MERCANTIL EN LA EXPOSICIÓN PAN-AMERICANA DE BÚFALO.

De "La Nacion," de Buenos Aires, se ha tomado lo siguiente:

"La comisión directiva de esta asociación que preside el Señor Carlos Lix Klett, acaba de contestar por medio de una extensa nota á la que recibiera del Ministerio de Agricultura con fecha 26 del mes anterior, y por la que se le solicita su cooperación para que los principales productos que constituyen la base de nuestra riqueza pública, estén bien representados en la exposición pan-americana que deberá celebrarse el 1° de mayo próximo en la ciudad de Búfalo, Estados Unidos.

"Hace presente que la asociación prestará todo su concurso al Gobierno á fin de que la concurrencia oficial á la mencionada exposición tenga la importancia que merece, pero que tropieza con el inconveniente de la falta de fondos, pues se trata de concurrir á un torneo donde tal vez la República Argentina esté llamada á desempeñar el principal papel, razón por la cual será necesario hacer algunos gastos.

"Debemos concurrir, dice, con un muestrario completo con sus clasificaciones técnicas, en que estén comprendidos los productos de la

ganadería, de la caza y de la agricultura, para que puedan ser exhibidos en una forma completa que no dé origen á censuras ó críticas.

"Si el Gobierno proporciona los medios para que los gastos corran por cuenta del estado, la cámara mercantil se compromete á proporcionar un muestrario absolutamente completo de productos de la ganadería y de la caza, dejando á la Bolsa de cereales del 11 de septiembre el formar uno de los productos agrícolas.

"Los fondos que se necesitarían para los envases, recolección, embalaje y compra de algunos productos (pues la mayor parte de ellos provendrán de donaciones), acarreo de los bultos hasta el puerto, etc., han sido calculados en $5,000.

"La asociación toma á su cargo la confección y clasificación de este muestrario, guiada solamente por el deseo de ver bien representado á nuestro país en el mencionado torneo."

COLONIZACIÓN EN MISIONES.

Con este epígrafe publica "La Prensa," de Buenos Aires, lo siguiente:

"La dirección de inmigración ha recibido datos del estado en que actualmente se encuentra el departamento de Santa Ana, en cuanto se refiere á los medios de vida de que disponen los pobladores que se han radicado en dicho territorio; son estos en su mayoría alemanes y rusos, emigrados del Brasil en los últimos tiempos.

"Las 400 personas que componen la colonia Bompland, situada á poca distancia del río Paraná, y que disponen de unas 18,000 hectáreas de terrenos, de las cuales unas 15,000 están desocupadas, recogen al año, según se dice en el informe respectivo, de 200 á 500 arrobas de porotos (frijoles), de 100 á 300 arrobas de tabaco negro, y maíz en gran abundancia, que les permite dedicarse al engorde de cerdos y obtener excelentes beneficios.

"Termina el informe diciendo que la colonia Bompland, en el departamento de Santa Ana, está en las mejores condiciones para recibir buen número de familias de agricultores, los que podrán obtener seguramente, dentro de un breve espacio de tiempo, beneficios positivos y que aseguren un progreso real para los fértiles terrenos de Misiones."

BOLIVIA.

MENSAJE DEL PRESIDENTE.

El periódico "El Estado," diario oficial de la república boliviana, publica el Mensaje que el Presidente Constitucional, General Don José Manuel Pando, dirigió al Congreso Nacional al inaugurar sus sesiones en La Paz, el día 6 de agosto del año en curso. De ese notable documento se toman los siguientes párrafos:

"El Congreso Nacional de 1900 se reúne hoy en favorables condiciones políticas, porque el Gobierno y el país han propendido á cimentar la paz pública y á consolidar el orden constitucional.

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"Las relaciones de Bolivia son pacíficas y amistosas con todos los Estados, y el Gobierno se propone cumplir con lealtad los tratados vigentes, otorgando amplias garantías al comercio extranjero.

"Con la República Argentina se ha llevado á término los estudios sobre demarcación de fronteras, y en breve se fijará la línea divisoria entre ambos estados.

"Está acordado proseguir los estudios técnicos para la prolongación, hacia Bolivia, del Ferrocarril Central Norte Argentino, y se trata hoy de constituir la respectiva comisión de ingenieros.

"Por lo demás, las relaciones de Bolivia con la República Argentina son perfectamente cordiales.

"Con el Brasil se procura llevar á debida ejecución el Tratado de Límites de 27 de marzo de 1867, en conformidad con el protocolo de 30 de octubre último, en el que se estipuló explorar nuevamente las vertientes del río Yavari y colocar el marco divisorio en la verdadera naciente. Para el efecto, se ha constituido de parte de Bolivia la Comisión Demarcadora, se ha mandado á construir en Londres un vapor apropriado al objeto, se ha depositado en Londres y el Pará los fondos suficientes para subvenir á los gastos de la operación y el Gobierno se propone llevarla á término por todos los medios que dependen de la acción nacional.

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"Con la República de los Estados Unidos de Norte América procuramos estrechar nuestras relaciones comerciales, y Bolivia respondiendo al Gobierno de esta Gran Nación ha aceptado concurrir á la Exposición de Búfalo, que se inaugurará el 1° de mayo del año entrante, y al Congreso Americano que debe reunirse en México, en el que se debatirán cuestiones que interesan á todas las repúblicas americanas.

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"Las industrias y el comercio toman cada día proporciones más importantes, produciendo el mejoramiento del cambio y una actividad desconocida hasta el presente. De aquí el incremento aduanero en Antofagasta y La Paz que ha permitido al Gobierno atender con puntualidad á todos los servicios de la administración pública.

"Con las medidas y reformas que os propondrá el Ministro de Hacienda, es posible aumentar la renta nacional dentro de un sistema de bien entendida equidad, para el fomento de las industrias y el comercio.

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"La Administración de Correos se encuentra regularizada y mejorado su servicio.

"Se han pagado los créditos que reconocía la Nación á la Oficina Internacional de Berna, la República Argentina y el Perú, por derechos de tránsito.

"Agotadas las estampillas de cinco centavos se autorizó una nueva emisión por la suma de 25,000 bolivianos.

"Se ha decretado la vigencia de un nuevo Reglamento de Correos debido á la competencia del Director General del Ramo.

"El servicio de telégrafos ha atravesado por una verdadera crisis, por el deterioro del material y la falta de buenos funcionarios.

"Con reparaciones parciales y frecuentes, se ha podido mantener este servicio con la posible regularidad.

"Se tiene encargados y en parte recibidos, los materiales que han de servir para una completa reconstrucción de las líneas telegráficas.

"Se ha entregado al servicio público las líneas de Sorata y Coroico á esta ciudad, y se tiene en actual construcción la de Cochabamba á Santa Cruz.

"En el Ministerio respectivo se halla en estudio un nuevo reglamento de telégrafos, y preocupa al Gobierno la necesidad de establecer los medios y procedimientos que permitan comprobar el rendimiento de las oficinas telegráficas.

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"Se ha ordenado la facción del censo general de la población de la República, que es urgente conocer, dictándose el reglamento y las órdenes que requiere su ejecución, encomendada esta vez á la Oficina de Inmigración, Estadística y Propaganda Geográfica.

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"En la medida de lo posible, se ha llenado la necesidad de reparar algunos caminos de herradura.

"En breve estará concluido el camino de Cochabamba al río Chapare, así como el de Totora al Chimoré.

"Se halla en trabajo el de esta ciudad al río Kaka, por la vía de Zongo.

"El camino de Pelechuco al río Beni, se trabaja activamente por empresa particular, autorizada por la Convención.

"El servicio de las carreteras se halla normalizado, manteniéndose en vigencia los contratos relativos á las carreteras de Cochabamba á Sucre, de Sucre á Potosí, de Oruro á Cochabamba y de esta ciudad á Puerto Pérez.

"Habiendo caducado los contratos de las carreteras de esta ciudad á Oruro y de Sucre á Challapata, han sido aceptadas las propuestas de los Señores Bruce y Chessor, para la primera; y Zamora y Cía., para la segunda.

"Se ha hecho la reparación del camino carretero de Sucre á Macha, y pronto se emprenderá la construcción del de Potosí á Uyuni.

"Ligado con el servicio carretero de Puerto Pérez á esta ciudad, se ha celebrado un contrato para la adquisición de furgones destinados al Ejército.

"El puente Sucre, sobre el río Pilcomayo, se trabaja con preferencia, para no dejar incompleta esa importante obra, así como los defensivos del río Rocha, las reparaciones que exigen las lagunas de Potosí, la conducción de las aguas de Jalaqueri á Oruro y el puente de San Francisco en esta ciudad.

"Además, se ha invertido algunas sumas en otras obras de menor importancia en la República.

"El Gobierno tiene el propósito de aplicar de una vez todos los fondos destinados á la ejecución de las obras de reconocida utilidad, para que realizadas que estas sean, pueda aplicarse la dirección técnica, el esfuerzo y los recursos suficientes á la satisfacción de otras necesidades.

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"Investigada la opinión del Gobierno sobre la construcción de un ferrocarril de Arica á Corocoro por capitales americanos ha manifestado que vería con agrado la realización de ese pensamiento.

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"Adoptado como se halla el sistema intuitivo en la instrucción pública, el Ministerio ha dictado los programas del primer grado para la mejor aplicación del nuevo método de enseñanza, y continuará su labor en igual sentido para los grados siguientes.

"Los Colegios de Artes y Oficios de La Paz y Sucre, los institutos médicos, los colegios nacionales y las sociedades geográficas han recibido puntualmente las subvenciones que les están asignadas en el presupuesto vigente.

"Se ha atendido debidamente á la mejora de los locales de instrucción y á su mobiliario, entregándose al efecto el total de las escasas sumas asignadas en la Ley Financial. Asimismo se ha procurado la adquisición de material científico para estos establecimientos.

"El Gobierno se preocupa actualmente de los trabajos preliminares de adquisición y adaptación de locales para establecer de un modo conveniente las escuelas normales en los principales distritos. El Ministerio se ocupa hoy de la reglamentación de éstas y de la colección de leyes sobre instrucción pública que han de servir de antecedente para la facción del Estatuto General.

"Por Supremo Decreto de 28 de julio último se ha convocado á concurso de oposición para la provisión de las cátedras de enseñanza facultativa y secundaria en la República.

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"En el ramo de Colonización poco tengo que deciros, porque no lleva mucho tiempo el decreto de erección del Territorio de Colonias.

"Sin embargo, la atención de ese Territorio en todos los ramos de la Administración pública requiere labor asidua é incesante para fomentar su progreso, conocida, como es, la importancia que tiene.

"Cuando sesionaba la Convención Nacional no tomó particular interés el Gobierno en la creación de una nueva Secretaría de Estado, que comprendiese los ramos de Fomento y Colonización. Mas hoy que reconoce la necesidad de su creación, por el progresivo recargo de las otras carteras, proporcionado al desenvolvimiento que toma la administración pública, creo que debe dictarse una nueva ley de organización política amoldada á las exigencias del presente.

"Las Colonias del Chaco y las de otros puntos que se hallaban constituidas, se han mantenido como antes y atendido con alguna regularidad.

"Concluyo, Honorables Representantes, deseando que hagáis labor proficua, en bien de la Patria, y que sobre el legítimo amor que profeásis á los Departamentos que habéis venido á representar, prevalezca el sentimiento boliviano y la percepción clara de las necesidades del presente y de las responsabilidades que os corresponden en un período decisivo para la salvación ó ruina de Bolivia."

BRASIL.

SERVICIO CABLEGRÁFICO EN PERNAMBUCO.

En un informe dirigido al Departamento de Estado de Wáshington, Mr. EDWIN A. GUNSAULUS, Cónsul de los Estados Unidos en Pernambuco, dice que aquella ciudad ocupa el primer lugar entre las estaciones cablegráficas en la América del Sur, y agrega que cuenta con no menos de diez líneas de cable á varios puntos del país. Las compañías dueñas de los mencionadas cables son la "Western Union Telegraph Company, Limited," y la "South American Cable Company." Esta última toca en varios puntos de la América del Sur y tiene también estaciones cablegráficas en las islas Canarias, en Cádiz, España, y en el África del Sur.

RIVALIDAD COMERCIAL DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

El periódico alemán "Sud-Amerikanische Rundschau" dice que la energía con que los norteamericanos aumentan su influencia comercial en la América del Sur se muestra por la gran cantidad de capital de los Estados Unidos que ha sido invertido en ferrocarriles, manufacturas, plantaciones y otras empresas, sobrepujando en todo esto tanto á los alemanes como á los ingleses. Opina dicho periódico que si los Estados Unidos celebran con buen éxito tratados de comercio, el tráfico europeo desaparecerá del Brasil, y quizá más tarde de toda la América del Sur.

COMUNICACIONES POR VAPOR CON LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

Hasta hace muy poco tiempo los vapores que corren entre Nueva York y Pará no hacían más de dos viajes mensuales, pero la "Booth Steamship Company" y la "Red Cross Line" han cambiado sus itinerarios, y en lo de adelante harán cuatro viajes cada mes. La "Hamburg German-American Steamship Company," que hace poco comenzó á hacer el servicio entre Europa y Pará, ha establecido una nueva línea de vapores que correrán entre este último puerto, Baltimore y Gálveston. Esto pone de manifiesto que la demanda de efectos de los Estados Unidos en aquella República sudamericana va en aumento.

TRÁFICO CON LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

Anuncia el "New York Journal of Commerce" que el vapor *Marenhense* que salió del puerto de Nueva York para el norte del Brasil el 8 del mes pasado, llevó el cargamento más grande de manufacturas que ha sido enviado jamás de Nueva York para aquella sección del país. Además de una gran cantidad de maquinaria, el cargamento comprendía material para ferrocarril, efectos eléctricos y artículos de hierro. Si se agregan á esto los grandes cargamentos de provisiones destinados á Pará y Manaos, se verá que el tráfico del Brasil con los Estados Unidos aumenta rápidamente.

LEY SOBRE MARBETES EN PORTUGUÉS.

El 17 de julio de este año, el Congreso del Brasil emitió una ley referente á la importación de efectos con marbetes escritos en lengua portuguesa. La ley dice que toda mercancía que que se importe y que lleve marbetes en todo ó en parte escritos en lengua portuguesa, debe tener impreso en letras mayúsculas sobre dicho marbete el nombre del país donde fué fabricada. La misma ley revoca toda disposición contraria á la presente.

DELEGADO Á LA CONFERENCIA INTERNACIONAL AMERICANA.

El "South American Journal" dice que el Gobierno brasileño ha resuelto nombrar al Dr. Carlos de Carvalho, ex-Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores, como delegado de aquella república á la Conferencia Internacional Americana que se reunirá en México en 1901.

EXPORTACIÓN DE ALGODÓN.

La exportación de algodón del Brasil á la Gran Bretaña del 1° de enero al 1° de septiembre de este año, ascendió á 23,338,200 libras, con un valor de £578,255. En el mismo período del año de 1899 la exportación fué solamente de 528,700 libras, valoradas en £9,356. Durante los primeros ocho meses de 1898 dicha exportación fué de 5,323,400 libras, con un valor de £96,849.

CHILE.

PRODUCCIÓN DEL CARBÓN DE PIEDRA.

La "Revista Comercial é Industrial de Minas," de Santiago, dice que desde el año de 1850 se explota el carbón de piedra en Chile, y de que tiempo en tiempo se descubren nuevos yacimientos que han venido desarrollándose poco á poco hasta alcanzar hoy una producción considerable. Asegura dicho periódico que las minas de Chile pueden abastecer á las industrias nacionales, dejando un sobrante para la exportación.

En el año pasado la producción de carbón de piedra en Chile fué de más de 300,000 toneladas, con un valor de cerca de $5,000,000. La "Revista Comercial é Industrial de Minas" publica el cuadro que se verá á continuación relativo á la exportación de carbón de piedra de Chile durante los últimos diez años:

Años.	Toneladas.	Valores.	Años.	Toneladas.	Valores.
1890	194,675	$1,315,872	1895	195,115	1,641,608
1891	149,462	2,053,988	1896	204,858	1,560,920
1892	215,140	1,535,059	1897	243,968	1,869,310
1893	209,711	1,535,059	1898	282,663	4,239,943
1894	205,201	1,677,904	1899	241,995	4,839,900

ZONAS COBRERAS.

Al tratar de las zonas cobreras de Chile, la "Revista Comercial é Industrial de Minas," de Santiago, asegura que Chile posee minas de cobre en número tan grande que no hay otro país en el mundo que las tenga en mayor cantidad y mejor condición. Una región continua y bien marcada de norte á sur indica los yacimientos cobreros. He aquí como se expresa dicho periódico relativamente á la producción en Chile de ese valioso metal:

"Hace más de cincuenta años que exportamos mucho cobre. Nuestras estadísticas anotan datos desde el año 1844, en que se exportaron 4,026 toneladas. Desde esta fecha la producción fué creciendo notablemente hasta llegar en 1876 á 41,766 toneladas, con un valor de $16,079,969. Ésta es la cantidad mayor que hasta hoy se ha exportado. Todo el decenio entre el año 1876 y 1886 nuestras exportaciones no bajaron de 32,000 toneladas, subiendo hasta 41,000; en estas fechas éramos uno de los mayores productores en el mundo. Desde el año 1886 hasta el año 1896 nuestra producción bajó y se mantuvo al rededor de 20,000 toneladas, debido al bajo precio del cobre en los marcados europeos. En los dos últimos años ha subido el cobre nuevamente de valor y ya de una manera definitiva, pues su alza es debida al gran consumo que están haciendo de esta metal las muchas y poderosas industrias que lo están aplicando en todo el globo, en especial en los Estados Unidos é Inglaterra."

COSTA RICA.

DECRETOS RELATIVOS AL BANANO Y AL GANADO.

"La Gaceta," diario oficial de Costa Rica, publica los siguientes decretos:

"El Congreso Constitucional de la República de Costa Rica, Considerando:

"Que es de todo punto conveniente á la riqueza pública como medio de fomentar el desarrollo de la reciente industria del cultivo de bananos en el país, infundir á los empresarios la mayor confianza respecto de la franquicia de exportación de este fruto:

"En uso de las facultades constitucionales, decreta:

"Artículo único. Por el término de diez años, contados desde la publicación del presente decreto, no se gravará con derecho alguno la exportación del banano."

Este decreto lleva la fecha de 29 de agosto de este año y fué ratificado por el Presidente el 9 de septiembre siguiente.

"El Congreso Constitucional de la República de Costa Rica, en uso de sus facultades constitucionales y con el fin de proteger la industria pecuaria en el país, decreta:

"ARTÍCULO 1°. Declárase libre de todo derecho fiscal por el término de diez años la exportación de ganado vacuno y la introducción del flaco y de cría.

"ART. 2°. El ganado gordo que se introduzca al país pagará en el primer año dos, en el segundo cuatro, en el tercero seis y en los años siguientes ocho colones por cabeza.

"La disposición contenida en el Artículo 2° empezará á regir al año de publicado el presente decreto."

Este decreto está fechado á 29 de agosto de 1900, y el Presidente lo ratificó el 9 de septiembre siguiente.

CUBA.

OBRAS PÚBLICAS.

El 28 de septiembre próximo pasado el Señor VILLALÓN, Secretario de Obras Públicas, sometió al Gobernador General el informe anual de su Departamento, que es un documento preparado con sumo cuidado y que contiene datos relativos á muchas mejoras que se han efectuado. Entre otras cosas, encierra dicho informe un plano general para la construcción de caminos en la isla. Durante la dominación española se construyeron solamente 275 kilómetros de carreteras, y en la actua-

lidad están en construcción 440 kilómetros. Anexo al informe hay un mapa en el que se muestran los caminos ya construidos y los que están en proyecto. El Señor VILLALÓN calcula que habrá necesidad de gastar en estas obras como $13,000,000. El tiempo que se empleará para terminarlas está sujeto á la cuestión económica.

PROSPERIDAD AGRÍCOLA.

Un despacho de la Habana, fechado á 6 de octubre, dice que la prosperidad agrícola de toda la parte de la isla situada entre la Habana y Cienfuegos es muy notable. El cultivo de la caña de azúcar se desarrolla con actividad, y es evidente que va renaciendo la confianza en las empresas agrícolas, pues no otra cosa significa la importación de los Estados Unidos en gran escala de maquinaria para la agricultura. La industria de tabaco se desarrolla lo mismo que la de azúcar. Nuevos ingenios de azúcar se están fundado en varias partes de la isla. En la primera semana de este mes llegaron á la Habana, procedentes de las Islas Canarias y de Barcelona, 1,860 inmigrantes é inmediatamente se dirigieron á los distritos del interior, donde con facilidad se encuentra empleo.

ENTRADAS DE ADUANA EN HABANA.

La Oficina de Aduanas y Negocios Insulares del Departamento de la Guerra ha publicado un informe relativo á las entradas de aduana en el puerto de la Habana durante el mes de septiembre de este año. Las entradas totales asciendieron á $853,179.99, divididas como sigue: derechos de importación, $731,706.19; derechos de exportación, $91,187.25; derechos de tonelaje extranjero, $11,845.39; derechos de tonelaje de cabotaje, $1,007.76; multas, confiscaciones, etc., $566.64; impuestos especiales para mejoras del puerto, $9,387.05; derechos de inspección de ganado, $3,335.80; almacenaje y carretaje, $1,259.81; capitación, $1,283; horas de suplemento, $1,054.10; derechos consulares, $62.50; otros fuentes, $484.50.

ESTUDIOS TOPOGRÁFICOS DEL LITORAL.

El Gobierno de los Estados Unidos se dispone á hacer dentro de poco tiempo un estudio del litoral de Cuba en la parte sur, desde el Cabo Maisí hasta el Cabo San Antonio, que es la extremidad occidental de la isla. Hay en las aguas de Cuba muchos cayos y bahías que presentan, hasta cierto punto, obstáculos á la navegación, y muchos de éstos no aparecen en los mapas. Por esta razón cree el Departamento de Marina que es necesario que se haga un estudio cuidadoso de las costas de Cuba á fin de preparar cartas hidrográficas que faciliten la navegación á lo largo del litoral de la isla.

ECUADOR.

MENSAJE DEL PRESIDENTE.

El Señor Cónsul General del Ecuador en Nueva York se ha servido remitir á esta Oficina un ejemplar del Mensaje que el Señor Presidente del Ecuador, Don Eloy Alfaro, dirigió, con fecha 23 de agosto próximo pasado, al Congreso Nacional. De este notable documento se han tomado los siguientes párrafos:

"Con gran satisfacción y entusiasmo os felicito por la iniciación de vuestras labores parlamentarias; las que, sin duda alguna, tienen de traducirse en bienes positivos é inapreciables para la República. Os habéis reunido en momentos en que es necesario resolver importantes problemas políticos y económicos; pero la sabiduría y el acendrado patriotismo que os distinguen, son prenda segura de acierto en vuestras arduas y difíciles tareas. Sí, Señores Legisladores, tengo la firme convicción de que el Congreso Nacional, lejos de convertirse en rémora de la Administración, obviará todas las dificultades que se han presentado al Ejecutivo, y contribuirá eficazmente á que el país continúe su marcha triunfal por las sendas del Progreso.

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"Con España hemos celebrado una Convención sobre garantía recíproca de la propiedad literaria y artística; tratado que el Ministro del Ramo os presentará oportunamente, para que os sirváis deliberar sobre su conveniencia y aprobación. También nos ha invitado la Madre Patria á concurrir á un Congreso Social y Económico Hispano-Americano que deberá reunirse en Madrid, en noviembre próximo; invitación que hemos aceptado, teniendo en mira las inmensas ventajas que de ese Congreso pueden reportar los países de origen español.

"Se encuentra ya en vigencia el Pacto sobre cambio de Paquetes Postales, celebrado con Francia y Alemania; y con el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos de Norte América hemos firmado una Convención de reciprocidad comercial, cuya conveniencia la resolveréis vosotros.

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"Congratúlome en anunciaros la próxima reunión de otro Congreso Internacional Americano. Todo lo que tiende á estrechar los lazos de fraternidad, por medio de pactos de general conveniencia para las Naciones hermanas y amigas, ha merecido siempre la preferente atención de nuestro Gobierno; y por lo mismo, el Ecuador concurrirá al futuro Congreso, el que puede llenar muchas de las aspiraciones de la América, como uniformar y dar fuerza al Derecho Público Americano, establecer la unidad de sistema monetario para todo el Nuevo Mundo, dar forma práctica al grandioso proyecto de un Ferrocarril Continental, etc.

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"Nuestro Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario, Señor Don Luis F. Carbo, ante los Gobiernos de Colombia y de los Estados Unidos de Norte América, se ha traslado temporalmente de Bogotá á Wáshington.

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"En obsequio de la Ciencia, el Gobierno francés ha enviado al notable Astrónomo Señor Francisco Gonnessiat, á fin de que se entienda en los trabajos preparatorios de la Misión Científica que deberá cumplir en el Ecuador, la Gran Comisión Internacional, que llegará en los primeros meses del año próximo. Desde luego, hemos puesto nuestro Observatorio Astronómico á disposición del Señor Gonnessiat, mediante un contrato por cuatro años; y nos proponemos ayudar á la Comisión Científica aludida, en todo cuanto esté al alcance del Gobierno.

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"Ha partido con licencia temporal el Excmo. Señor Archival Sampson, Ministro Plenipotenciario y Enviado Extraordinario de los Estados Unidos del Norte, distinguido Diplomático que ha contribuido eficazmente á estrechar las relaciones de amistad entre el Ecuador y la Gran República Americana.

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"La situación anómala por la que viene atravesando el país ha detenido un tanto el movimiento progresivo de las rentas fiscales.

"Los ingresos en el último año económico ascendieron á $7,565,963.99. Á esta suma hay que agregar $59,866.37, existencia en Tesorerías el 1° de enero de 1899, lo que hace subir el ingreso en los libros de la Contabilidad del Ministerio á $7,625,830.36.

"Los egresos se elevaron á $6,662,944.73.

"La diferencia entre las dos partidas anteriores es de $962,885.63, y está representada por $86,794.76, existencia en Tesorerías el 31 de diciembre de 1899, y por el valor de los depósitos hechos en los Bancos de Guayaquil para el servicio del Ferrocarril, Deuda Externa y otras cuentas diversas, conforme á disposiciones legales y contratos anteriores.

"El rendimiento de las Aduanas ha subido á $6,184,632.17; esto es, á $108,105.11 más que en el año anterior.

"El producto de las Aduanillas terrestres de Tulcán y Loja, incluido en el rendimiento total de Aduanas, alcanza á $2,713.85 y á $4,637.50, respectivamente, lo que manifiesta de manera palmaria que aun se verifica el contrabando en grande escala por nuestras fronteras. El único medio de extirpar ese cáncer, que amenaza reducir progresivamente las entradas de las Aduanas Marítimas, es autorizar al Poder Ejecutivo para que establezca Resguardos donde lo estime conveniente, y para que fiscalice el movimiento de mercaderías en los lugares mismos donde se introduzcan para su consumo.

"La contribución general ha producido $198,203.16, en esta forma: la del uno por mil, $119,954.82, y la del uno, dos y tres por mil, $78,248.34. Es notable el aumento en la sección del uno por mil.

"La entrada del ramo de sal es de $247,587.57, rendimiento menor que el del año pasado, debiéndose la diferencia, en parte, á la interrupción del tráfico entre la Costa y la Sierra en los primeros meses del año.

El impuesto de aguardientes ha producido	$337,552.57
El de alcabalas	203,377.52
El de tabaco	39,031.81
La venta de pólvora	41,391.96
La de timbres fijos	111,582.83
La de timbres móviles	23,507.40
La de timbres telegráficos	17,538.00
La de timbres postales	63,244.32

"El total de entradas de estos ramos sube, pues, á $837,226.41, siendo de notarse que se ha obtenido un aumento considerable en las rentas de aguardientes, alcabalas y timbres, en especial, en las de papel sellado; y, al mismo tiempo, que las entradas provenientes de pólvora y tabaco han sufrido disminución.

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"Sírveme de inmensa satisfacción el informaros que la Deuda Externa—que siempre ha pesado angustiosamente en nuestro Presupuesto—ha sido arreglado de manera muy favorable, en mi concepto. Ese arreglo, como es natural, está sujeto á vuestra aprobación, y sin ella quedará sin valor lo pactado y las cosas volverán á su estado primitivo. La importancia de la negociación me autoriza para exponeros ligeramente y en resumen aquellas estipulaciones que, os lo repito, las creo salvadoras del Crédito Nacional.

"La Compañía del Ferrocarril Trasandino declaró en el Contrato que era tenedora y dueña de £660,000 esterlinas en bonos de la deuda externa, y que las £18,000 restantes que aun no estaban en su poder quedarían sin valor alguno si no eran presentadas al Comité respectivo, hasta el 1° de julio próximo pasado. En vista de esta declaración, el Gobierno del Ecuador aceptó la venta de esos bonos, comprándolos al tipo del 35 por ciento, y reduciendo por este modo la deuda externa al mínimum de £233,800, aun en el supuesto de que la Compañía vendedora alcanzase á reunir en sus manos el total de las £678,000.

"Agréguese á esto que la Compañía del Ferrocarril se ha convenido en pagar á la República los $750,000 en oro americano que tenemos en la Empresa Ferrocarrilera en bonos de la deuda externa negociada, al mismo tipo del 35 por ciento. Esta operación reduciría dicha deuda en £154,500, de suerte que las £233,800 se rebajarían á 79,300 condores ecuatorianos. Y, lo que es más, la deuda externa se convertiría en interna, con el 4 por ciento de interés anual y 1 por ciento de

amortización, pudiéndose en consecuencia hacer el servicio de aquel crédito con sólo 3,965 condores, ó sean $39,650 anuales.

"Conforme al arreglo celebrado con la Compañía del Ferrocarril Trasandino, el Gobierno ha remitido á Londres en el año anterior, para atender al servicio de la deuda reducida, la suma de £12,112, lo cual os manifestará desde luego las ventajas del mencionado contrato, pues si hubiéramos tenido que dar cumplimiento al que celebró el Gobierno anterior, dicha remesa habría tenido que pasar de £34,000. La cuota de £6,000, correspondiente al primer semestre de este año, ha sido remitida con oportunidad á Londres, conforme al contrato; y abrigo la confianza de que será la última remesa, si vosotros aprobáis el arreglo de que os vengo hablando.

"Entiendo que en ninguna época ha conseguida el papel de nuestra deuda externa, el alto precio de un 25 por ciento de su valor nominal; en 1898 se cotizaba á menos de 20 por ciento; de manera que en la operación realizada por la Compañía del Ferrocarril los Tenedores de Bonos ecuatorianos han obtenido un pingüe beneficio. El arreglo ha sido, pues, ventajoso para los acreedores y, al mismo tiempo, decoroso para la República, merced á la intervención del Señor Archer Harmann, á cuya previsión y actividad debe la Compañía del Ferrocarril el convenio definitivo con el Comité de Tenedores de Bonos en Londres. Y esto, á pesar de que dicho Comité, al comprender que la Compañía del Ferrocarril tenía necesidad de adquirir ese papel, trató de abusar elevando demasiado su precio, é imponiendo al comprador condiciones por demás duras.

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"El Ministro de Instrucción Pública os hablará de las reformas necesarias para dar vuelo á la educación é ilustración del pueblo, y espero que acogeréis aquellas indicaciones nacidas de la experiencia y del interés por el engrandecimiento de la Nación. Á pesar del sin número de obstáculos con que ha tropezado la Administración Liberal, me es honroso informaros que, hoy por hoy, concurren á las escuelas 64,409 alumnos de uno y otro sexo, y que sólo las escuelas fiscales ascienden á 1,039, algunas de las cuales se hallan hasta en la Región Oriental y en el Archipiélago de Colón. Pero al mismo tiempo debo advertiros que no es posible atender á las necesidades de la instrucción primaria con las exiguas rentas votadas en el presupuesto; y os encarezco que paréis vuestra ilustrada atención en la Memoria del Ramo, en la cual constan todos los detalles que no me es dado apuntar en este Mensaje.

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"Los trabajos del camino de Quito á Chone han continuado con vigor; y la respectiva Junta Administradora, presidida por el Señor Gobernador, Dr. Rafael Gómez de la Torre, ha contratado la apertura de dicha vía con diferentes empresarios y por secciones, en las que se trabajará al mismo tiempo, de modo que se halle expedita

en el curso del presente año. Los gastos han sido de $38,785 en 1899, y de $18,614 en el primer semestre del año actual.

"En el camino de Ibarra al Pailón, trabajan constantemente más de quinientos peones; y la obra se encuentra concluida hasta el punto llamado el Achiotal, cerca del río Lita, donde principia la zona cálida á la costa.

"El puente de acera, contratado con los Sres. SCHMIDT Y ANDA, para el paso del río de Guayllabamba, se encuentra ya en Guayaquil. Ese puente reemplazará con gran ventaja al que fué destruido por las fuertes avenidas de aquel río.

"El camino de Calacalí á la montaña de Nanegal se continúa también trabajando con todo empeño.

"El antiguo puente de piedra de Cusiacú, en la carretera del Sur, destruido por grandes avenidas en el año anterior, ha sido reconstruido sólidamente, á fin de evitar una nueva destrucción.

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"Se activa, en lo posible, la terminación del camino de Pilahuín á Guanujo, el que acortará mucho la distancia entre Cuaranda y Ambato, evitando así el rodeo al Chimborazo.

"En 1898 teníamos 1,940 kilómetros de línea telegráfica; y actualmente su extensión alcanza ya á 2,200 kilómetros, estando en construcción otros ramales.

"En la capital hemos establecido ya el servicio telefónico y extendídolo hasta Ibarra.

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"Los trabajos en el camino de Pelileo á la Región Oriental, han continuado, no obstante las enormes dificultades que ha sido menester obviar. Las contribuciones destinadas para esa obra sólo han producido $34,862.53, de los que se han invertido ya más de $25,000. Es, pues, necesario excogitar los medios de duplicar la renta señalada para esa nueva vía de comunicación, cuya importancia es tan trascendental para el Ecuador.

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"He autorizado que se contrate con el Señor MARTÍN REIMBERG la construcción de un muelle fiscal en Guayaquil; obra cuya urgente necesidad nadie podrá poner en duda. Las condiciones de aquel contrato las veréis en el respectivo documento; y, si merecieren vuestra aprobación, opinaría que elevaséis al 10 por ciento los derechos de muelle, á fin de que, sin desatender al pago del precio de la obra, ingrese á la Tesorería el aumento del 4 por ciento.

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"La Compañía del Ferrocarril Trasandino, denominada oficialmente 'The Guayaquil and Quito Railway Company,' depositó en casa de ROBARTS LUBBOCK Y COMPAÑÍA, agentes financieros del Ecuador en Londres, la cantidad de £295,000 en bonos de la deuda externa que, al

tipo del 35 por ciento, equivalen á la suma de medio millón de pesos, oro, americano, valor ofrecido por los constructores del ferrocarril como garantía del cumplimiento de sus obligaciones.

"En Mensaje especial os daré cuenta detallada de los trabajos de la línea férrea, los que, á pesar de los inconvenientes peculiares á toda empresa de igual magnitud, marchan adelante con paso firme. Sólo os diré por ahora, que abrigo la más entera confianza en la respetabilidad de la compañía constructora; y que, por lo mismo, de modo alguno quedarán fallidas las esperanzas de ver realizada aquella obra que nos abrirá de par en par las puertas de un porvenir próspero y feliz."

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FERROCARRIL DEL SUR.

Dice la "Revista Comercial," de Guayaquil, que las obras del Ferrocarril del Sur han entrado en un período de mayor actividad, pues la compañía ha contratado la construcción con la casa de MacDonald & Co., de Nueva York, la cual ha enviado ya sus representantes al Ecuador. Se sabe que los contratistas cuentan ya con capital considerable para la empresa. La construcción de esa vía férrea es de la mayor importancia para el Ecuador y la "Revista Comercial" califica este trabajo de "obra con justicia llamada redentora para el país."

EL SALVADOR.

DECRETO RELATIVO AL SERVICIO CONSULAR.

El "Diario Oficial," correspondiente al 3 de agosto del año en curso, publica el siguiente decreto, que fué emitido con fecha 16 de julio próximo pasado:

"El Presidente Constitucional de la República del Salvador, Considerando:

"Que varios de nuestros agentes consulares en el extranjero se han dirigido á la Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores, consultando algunas dudas que se presentan en la aplicación del decreto de 3 de abril del corriente año, sobre certificación de facturas consulares, y que es conveniente dictar un reglamento que las aclare y que facilite el cumplimiento de dicha ley; por tanto, decreta:

"Artículo 1°. Conforme á lo dispuesto en el Artículo 3° de la prenotada ley, los bultos contenidos en cada factura podrán llevar la marca ó marcas con que se quiera anotarlos, con tal de que todos ellos tengan el número de orden que á cada uno corresponde, quedando prohibida la repetición de un mismo número en dos ó más bultos de los manifestados en cada factura.

"Art. 2°. Esta prohibición no obsta para que el número de orden que corresponda á cada bulto de los consignados en una misma factura

pueda repetirse en el mismo bulto, en sus empaques, adherencias ó envolturas que resguarden la mercadería contenida en dicho bulto, como en el hierro en cualquiera forma sin empaque, la madera en bruto para construcciones, la maquinaria y demás objetos que vengan descubiertos.

"Pero queda terminantemente prohibido consignar en una misma factura mercaderías pertenecientes á dos ó más personas.

"ART. 3°. Los cónsules certificarán las facturas firmadas por los comerciantes, fabricantes, ó por sus apoderados legales ó reconocidos, cuando les conste que esas firmas son auténticas; y en el caso de que por primera vez dichas personas subscriban una factura consular cualquiera, deberán hacerlo ante el cónsul que ha de certificarla, para que este funcionario tome nota de dicha firma y pueda compararla y reconocerla en lo sucesivo.

"Pero los cónsules se abstendrán de certificar ninguna factura á las personas á que se refiere el inciso 2° del artículo 5° de la prenotada ley.

"ART. 4°. Los cónsules no podrán certificar facturas que no hayan sido despachadas en la plaza ó distrito consular de su jurisdicción, bajo pena de nulidad del certificado.

ART. 5°. Cuando las personas enumeradas en el inciso 1° del artículo 3° de este decreto no quieran dar á conocer al cónsul local el movimiento de sus embarques, podrán ocurrir al Cónsul General respectivo para hacer la declaración jurada á que se refiere el artículo 5° de la ley, en la forma que establece el artículo 3° de este decreto, y entonces el Cónsul General certificará la factura.

ART. 6°. Cada tres meses los cónsules están en la obligación de dar cuenta detallada de los fondos que manejen en la forma que previene el artículo 119 del Reglamento del servicio consular vigente, remitiéndola á la Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores, quien á su vez deberá dirigirla á la Contaduría Mayor de la república.

ART. 7°. Esta oficina revisará y glosará dichas cuentas en los términos que establecen las leyes de Hacienda para los reparos que procedan, los que comunicará inmediatamente al Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, quien los hará saber al cónsul respectivo; y con las explicaciones que éste diere, la Contaduría Mayor dictará la resolución correspondiente.

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

COMERCIO CON LA AMÉRICA LATINA.

IMPORTACIONES Y EXPORTACIONES.

En la página 796 aparece la última relación del comercio entre los Estados Unidos y la América latina, tomada de la compilación hecha por la Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Hacienda de los Estados Unidos. Estos datos se refieren al valor del comercio arriba

mencionado. La estadística corresponde al mes de agosto de 1900, comparada con la del mes correspondiente del año anterior, y también comprende los datos referentes á los ocho meses que terminaron en agosto de 1900 comparados con igual período de 1899. Debe explicarse que las estadísticas de las importaciones y exportaciones de las diversas aduanas referentes á un mes cualquiera no se reciben en el Departamento de Hacienda hasta el 20 del mes siguiente, necesitándose algún tiempo para su compilación é impresión; de suerte que los datos estadísticos correspondientes al mes de agosto, por ejemplo, no se publican hasta octubre.

COMERCIO EXTERIOR EN AGOSTO.

Durante el mes de agosto de 1900 el valor de las mercancías extranjeras importadas en los Estados Unidos fué de $61,692,758, contra $66,643,810 en el mismo mes de 1899. La cantidad recaudada como derechos de aduana fué en agosto de este año de $21,384,495, contra $20,546,697 en el mismo mes de 1899. En la tabla que se pone á continuación aparecen las clases de artículos importados en el mes de agosto en los dos años mencionados:

	1900.	1899.
Artículos de alimentación y animales	$16,157,038	$16,747,093
Materias crudas para industrias nacionales	19,141,141	22,101,068
Materias para industrias nacionales, manufacturadas en toda ó en parte	4,550,935	5,925,227
Artículos manufacturados	12,392,029	12,033,318
Artículos de lujo	9,451,615	9,837,104
Total	61,692,758	66,643,810

El valor total de las exportaciones de productos nacionales en el mes de agosto de 1900 ascendió á $101,500,323, contra $102,875,489 en agosto de 1899. Los efectos extranjeros reexportados en los dos períodos en comparación representaron respectivamente un valor de $1,930,407 y de $1,770,531. Las exportaciones de artículos nacionales fué como sigue:

	1900.	1899.
Productos de—		
La agricultura	$56,182,654	$59,653,924
Las fábricas	35,783,039	34,158,777
Las minas	3,678,218	3,360,882
Los bosques	5,434,356	5,268,629
La pesca	317,465	355,526
Productos misceláneos	104,591	77,751
Total	101,500,323	102,875,489

ACUÑACIÓN DE MONEDA.

En el mes de septiembre de 1900 se acuñaron en las casas de moneda de los Estados Unidos 14,023,648 piezas, con un valor total de $6,440,938.

Hubo un aumento sobre el mismo mes de 1899 de $2,000,000 en cuanto á las piezas de un centavo y de $2,500,000 en cuanto á los pesos de plata. El número de piezas de un centavo fué de 5,430,300 y el de piezas de cinco centavos de 3,222,300. El número total de pesos (dollars) de plata que se acuñó durante el mes fué de $3,500,000. Casi todas las piezas de oro que se acuñaron fueron de $5, en vez de $20 como sucedió en septiembre de 1899.

IMPORTACIONES DE PRODUCTOS AGRÍCOLAS DURANTE CINCO AÑOS.

Mr. Frank H. Hitchcock, Jefe de la Sección de Mercados Extranjeros del Departamento de Agricultura en Wáshington, ha preparado últimamente un boletín en que muestra el valor y la naturaleza de los productos agrícolas importados en los Estados Unidos durante los cincos años económicos que terminaron en 1899. Esta publicación demuestra que el promedio anual de dichos productos en el período mencionado ha representado un promedio de valor de $366,964,708, de lo cual la mayor parte viene de los países tropicales.

El Brasil, que es la fuente principal del café que se consume en los Estados Unidos, envió el 15 por ciento de la importación total de productos agrícolas; viene en segundo lugar la Gran Bretaña con 9.3 por ciento; Cuba figura en el tercer lugar y en azúcar, solamente el promedio que le corresponde fué un 7.5 por ciento del total importado; al Japón y la China le corresponde el 5 y el 6 por ciento, respectivamente, y á las Islas Filipinas el 1.2 por ciento.

Las exportaciones de productos del Brasil á los Estados Unidos fueron de $54,116,397 al año, por término medio. En café solamente exportó $48,700,000. Del Reino Unido se importaron al año 34,131,835 en productos agrícolas; la lana, de la cual se importaron $12,975,000, constituía el producto principal. Cuba resulta haber exportado á razón de $27,407,708 al año, en productos agrícolas á los Estados Unidos; Hawai figura en la lista con $13,616,189 al año. El Canadá es el único país de los que resta por citar que ha exportado á los Estados Unidos más de $10,000,000 anualmente, correspondiéndole como promedio por los cinco años de referencia $10,149,241.

IMPORTACIÓN DE GOMA ELÁSTICA.

Goma elástica por más de $100,000,000 fué importada en los Estados Unidos durante los cuatro años que terminaron el 30 de junio de 1900. Hace apenas diez años la goma elástica que se importaba anualmente en los Estados Unidos representaba un valor de unos $15,000,000, y la cantidad aumenta de continuo. Casi toda la goma elástica importada viene en estado crudo para ser usada en las fábricas y aplicada á los diversos usos á que este valioso artículo se dedica. Una parte de la

goma elástica que viene de Europa á los Estados Unidos está ya refinada hasta cierto punto.

Entre los países que proveen de este producto á los Estados Unidos pueden mencionarse el Brasil, México, Centro América, las Antillas, las colonias holandesas del oriente y el África central. No hay quizá un solo artículo de comercio que haya asumido en los últimos años proporciones tan notables como la goma elástica, y por esta razón es que se trata de cultivar de una manera sistemática los diversos árboles que la producen. En las colonias británicas del África central y meridional se dedica á este cultivo especial atención. El Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos ha comenzado á hacer experimentos á este respecto en las posesiones nuevamente adquiridas, lo cual da á este asunto mayor interés.

El número de libras de goma elástica importada en los Estados Unidos durante el año económico que finalizó el 30 de junio de 1900 fué de 49,377,138, contra 57,063,066 en el año precedente. El precio la libra, por término medio, fué en el primero de estos dos años de 63.1 centavos, y en el segundo de 62.1 centavos.

EXPORTACIONES DE ALGODÓN.

Otra vez ocupa el algodón un lugar prominente entre los artículos que se exportan de los Estados Unidos. En 1898 la exportación de cereales excedió mucho en valor á la del algodón, pero en 1900 este producto ha vuelto á obtener su antigua importancia. Durante los siete meses que terminaron en julio de este año las exportaciones de algodón representaron un valor de $142,576,097, mientras que el valor total de los cereales exportados durante el mismo período fué de $138,304,509.

Los cálculos relativos á la exportación de algodón y sus manufacturas se hacen en el mes de agosto, que es cuando termina el año que se llama del algodón. La Oficina de Estadística del Departmento de Hacienda ha recibido los datos correspondientes al año que terminó en agosto 1900, y ha podido presentar las cifras correspondientes á dicho año y compararlas con las del precedente. De conformidad con dichas cifras la exportación de algodón en rama durante el año que terminó en agosto de 1900, representó un valor mayor que en cualquier año precedente desde 1882, y el promedio de precio por libra fué más alto que lo había sido desde 1893, con la sola excepción de 1896.

El promedio de precio de algodón para la exportación en agosto de 1900 fué 9.7 centavos por libra, contra un promedio de 5.6 centavos por libra en el año 1899, y 5.8 centavos en 1896, y fué más alto que el promedio en cualquier otro año desde 1891.

PRODUCCIÓN DE AZÚCAR EN HAWAI.

El Gobierno de los Estados Unidos ha publicado un informe relativo á la caña de azúcar en las Islas de Hawai. Dicho informe es el resul-

tado de un estudio cuidadoso hecho por agentes especiales que visitaron las islas con el fin de investigar las condiciones de la industria azucarera. Dichas investigaciones incluyeron los puntos siguientes: Aumento probable de la producción de azúcar; máximum de esta producción; costo de producción y condición del trabajo desde el punto de vista social, industrial y de los salarios. En 1897 había sembradas de caña de azúcar sobre una extensión de 53,825 acres, que producían 251,126 toneladas de 2,000 libras cada una. La producción por acre era de 9,331 libras y el promedio de precio por tonelada $80, lo cual demuestra que el valor total de la producción en números redondas era de $20,000,000.

Se necesitan dos años por término medio para obtener en Hawai una cosecha de azúcar, mientras que en el Estado de Luisiana basta un año. La extensión de terreno que puede dedicarse en las Islas de Hawai al cultivo de la caña dulce es como de 125,000 acres. Se calcula que en 1900 la producción ascenderá á 310,000 toneladas, en 1901 á 336,000 y en 1902 á 360,000 toneladas. El año pasado ha sido notable por el aumento que ha habido en el área de terreno dedicada al cultivo en referencia, y se han formado nuevas compañías. Se debe este aumento por una parte á la anexión de las islas á los Estados Unidos, y por otra á la introducción de instrumentos agrícolas de mejor calidad que los que antes se usaban y á mejores métodos en la preparación del azúcar.

Se calcula que el costo de poner una tonelada de azúcar de Hawai en San Francisco de California es diez á doce pesos. Por algunos años se ha estado enviando de las islas, por la vía del cabo de Hornos, considerable cantidad de azúcar á Nueva York.

Por lo que hace al costo de la producción y á las ganancias, se asegura que una plantación produjo 20,000 toneladas de azúcar con un costo de $22.50 por tonelada. Las ganancias fueron tan grandes que el capital social fué elevado á $5,000,000, y está todo pagado. Calculando el precio del azúcar á $69 por tonelada y el costo de la producción á $22.50, esta plantación muestra una ganancia de 9 por ciento sobre el capital invertido.

Los trabajadores empleados en las plantaciones son portugueses, japoneses, chinos y naturales de las islas. Según las leyes de los Estados Unidos que comenzaron á regir el 14 de junio de 1900, no se pueden introducir á Hawai trabajadores chinos, ni es permitido emplear trabajadores que lleguen bajo contrato.

CONDICIÓN DE LA AGRICULTURA.

En el informe mensual de la Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos, se expone la condición de las sementeras tal cual era el 1° de octubre de este año en comparación con los años precedentes.

En cuanto al maíz el promedio era de 78.3, contra 82.7 en el año pre-

cedente. Se calcula que la producción total de este grano será de 1,957,550,000 *bushels*.

Se considera que la producción de la avena por acre va á ser 29.6 *bushels*, lo cual dará una cosecha total de 810,122,000 *bushels*.

La producción de cebada por acre será de 20.4 *bushels*, y la de centeno será por acre 15.1 *bushels*. La condición de trigo sarraceno es de 72.8, contra 70.2 el 1° de octubre de 1899. Se anuncia que hay una reducción en cuanto á la producción de arroz, pero en Luisiana, que es el estado donde este grano se produce en mayor cantidad, la situación es favorable, siendo en la actualidad de 100, ó sean 13 puntos sobre el promedio.

La caña de azúcar se mantiene en Luisiana á la misma altura que en el mes de septiembre, 100.

La condición del algodón el 1° de octubre de este año era de 67, contra 62.4 el 1° de octubre de 1899, y contra 71.6 que fué el promedio medio en octubre durante los últimos diez años.

LA ELECTRICIDAD EN EL CULTIVO DE PIELES.

En la ciudad de Boston, Massachussets, hay una curtiduría que hace gran consumo de corriente eléctrica, no sólo para acelerar el procedimiento químico del curtimiento, sino que también para despojar á los cueros de su pelo y para extraer el tanino de las cortezas y demás cuerpos que la contienen.

Por el procedimiento ordinario la operación de preparar el cuero para que suelte el pelo lleva no menos de dos ó tres semanas, mientras que con el empleo de la electricidad, ó sea el tratamiento electrolítico de la cal y arsénico, esto se consigue en el breve espacio de dos horas.

Después de quitarles el pelo, los cueros se llevan á otra tina que contiene la solución de tanino, cuya fuerza varía de 2 á 18 por ciento, y se les aplica una corriente eléctrica que varía también de 6 á 220 voltas entre los terminales, según la clase de que sea el cuero. La aplicación de la corriente dura unos quince minutos, y su efecto es, según parece, abrir los poros y facilitar la penetración del tanino; de suerte que el procedimiento se acelera mucho. El tiempo que se tarda en curtir de este modo es de unos doce días para los cueros de novillo ó de vaca; de uno y medio á tres días para los cueros de becerro y un día para los de carnero.

El extracto de cortezas y demás substancias que se usan para curtir se preparan echando la corteza triturada y puestas en saco, en un estanque cerrado, en el que hierven durante unos treinta minutos con el calor que produce la corriente eléctrica aplicada al líquido. Por el sistema ordinario esta operación dura cerca de tres semanas.

UN AÑO DE GRAN PROSPERIDAD PARA PENNSYLVANIA.

El informe de la Oficina de Estadística Industrial correspondiente al año de 1899, que está para publicarse, contendrá datos muy notables.

Hubo en el año pasado 16,437 empleados en las industrias más que en 1898. El total de lo que se paga como salarios montó á $78,179,333, contra $62,676,615 en 1898.

El valor total de la producción durante el año pasado fué de $377,934,411, lo cual es un aumento sobre el año precedente de más del 42 por ciento.

El Estado de Pennsylvania produjo en el año pasado 6,542,998 toneladas de hierro en lingotes. La producción total de los Estados Unidos fué de 13,620,703 toneladas, lo cual representa un exceso de más del 46 por ciento sobre la producción de la Gran Bretaña. Estas cifras no pueden menos de llamar la atención cuando se piensa que hace apenas cinco años la Gran Bretaña producía 12 por ciento más de acero en lingotes que los Estados Unidos. La producción de este artículo en Pennsylvania en 1899 excedió á la del año precedente en 1,175,019 toneladas. El valor total de la producción de hierro en lingotes en Pennsylvania durante el año pasado subió á cerca de $100,000,000.

En 1899 Pennsylvania produjo 6,446,159 toneladas de acero, lo cual representa un aumento del 22 por ciento sobre el año precedente. La producción total de acero en los Estados Unidos en 1899 fué de 10,689,857 toneladas, y la de la Gran Bretaña de 5,000,000 de toneladas, aproximadamente. El Estado de Pennsylvania produjo el 60 por ciento de la producción total de los Estados Unidos, y como el 30 por ciento más que la Gran Bretaña. En los últimos cinco años la producción de acero en los Estados Unidos ha aumentado 141 por ciento, mientras que en la Gran Bretaña el aumento ha sido sólo de 55 por ciento. La producción total de hierro y acero en Pennsylvania durante el año pasado montó á 7,093,485 toneladas, con un valor de $233,377,126.

La industria de hojalata ha progresado mucho en Pennsylvania, y en el año pasado produjo 331,082,734 libras.

EXPORTACIONES AL CANADÁ.

El arancel de aduanas del Canadá, calculado para favorecer á la Gran Bretaña, no ha producido el efecto que se esperaba en cuanto á reducir las exportaciones de los Estados Unidos á aquella colonia inglesa. El periódico "Canadian Manufacturer" llama la atención hacia el hecho de que la importación en el Canadá de efectos de los Estados Unidos gravadas con derechos de aduana representó durante el año conómico de 1899 la suma de $44,000,000, mientras que la de la Gran Bretaña no ascendió á $28,000,000. Los Estados Unidos envían al Canadá mayor número de manufacturas de hierro y acero que el Reino Unido.

He aquí como se expresa el citado periódico:

"La mayor parte del tráfico del Canadá es con los Estados Unidos y á pesar de las ventajas que el arancel de aduana canadense ofrece á los fabricantes ingleses, son los industriales americanos los que toman la mejor parte de aquel comercio. Mentira parece que las fábricas

inglesas no puedan competir con las americanas en el mercado canadense."

Conviene recordar que en 1897 el arancel de aduana del Canadá fué arreglado de tal manera que las mercancías que de Inglaterra entraran al Canadá pagaran desde el mes de abril de aquel año 12½ por ciento menos que las procedentes de otros países. En julio de 1898 se hizo otra reducción en favor de la Gran Bretaña, mediante la cual los derechos aduaneros sobre efectos ingleses debían ser 25 por ciento menos que sobre los de otros países.

No hace mucho se anunció que á partir del 1° de julio de este año se rebajarían más los derechos sobre artículos ingleses, pero no es posible decir todavía qué resultado ha producido esto. Es útil, sin embargo, comparar las importaciones en el Canadá de manufacturas de la Gran Bretaña y de los Estados Unidos durante los años de 1898–99 y 1900 á fin de decidir si los industriales ingleses han alcanzado sobre los de los americanos algunas ventajas durante dichos años.

Los cuadros que se verán á continuación ponen de manifiesto la importación en el Canadá de veinte de las principales manufacturas que fueron de la Gran Bretaña en los años que terminaron el 30 de junio de 1898, 1899 y 1900, comparada con el mismo número de artículos de los Estados Unidos en igual período. Esos cuadros demuestran que el aumento en la importación en el Canadá de estose fectos de la Gran Bretaña durante el año económico que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900 sobre el anterior fué de 32 por ciento, en tanto que la importación de los mismos artículos del os Estados Unidos en el mismo período aumentó 37 por ciento.

Merece mención el hecho de que la exportación total de los Estados Unidos á la América inglesa en el año económico que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900 fué la más grande de que hay recuerdo, pues tuvo un valor de $97,041,722, contra $89,570,458 en 1899 y $84,889,819 en 1898.

Cuadro en que se exponen las veinte principales manufacturas importadas en el Canadá de la Gran Bretaña.

Artículos.	1898.	1899.	1900.
Tejidos de estambre	$2,855,054	$2,741,042	$2,824,788
Tejidos de lana	1,103,673	1,527,624	1,811,928
Hojalata en planchas y láminas	1,017,528	856,434	1,520,203
Hilazas de algodón	1,112,709	1,282,388	1,520,088
Efectos de uso personal	1,573,461	1,304,456	1,274,056
Acero sin forjar	293,561	255,904	1,167,642
Alfombras	764,107	879,232	1,150,945
Géneros de algodón estampados en piezas	805,675	897,850	987,201
Licores	708,978	791,996	922,956
Géneros de lino en piezas	634,552	762,936	890,777
Hierro para ferrocarriles	196,223	168,599	830,360
Mercería y efectos de modas	677,382	697,607	765,565
Loza de barro y de porcelana	814,060	752,927	627,016
Hierro para flejes, laminado y para calderas	349,769	423,899	501,983
Aceites de semillas	179,920	351,885	464,807
Géneros de algodón blanqueados	189,432	320,889	445,550
Hierro fundido y forjado	173,310	174,653	370,783
Hierro galvanizado en láminas	304,769	351,388	314,238
Géneros de seda	113,082	186,582	296,060
Cuchillería	32,220	285,411	270,208

Cuadro de las veinte principales manufacturas importadas en el Canadá de los Estados Unidos.

Artículos.	1898.	1899.	1900.
Rieles de acero	$1,555,405	$1,720,503	$2,882,667
Géneros de algodón	2,465,630	2,759,164	2,668,906
Instrumentos de agricultura	781,415	1,521,054	2,006,943
Libros, mapas y grabados	722,049	844,410	1,012,986
Aceites para alumbrado	737,389	762,624	1,012,441
Cuero	878,054	821,530	952,846
Ferretería para constructores	719,326	906,047	818,917
Carruajes	183,233	582,094	544,465
Relojes de pared, de bolsillo, etc	349,198	410,237	433,645
Calzado	285,054	427,023	413,487
Muebles	523,424	439,536	394,328
Bicicletas	614,003	582,500	387,767
Trementina	207,600	230,758	332,069
Aparatos para teléfono, telégrafo é instrumentos científicos	305,016	429,734	276,777
Cobre y sus manufacturas	155,215	146,635	228,356
Máquinas de coser	141,172	163,095	193,920
Abonos	93,470	131,587	155,230
Resina, alquitrán, etc	111,482	132,190	141,637
Aceite de semilla de algodón	115,648	111,517	126,010
Tabaco manufacturado	62,139	82,841	117,280

IMPORTACIONES DE PRODUCTOS AGRÍCOLAS EN CINCO AÑOS.

El Sèñor Frank H. Hitchcock, jefe de la Sección de Mercados Extranjeros del Departamento de Agricultura en Wáshington, ha escrito un folleto exponiendo el carácter y valor de las importaciones de productos agrícolas hechas por los Estados Unidos, durante los años comprendidos entre 1895 y 1899. Entre los informes contenidos en dicho folleto figura el de que el promedio del valor anual de las importaciones citadas, en el período mencionado, fué de $366,964,708. De donde mayor cantidad de productos agrícolas se importaron fué de los países tropicales.

El Brasil, fuente principal de donde los Estados Unidos se surten de café, envió el 15 por ciento del total de las importaciones que se hicieron en el país; luego siguió la Gran Bretaña con el 9.5 por ciento, y Cuba ocupó el tercer lugar, habiendo enviado en azúcar solamente el 7.5 por ciento del total importado de dicho producto. El Japón y la China enviaron un 5 y 6 por ciento, respectivamente, del total de las importaciones; en cambio á las Filipinas sólo le correspondía el 1.2 por ciento.

El promedio anual de las importaciones del Brasil en los Estados Unidos fué de $54,116,397, de cuya cantidad correspondían al café solamente unos $48,700,000. De la Gran Bretaña se recibieron, por término medio, unos $34,131,835 en productos agrícolas; de lana solamente se importaron unos $12,975,000 como término medio.

Las importaciones de productos agrícolas procedentes de Cuba fueron, en el período de referencia, de $27,407,708 al año, como término medio; del Hawai unos $13,616,189, en igual concepto; y de los países restantes, el Canadá fué el único que envió más de $10,000,000 al año, como término medio, correspondiéndole unos $10,149,241.

FABRICACIÓN DE RELOJES DE PARED Y DE BOLSILLO.

Los relojes de pared y de bolsillo que se fabrican en los Estados Unidos son exportados á todas partes del mundo. Son generalmente hechos con máquina y los fabricantes extranjeros no pueden competir con esta clase de trabajo. Calcula uno de los principales fabricantes de estos artículos que en los Estados Unidos se hacen diariamente cerca de 10,000 relojes de pared. La exportación en el año pasado fué la mayor de que se tiene recuerdo y las fábricas no pudieron suplir toda la demanda. La cantidad exportada tuvo un valor de cerca de $1,800,000 y los relojes de pared fueron enviados á todos los países, incluyendo á Suiza que es tan famosa por la fabricación de esta clase de efectos.

Dice el periódico "Manufacturing Jeweler" que hay en Connecticut un establecimiento que fabrica 2 relojes de pared por minuto, ó sean 1,200 al día y 400,000 al año, y que otra fábrica hace 8 relojes de pared y de bolsillo, estos últimos de la clase barata, por minuto ó sean 5,000 al día, lo cual da durante el año un total de 1,500,000 relojes.

Durante diez meses en el año de 1898 se exportaron relojes de pared y de bolsillo á China por valor de $11,000, y al Japón por valor de $170,000. Los japoneses, sin embargo, están aprendiendo el arte de hacer relojes, y así es que en diez meses del año pasado solamente se exportaron á aquel país de los Estados Unidos, relojes por valor de $50,000. Por otra parte la exportación á China ha venido en aumento. Al Brasil se exportaron durante diez meses del año pasado relojes de pared por valor de $30,000. Despertadores hechos de níquel son enviados á las regiones mineras de Alaska y de Hudson Bay, al norte de África y á otras partes.

EL MERCADO DE COBRE.

El mercado de cobre se presenta bajo condiciones favorables y á pesar de que la producción de este metal ha aumentado en todo el mundo, la demanda que de él se hace ha aumentado todavía más. La exportación total de cobre de los Estados Unidos desde el 1° de enero al 1° de septiembre de 1900 fué, en números redondos, de 259,000,000 libras, contra 166,000,000 libras en el mismo período de 1899. La producción del país durante el primer período mencionado fué por término medio de 50,428,000 libras cada mes, contra 46,662,000 libras, mensuales en el segundo período.

LA MANO DE OBRA Y EL TRABAJO MECÁNICO.

La comparación de los resultados obtenidos empleando industrialmente el trabajo del hombre y el de las máquinas en los Estados Unidos, dice el "American Exporter," ha sido ya asunto de numerosos estudios y ensayos por parte de personas hábiles en la materia. La

Dirección del Trabajo en los Estados Unidos ha consagrado su último informe anual á este interesante tópico que es aún objeto de controversia y la conclusión á que arriba es enteramente favorable al empleo, cada vez más general de las maquinarias, desde el triple punto de vista del mejoramiento de salario de los obreros, de la baja de los precios de costo de los productos manufacturados, del aumento de las utilidades y, por consiguiente, del mayor valor de los intereses á distribuir á los capitales empleados.

La indagación norteamericana comprende 678 especies de productos ó de trabajos, y da para cada especie por lo menos dos ejemplos, el uno, para el trabajo á mano, y el otro para el trabajo á máquina y cada ejemplo está minuciosamente analizado, operación por operación, desde los cuatro puntos de vista del número de las operaciones, del número de horas de trabajo y del costo de la mano de obra.

He aquí algunos de los resultados obtenidos:

"1°. Fabricación de 10 arados: á mano, 2 obreros haciendo 11 operaciones distintas y trabajando en total 1,180 horas, pagados $54.46; á máquina, 52 obreros haciendo 97 operaciones y trabajando en total 37 horas 28 minutos, pagados $7.90.

"2°. Cultivo y cosecha de un acre de trigo produciendo 20 fanegas; con el arado ordinario y herramientas de 8 obreros, 5 operaciones, 61 horas 5 minutos, $355; con máquinas, 5 obreros, 60 operaciones, 3 horas 19 minutos, $0.66.

"3°. Fabricación de 400 ejes de carruajes: á mano 2 obreros, 60 operaciones, 466 horas 40 minutos, $56.93; á máquina, 33 obreros, 24 operaciones, 43 horas 25 minutos, $88.20.

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"5°. Fabricación de 20,900 clavos: á mano, 3 obreros, 3 operaciones, 236 horas 25 minutos, $20.34; á máquina, 3 obreros, 20 operaciones, 1 hora 59 minutos, $0.29.

"6°. Transporte de 100 toneladas de mineral de hierro en el vagón: á mano, 1 obrero, 1 operación, 200 horas, $40; á máquina, 10 obreros, 3 operaciones, 2 horas 51 minutos, $0.55."

Habiendo M. Levasseur, miembro del Instituto de Francia, consultado á especialistas franceses sobre ejemplos análogos á los transcriptos de la indagación americana, llegó á obtener resultados de la misma naturaleza, de los que dedujo conclusiones que pueden resumirse aquí:

"1°. El número de los obreros y el número de las operaciones es mayor, y casi siempre mucho mayor, en el trabajo á máquina que en el trabajo á mano. Es una consecuencia de la división del trabajo, división que es una condición esencial del empleo de las máquinas. En el trabajo á mano, el mismo obrero fabrica á veces todo el objeto, pasando de una operación á otra, lo que ocasiona pérdida de tiempo. Un autor, perito en la materia, estima que el tejedor á mano perdería en molestias diversas más ó menos la mitad de su tiempo, mientras que

el tejedor á máquina sólo pierde la decima parte. Además, en el trabajo á mano, la diversidad de las operaciones hechas por el mismo obrero no le permite generalmente hacerse tan hábil como si ejecutase siempre el mismo trabajo. En el trabajo á máquina, por el contrario, el obrero hace constantemente la misma cosa con la herramienta más adaptada á esa cosa, y la hace así más pronto.

"2°. El número total de horas necesarias para ejecutar un trabajo es mucho menor á máquina que á mano, porque los obreros están provistos de una herramienta infinitamente más eficaz, animada de un movimiento mucho más rápido que la mano humana, al propio tiempo que es mucho más fuerte allí donde la fuerza es necesaria, mucho más delicada allí donde la delicadeza se requiere, y que da en muchos casos mejores resultados, ya sea porque estos resultados tengan más precisión ó porque sean más semejantes los unos á los otros. La economía de tiempo es el resultado más notable de la máquina. Los 678 ejemplos de la indagación americana son demasiado distintos por el género de las industrias y por la cantidad y el valor de los productos para que las cifras que arrojan pueden ser comparadas entre sí para deducir de ellas un verdadero término medio. Sin embargo, si se forma el total de horas para los 678 casos citados, se encuentra 730,000 horas en números redondos para el trabajo á mano y 56,600 para el trabajo á máquina, lo que correspondía á trece veces menos horas, más ó menos, en el segundo caso que en el primero; es este un dato aproximativo del tiempo economizado.

"3°. Como consecuencia de la reducción del número total de horas, el gasto total en mano de obra se encuentra muy reducido; la economía de dinero es, pues, muy importante. Sin embargo, la disminución del costo de la mano de obra es, para ciertos casos, proporcionalmente menor que la del tiempo empleado; de donde resulta en tal caso que el término medio de la hora ha sido pagado más caro."

No obstante, este acrecentamiento del salario no se produce necesariamente siempre, y en la indagación americana se llega á ver que la cantidad pagada por mano de obra siendo hoy quince veces y media menor que lo era á mano, el gasto de dinero es quince y media veces menor; de donde resulta que, habiendo sufrido el dinero una reducción mayor que el tiempo, la hora ha sido, ó parece haber sido, pagada menos en término medio. En ciertos oficios, en efecto, ha sido pagada menos cuando, á obreros muy hábiles, ha podido substituirse obreros comunes ó mujeres para vigilar las máquinas ingeniosas y de precisión que hacían todo el trabajo.

Cuando se compara los cambios acaecidos con la introducción de las máquinas en los diversos países de gran industria, se comprueba que esa introducción ha sido ventajosa para el obrero. M. Levasseur, que se ha especializado en el estudio de estas cuestiones, comprueba: 1°, que el precio general de los salarios se ha elevado, salvo algunas excepciones, simultáneamente con la fuerza mecánica; 2°, que la

máquina ha disminuido la fátiga física del trabajador y ha exigido de él un esfuerzo más inteligente; 3°, que si la máquina reemplaza al obrero, aumenta el consumo por la abundancia y la novedad de los productos y ocasiona así una mayor demanda de brazos, hecho que se verifica cada día; 4°, que la máquina, al procurar un salario á las mujeres y á los niños, ha suprimido numerosas miserias; 5°, que la máquina, que tiene por corolario la gran industria, ha hecho á veces más notable la falta de trabajo, pero no lo ha agravado y parece en muchos casos haber reducido su duración.

EXPORTACIÓN DE CALZADO.

Las estadísticas oficiales relativas á la exportación de calzado de los Estados Unidos á países extranjeros muestran que el valor de ese tráfico subió de $1,688,649 en 1897 á $3,668,435 en 1899. El Cónsul de los Estados Unidos en Léipsic dirigió hace poco una comunicación al Departamento de Estado en la que habla de la creciente demanda de calzado americano en Alemania. Dice este funcionario que se pueden vender en Alemania grandes cantidades de calzado barato y recomienda que se establezcan alamacenes de este artículo en Hamburgo, Bremen, Berlín, Dresden, Léipzic y Munich. Alemania no es uno de los países que han consumido grandes cantidades de calzado de los Estados Unidos, y las exportaciones el año pasado para aquella parte de Europa tuvo un valor de $100,000, ó sea menos de la tercera parte de lo que se envió á México.

El mejor mercado que existe en la actualidad para el calzado americano es Australia, á cuyo país se envía dicho artículo por valor de $750,000 cada año. Inglaterra compró en 1899 calzado americano por valor de $700,000, Las Antillas por valor de $600,000, y el Canadá por valor de $400,000. Se ha observado generalmente que con la sustitución del trabajo mecánico á la mano de obra y con las economías introducidas en el procedimiento de la curtiduría el precio del calzado se ha venido reduciendo cada día en los Estados Unidos, y ningún país puede competir con éste en dicho tráfico.

Hace algún tiempo la venta de calzado americano estaba casi exclusivamente limitada á los países donde se habla el idioma inglés, ó donde las principales casas de comercio eran inglesas ó norteamericanas, pero estas condiciones han variado notablemente.

En el año pasado se exportó al Asia calzado de los Estados Unidos por valor de $200,000 y al África por valor de $150,000. Es digno de notar el hecho de que el calzado americano, una vez introducido en un mercado cualquiera, conserva siempre su buena reputación.

DESARROLLO INDUSTRIAL.

La actividad con que han venido desarrollándose las industrias americanos se demuestra con los datos relativos á la importación de materias

primas para las manufacturas y á la exportación de efectos manufacturados que acaban de ser publicados por la Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Hacienda. Durante los ocho meses que terminaron en agosto de este año la importación de materias primas para uso en las manufacturas ascendió en números redondos á $200,000,000, contra algo más de $100,000,000 en los meses correspondientes de 1896, y la exportación de objetos manufacturados representó un valor de $304,000,000, contra $163,000,000 en los mismos meses de 1896. Se ve, pues, que tanto en la importación de materias primas para uso en las manufacturas como en la exportación de artículos manufacturados las cifras correspondientes é este año son casi el doble de las del año pasado.

Las importaciones totales durante los ocho meses que acaban de terminar excedieron en $93,000,000 á las importaciones en los mismos meses de 1896. Las materias primas para uso en las manufacturas representaron en ocho meses del año de 1896 solamente 23½ por ciento de la importación total, mientras que en el mismo período de 1900 representaron 35.2 por ciento. Los artículos manufacturados representaron en 1896 28.7 por ciento de la exportación total durante ocho meses, y en el mismo período de 1900 representaron 33.8 por ciento.

En la tabla comparativa que se pone á continuación se verán las principales clases de materias primas para manufacturas importadas en el término de ocho meses en los años de 1896 y 1900, respectivamente:

	1896.	1900.
Cueros y pieles	$13,176,281	$36,961,011
Productos químicos y drogas	31,242,599	35,583,840
Seda en rama	8,732,863	24,615,716
Goma elástica cruda	9,346,858	19,938,630
Fibras	8,932,806	19,771,035
Lana	15,555,557	15,809,909
Estaño en barras	3,524,883	13,126,739
Tabaco en rama	8,458,961	9,780,411
Algodón en rama	4,552,252	5,307,976
Pieles finas	1,989,115	4,767,077
Madera	10,942,967	9,439,192

Las principales exportaciones de artículos manufacturados durante los ocho meses que terminaron en agosto de 1896 y 1900, respectivamente, se ven en la siguiente tabla:

	1896.	1900.
Hierro y acero	$29,957,090	$87,174,389
Aceites minerales refinados	37,328,246	45,635,660
Cobre y sus manufacturas	17,872,807	41,830,330
Cuero y sus manufacturas	12,635,353	17,697,762
Efectos de algodón	10,782,956	15,263,167
Instrumentos de agricultura	4,007,772	13,854,774
Productos químicos	5,889,797	9,188,129
Efectos de madera	5,037,265	7,899,857
Instrumentos científicos	1,762,855	4,171,561
Papel y sus manufacturas	1,861,868	4,503,766
Tabaco manufacturado	3,037,251	4,033,145
Bicicletas	2,449,260	2,517,717

YACIMIENTOS DE ORO EN EL CABO NOME.

El Dr. CABELL WHITEHEAD, ensayador de la Casa de Moneda de los Estados Unidos, que fué enviado al Cabo Nome en el mes de junio, con el objeto de hacer investigaciones relativas á los placeres de oro, ha enviado un informe preliminar á Mr. GEORGE E. ROBERTS, Director de la Casa de Moneda. Dr. WHITEHEAD confirma la noticia que antes se había dado, de que en la costa estaba ya agotado el oro, pero dice que los arroyos arrastran considerable cantidad de este metal, y que la producción en este año excede de $1,500,000, siendo posible que antes de que termine la estación ascienda á $2,000,000. El Dr. WHITEHEAD termina su informe con estas palabras: "Á mi juicio el porvenir de este distrito es todavía dudoso, siendo, sin embargo, probable que dentro de dos años se convierta en gran productor de oro, pero la producción se deberá más bien á las minas que á los placeres, como sucede en Klondike."

ENTRADAS DE ORO.

Las entradas de oro en la Casa de Moneda de San Francisco y en la Oficina Ensayadora de Seattle, desde el 1° de junio al 30 de septiembre de este año, ascendieron á $33,234,810. En esta cantidad está incluida, además de la producción de los Estados Unidos propiamente hablando, lo que vino de Alaska y de Australia. La producción de Klondike fué de $16,047,655 y la del distrito de Nome de $2,311,801. Dice el Director de la Casa de Moneda de los Estados Unidos que las entradas de oro procedentes de Alaska han sido superiores á cuanto se había visto antes.

VALOR DE LAS MONEDAS LATINO-AMERICANAS.

El Director de la Casa de Moneda de los Estados Unidos ha preparado, de conformidad con el artículo 25 de la ley del 28 de agosto de 1894, una tabla, aprobada por el Secretario de Hacienda, en la que se muestra el valor de las principales monedas del mundo en relación con el oro americano. Según dice el Director de la Casa de Moneda, las monedas de plata de los países que mantienen este metal como base de su sistema monetario, no tienen más valor que el de la plata que contienen, de conformidad con el precio del mercado.

Según este cálculo, el valor del boliviano de Bolivia, del peso de Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Salvador y Colombia y del sucre del Ecuador, ha aumentado de 43.8 á 45.1 centavos desde el 1° de julio de 1900, y el duro de plata de México vale ahora 49 centavos en vez de 47.6. El Perú ha entrado á figurar entre las naciones que tienen el oro como base de su sistema monetario. El sol peruano de plata vale 48.7 centavos, y la nueva moneda de oro, la libra, tiene un valor de $4.8665. El valor de las monedas del Brasil, Costa Rica, Chile, Cuba,

Haití y Uruguay, que son países donde existe el patrón de oro, permanece sin alteración alguna.

PRODUCCIÓN DE ACERO.

Un periódico inglés, el "Commercial Intelligencer," dice que la mejor prueba que se puede dar de lo que ha aumentado en los Estados Unidos la producción de acero, es el hecho de que la "Carnegie Company" fabricó el año pasado la décima parte de todo el acero del mundo. Fué la producción del mundo entero de 26,841,755 toneladas, á la cual contribuyó Alemania con 6,290,434 toneladas, la Gran Bretaña con 4,933,010 toneladas, y los Estados Unidos con 10,702,202 toneladas. La "Carnegie Company" fabricó 2,600,000 toneladas, ó sea más de 25 por ciento de la producción total de los Estados Unidos. Se espera, sin embargo, que las fundiciones de dicha compañía producirán en este año 3,400,000 toneladas de acero, lo cual representará el 13 por ciento de la producción total del mundo.

RENTA DE CORREOS.

El informe de la Administración General de Correos últimamente publicado muestra que las entradas de dicho ramo en el año económico que terminó el 30 junio de 1900, montaron á $102,354,579.29 y los gastos á $107,249,298.13, lo cual muestra un exceso en los gastos sobre las entradas de $4,894,718.84. El déficit en el servicio postal del país durante el último año económico es como de $1,500,000 menos que en el año económico anterior.

El valor total de las transacciones postales que se afectuaron durante el último año económico incluyendo los giros postales, á los cuales se hace referencia en otra parte del BOLETÍN MENSUAL de este mes, fué de $714,394,191.22. Comparada esta cantidad con el valor de las mismas transacciones hace cuatro años, se ve que ha habido un aumento de $108,000,000.

AUMENTO EN LA EXPORTACIÓN DE MANUFACTURAS.

En 1860 el valor de los artículos manufacturados en los Estados Unidos que fueron exportados á países extranjeros fué por término medio $3,362,000 cada mes; en 1870 el promedio mensual de esta exportación ascendió á $5,690,000, y en 1880 subió á $8,571,000. En la siguiente década dicho promedio se elevó á $12,592,000, y en 1899 alcanzó á la enorme suma de $28,225,000. Estas cifras muestran un aumento en el promedio mensual en el año económico de 1870 sobre el de 1860, de 69 por ciento, en el de 1880 sobre el de 1870, de 51 por ciento, y en el de 1890 sobre el de 1880, de 47 por ciento. En el año económico que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900 el aumento sobre el año precedente fué de 186 por ciento.

GIROS POSTALES.

El aumento en giros postales durante el último año económico fué enorme, comparado con el año precedente. Se emitieron durante el año económico que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900, giros postales en número de 33,163,050. Las transacciones que se efectuaron por medio de giros postales representaron un valor total de $504,790,313. En 1899 dichas transacciones ascendieron solamente á $442,483,364, por lo cual se ve que hubo un aumento en un año de $62,306,949, ó sea más de 14 por ciento.

ORGANIZACIÓN COMERCIAL.

La "New Orleans Progressive Union" es una asociación comercial que tiene por objeto dar incremento al tráfico entre el puerto de Nueva Orleans y los países de la América latina. Dicha sociedad consta de unos 1,000 miembros y ha sido constituída de conformidad con las leyes del Estado de Luisiana. La ciudad de Nueva Orleans comprende la importancia que para ella tiene el comercio con los países latino-americanos. La exportación por aquel puerto es ya muy considerable, y dicha ciudad es el primer mercado de azúcar y de algodón del mundo entero.

La situación geográfica de Nueva Orleans le ofrece grandes ventajas para el tráfico con la América latina, y sus almacenes presentan una inmensa variedad de artículos, todos adaptables á dicho tráfico, como por ejemplo: maquinaria, materiales de construcción, ferretería, efectos de cuero, drogas, telas de todas clases, provisiones, calzado, etc.

La "New Orleans Progressive Union" ha publicado una circular con el objeto de hacer que se comprendan las ventajas especiales que el mercado de Nueva Orleans ofrece á los países de la América latina.

CONSTRUCCIÓN DE VAPORES VENTUREROS.

Según dice el "Boston Dispatch," una casa de comercio muy conocida de aquella ciudad ha logrado formar una compañía con el objeto de construir dos grandes vapores que tendrán un porte de 11,200 toneladas cada uno. Se dice que estos barcos van á ser construidos por la "Maryland Steel Company," y que los dos juntos costarán $1,200,000. Serán estos vapores lo que en inglés se llaman *tramp steamers*, esto es, buques que no pertenecen á ninguna línea de navegación especial, sino que van á cualquier puerto donde pueden conseguir carga. El *tramp steamer* es muy conocido en todos los mares y la mayor parte de ellos lleva la bandera inglesa. Grandes cantidades de capital británico hay invertida en esta empresa, que se considera muy lucrativa. Estos vapores no llevan pasajeros y están provistos de todos los aparatos necesarios para cargar y descargar.

Si la construcción de los dos barcos en referencia da buenos resul-

tados, es endudable que en lo futuro se construirá mayor número de ellos, lo cual servirá para que el comercio de los Estados Unidos no siga dependiendo como ahora de la marina mercante europea.

CARBÓN PARA LA ARMADA INGLESA.

Un despacho de Halifax, Nueva Escocia, fechado á 24 de septiembre de este año, anuncia que, debido á la escaséz de carbón en Inglaterra y en el Canadá, el almirantazgo inglés ha pedido carbón á los Estados Unidos. Varios millares de toneladas serán enviadas á Halifax á fin de ser almancendas en los arsenales de aquel lugar. Á la fecha del mencionado despacho, un vapor con un cargamento de 1,750 toneladas de carbón había salido de Norfolk, siendo esta la primera vez que de este país se ha enviado dicho combustible á Halifax para uso en la armada británica.

LA ELECTRICIDAD EN LA EXPOSICIÓN PAN-AMERICANA.

Se cree generalmente que la exhibición eléctrica en la Exposición Pan-Americana de Búfalo en 1901 sobrepujerá á cuanto se ha visto hasta el día. Para las iluminaciones que se tienen en perspectiva se dispondrá de la inmensa fuerza del Niagara. Se ha propuesto que entre otras cosas se exhiba un sol artificial que consistirá en una gran plancha de carbono calentada hasta la incandescencia por medio de una corriente eléctrica de 5,000 á 10,000 caballos de fuerza. Este aparato rivalizará realmente con el sol en cuanto á su poder de iluminación en su inmediata vecindad.

EXPORTACIÓN DE EFECTOS DE MADERA.

Los Estados Unidos proveen á una gran parte del mundo con efectos de madera que se exportan en la actualidad en cantidades mucho mayores que en años pasados. Se encuentra en los Estados Unidos en mayor abundancia que en otros países la materia prima que sirve para la fabricación de dichos efectos, y la maquinaria que se emplea para hacerlos es tan perfecta que ha reducido mucho el costo de los mismos. Es cierto que en el Canadá existe también gran cantidad de madera y que se hacen y exportan efectos de la misma, pero no tiene aquel país la excelente maquinaria de que se dispone en los Estados Unidos, ni las facilidades comerciales con que aquí se cuenta.

Los efectos de madera de los Estados Unidos se exportan á Inglaterra, Alemania, Rusia y á otros países de la Europa continental. Se envían también á las Antillas, la América del Sur, China, Australia, India y el Africa del sur, y en fin á casi todas las partes del mundo civilizado. En esta exportación están incluidos muchos objetos de uso doméstico, así como artículos para escuelas, etc.

INDUSTRIA DE MIEL DE ABEJAS Y DE CERA.

Calcula el Profesor LELAND O. HOWARD, del Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos, que más de 100,000 personas se dedican á esta industria en el país, y se espera que el censo que se está levantando en la actualidad demostrará que dicha industria ha llegado á un alto grado de desarrollo. Hay 110 sociedades que se ocupan en la cría de abejas. Ocho periódicos de gran circulación se dedican también á la industria de miel y de cera, y quince grandes fábricas á vapor y un número considerable de otras menores se ocupan en preparar artículos de varias clases para la conservación de la miel y la preparación de la cera. Opina el Profesor HOWARD que el censo demostrará que el valor anual de los productos de las abejas asciende á más de $20,000,000. Mr. BENTON, del Departamento de Agricultura, perito en esta materia, dice que los Estados Unidos podrían mantener diez veces más colmenares que los que tienen en la actualidad y hacer que la industria de miel y cera produjera $200,000,000 al año, dando empleo á 3,000,000 de personas.

UN DESCUBRIMIENTO IMPORTANTE.

Un inviduo que reside en el Estado de Texas, ha recibido últimamente una patente de privilegio de invención por un aparato conocido con el nombre de "cactus burner." El objeto de esta invención es destruir las espinas del cacto á fin de hacerlo más útil como alimento para el ganado. Se usa en dicho aparato la gasolina ú otro combustible volátil. El periódico "Scientific American" da una descripción del mencionado aparato. El inventor sostiene que todas las espinas del cacto son completamente destruidas, de tal manera que el ganado lo come con avidez.

PESCA DE FOCAS.

Durante la estación de 1900 se cogieron más focas en el océano artico que en cualquiera de los tres años precedentes. El Departamento de Hacienda de los Estados Unidos ha recibido un informe telegráfico de su agente en el distrito donde se verifica la pesca de focas, manifestando que durante la estación, que terminó el 31 de agosto de 1900, se cogieron 21,944 focas. La cantidad total correspondiente á 1899 fué de 16,812, contra 18,047 en 1898. El Gobierno ha limitado el número de focas que pueden ser tomadas en un solo año á 30,000, pero los pescadores no han podido coger este número en ningún año desde que se emitió la orden en referencia.

Los agentes del Departamento de Hacienda se ocupan actualmente en hacer un examen de los parajes donde habitan las focas, con el objeto de obtener informes fidedignos sobre los cuales se puedan basar los cálculos relativos á la condición de dichos animales.

VALOR DE LOS TERRENOS NACIONALES.

La Oficina General de Terrenos (General Land Office) ha publicado un informe en el que dice que la extensión total de los Estados Unidos es de 2,270,567,440 acres, de los cuales todavía pertenecen al Gobierno 929,308,068, lo que, es más de la tercera parte de la área total del país. La mayor parte de dichos terrenos está en Alaska, donde existen como 359,492,760 acres. En los Estados Unidos, propiamente hablando, hay terrenos nacionales en 22 Estados y 3 Territorios. El Estado de Montana contiene 69,073,491 acres, y el de Mississippi solamente 285,730.

La Oficina General de Terrenos calcula que las nuevas posesiones de los Estados Unidos tienen la siguiente extensión: Islas Filipinas 91,250,900 acres; Islas de Hawai 4,313,600 acres; Puerto Rico 2,304,000; Guam 32,000; total 97,900,500 acres.

LA INDUSTRIA DE OSTRAS.

La estación de las ostras comienza en los Estados Unidos el 1° de septiembre, y son dignos de notar algunos datos relacionades con ella. Según el último informe de la Comisión de Pesquería de los Estados Unidos, se consumen anualmente en este país 23,000,000 de *bushels* de ostras. La bahía de Chesapeake produce por sí sola más del doble de lo que producen todos los países del mundo juntos. En el espacio de un siglo se han sacado de esa bahía 400,000,000 de *bushels* de ostras que produjeron $250,000,000. El referido informe dice que la parte de la bahía de Chesapeake aparente para la cría de ostras es como de 1,000 millas cuadradas las cuales podrían producir anualmente $100 por acre. El brazo de mar conocido con el nombre de Long Island Sound, es otro paraje donde se hace en gran escala la cría de ostras.

DEPÓSITOS EN LOS BANCOS NACIONALES.

El periódico "New York Financier" ha publicado un cuadro en que se ponen de manifiesto los depósitos en los bancos nacionales de los Estados Unidos, que pasaban de $5,000,000 el 5 de septiembre de este año. Según dicho cuadro, hay en el país 113 bancos cuyos depósitos exceden de la suma mencionada. De estos bancos, 32 están en Nueva York, 12 en Chicago, 10 en Filadelfia y 10 en Boston. Á la cabeza de todos figura el "National State Bank of New York" con un depósito de $159,000,000. Hay diez bancos cuyos depósitos han aumentado desde 1896 en más de $20,000,000.

AUMENTO EN EL TRÁFICO DE PUERTO RICO.

Durante los cuatro meses que ha estado en vigencia el arancel de aduana que el Congreso de los Estados Unidos decretó para Puerto Rico, aquella isla ha enviado á los Estados Unidos productos por valor de $3,250,000, contra $1,984,000 en los meses correspondientes de 1899.

En los primeros cuatro meses mencionados Puerto Rico compró en los Estados Unidos mercancías por valor de $2,525,000, contra $1,132,000 en los otros cuatro meses de 1899. Cada mes muestra un aumento en el tráfico de Puerto Rico desde que se puso en vigor el citado arancel. Las importaciones totales en la isla durante los cuatro meses en que ha estado en vigor la nueva tarifa indican un aumento de 63 por ciento sobre el período correspondiente de 1899. Las exportaciones de los Estados Unidos á Puerto Rico han aumentado en 123 por ciento.

DESARROLLO DE LA ELECTRICIDAD EN PUERTO RICO.

Se abrigan grandes esperanzas en Puerto Rico con relación al establecimiento de cortas líneas de ferrocarril eléctrico del interior á la costa, y ya se han preparado los planos para estos trabajos. La fuerza motriz se desarrollará por medio de las muchas corrientes de agua que atraviesan la isla de un punto á otro. Si se consigue todo lo que se espera, habrá mucha demanda en Puerto Rico de aparatos y material eléctricos. El único ferrocarril que existe en la isla tiene 9 millas de largo.

INMIGRACIÓN POR EL PUERTO DE NUEVA YORK.

El Comisionado de la Inmigración en el puerto de Nueva York ha presentado su informe para el año que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900. En dicho informe el Comisionado recomienda que se emitan leyes para impedir que entren al país inmigrantes que no son en manera alguna aceptables.

Según los datos estadísticos contenidos en el informe, el número de personas que desembarcó en Nueva York durante el año mencionado fué de 500,602. De éstos 99,790 fueron ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos que regresaban á su país, y 400,842 extranjeros.

Es digno de notar el hecho de que la inmigración de los países meridionales de Europa continúa en aumento, mientras que disminuye la de las naciones europeas del norte.

EL TÚNEL DEL GRAN FERROCARRIL DEL NORTE.

Después de cuatro años de constante trabajo en el túnel del Great Northern Railway (Gran Ferrocarril del Norte), en el estado de Wáshington, la obra de perforación está terminada. Tiene este túnel dos millas y media de largo. Se dió principio al trabajo en el mes de enero de 1897, y desde aquella época ha habido 800 hombres empleados en dicho trabajo, que ha sido hecho principalmente por medio de máquinas. El túnel mide 23 pies de alto y 16 de ancho. Estará alumbrado con luz eléctrica, y se empleará la electricidad como fuerza motriz para los trenes que pasen por el túnel. Ha costado esta obra como $5,000,000, y es considerada uno de los grandes trabajos de ingeniería de los tiempos modernos.

DESCUBRIMIENTO DE UN NUEVO METAL.

El periódico "Standard," que se publica en New Bedford, Massachusetts, dice que Mr. J. S. Howard, de aquella ciudad, pretende haber descubierto un nuevo y valioso metal, después de muchos años de experimentos. Asegura Mr. Howard que este metal es más ligero, más fuerte y más blanco que el aluminio, que no es afectado por los ácidos, que no se enmohece y que puede ser soldado con facilidad. Mezclado con el hierro da á éste mayor consistencia, y otro tanto sucede con el acero. El costo de dicho metal no es mayor que el del aluminio, y puede usarse para electroplatear lo mismo que la plata y el níquel. Cuando se le mezcla con el cobre resulta una aleación color de oro que puede someterse á prueba por medio de ácidos. Agrega el "Standard" que éste metal, al cual no se ha dado todavía ningún nombre, aparecerá pronto en el mercado en forma de láminas, alambres y lingotes.

CARROS DE ACERO PARA ESPAÑA.

El primer pedido de carros de acero para España fué recibido por la "Pressed Steel Car Company," de Pittsburg, en el mes de septiembre. Dichos carros serán semejantes á los que se usan en los Estados Unidos y tendrán una capacidad de 80,000 libras. El número de carros pedidos es de 70, y están destinados al servicio de los ferrocarriles del sur de España. Esto viene á comprobar lo que tantas veces se ha dicho relativamente á la exportación á Europa de material para ferrocarriles, exportación que incluye locomotoras, rieles y toda clase de carros.

EXHIBICIÓN DE GANADO EN LA EXPOSICIÓN DE BÚFALO.

Mr. Frank H. Converse, Superintendente de la sección de ganado, lechería y productos agrícolas en la Exposición Panamericana ha hecho distribuir el reglamento que debe observarse en la exhibición de animales en Búfalo. Se darán premios en dinero y se hará todo lo posible en favor de los expositores. Habrá edificios aparentes para el ganado y toda el agua que se necesite. El Departamento de Agricultura ha dispuesto que se admita ganado del Canadá para ser exhibido en la Exposición Panamericana, sin la necesidad de someterlo á examen, con tal que se presente un certificado de un veterinario canadense en que se declare que dicho ganado está libre de toda enfermedad contagiosa ó infecciosa.

DRAGA DE INMENSAS PROPORCIONES.

Una de las dragas que está construyendo la "Maryland Steel Company" para la "Metropolitan Dredging Company," de Nueva York, fué botada al agua hace pocos días en Sparrows Point. Esta draga es la más grande que existe en este país y va á ser empleada en la bahía de Nueva York, para lo cual sus dueños han celebrado un contrato con

el Gobierno. Mide la draga 300 pies de largos y tiene máquinas de vapor de triple expansión. En una hora puede extraer 28,000 pies cúbicos de arena.

AUMENTO DE POBLACIÓN EN LAS CIUDADES QUE ESTÁN SOBRE LOS LAGOS.

Uno de los hechos más interesantes que ofrece el censo es el notable crecimiento de las ciudades que están sobre los grandes lagos. El aumento en la población de Milwaukee ha sido de 39.54 por ciento durante la última década; el de Cleveland de 46.07 por ciento; el de Chicago de 54.44 por ciento; el de Toledo de 61.88 por ciento; y el de Búfalo de 37.77 por ciento. Esto prueba que ha sido enorme el desarrollo industrial y comercial de dichas ciudades, y que los grandes lagos son factores muy importantes en el progreso de la nación.

MUSEO COMERCIAL DEL PACIFICO.

Esta institución, últimamente establecida en San Francisco de California, es una copia del Museo Comercial de Filadelfia. Los principales empleados de dicha institución son IRVING M. SCOTT, Presidente de la misma, EUGENE GOODWIN, Secretario, y ISAAC UPHAM, Tesorero. Cuenta el Museo Comercial del Pacífico con suficientes fondos, y pronto comenzará á formar una colección de productos de la costa del Pacífico con el objeto de establecer una exposición permanente en San Francisco.

RIELES DE ACERO PARA LA INDIA.

Dice el "Public Ledger," de Filadelfia, que la "Pennsylvania Steel Company" ha celebrado un gran contrato para rieles de acero, el cual fué puesto primero á fabricantes ingleses. Dichos rieles son para la "East Indian Railway Company," que está construyendo muchas millas de ferrocarriles. El contrato es por 6,000 toneladas que se pagarán á razón de $26 por tonelada. Los rieles se han hecho en Steelton y se comenzará á entregarlos en este mes. La "Pennsylvania Steel Company" va á suministrar también 2,000 tonelades de rieles para los tranvías de Habana.

BOSQUES NACIONALES EN LAS ISLAS FILIPINAS.

Por recomendación del Departamento de la Guerra, el Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos va á emitir una orden estableciendo bosques nacionales en dos de las islas Filipinas. Los oficiales del ejército americano que han visitado dichas islas aseguran que abundan en ellas los árboles que producen la goma elástica, y es con el objeto de cultivar éstos que se va á dar la disposición en referencia.

DESCUBRIMIENTO DE ANTRACITA.

Se anuncia que se han descubierto vastos depósitos de antracita en el estado de Wáshington. Mr. J. N. DENNETT y el Profesor BUR-

CHELL, hombres peritos en la materia, calculan que no hay menos de 25,000,000 de toneladas de carbón en dichas yacimientos. Las muestras que de este mineral se han exhibido son muy parecidas al carbón de Pennsylvania, aunque el de Wáshington es algo más ligero.

CIRCULACIÓN DE MONEDA.

La cantidad total de moneda en circulación en los Estados Unidos era el 1° de julio de este año, de $2,062,425,496, ó sean $26.50 por habitante. Esto muestra un aumento de $129,941,257 sobre el 1° de julio de 1899, y de $552,700,296 sobre la misma fecha de 1896.

EXPORTACIÓN DE RIELES DE ACERO.

Por la primera vez en la historia, los Estados Unidos han sobrepujado á la Gran Bretaña en la exportación de rieles de acero. La cantidad de rieles exportada de los Estados Unidos durante los primeros ocho meses del presente año ascendió á 256,276 toneladas. En el mismo período la exportación del mismo artículo de la Gran Bretaña fué de 247,504 toneladas. La exportación en el mes de agosto de este año fué en los Estados Unidos de 33,968 toneladas, y no cabe duda que va en notable aumento la exportación de este país á Europa y á otras partes del mundo de rieles de acero para ferrocarriles.

IMPORTACIÓN DE CAFÉ EN NUEVA ORLEANS.

La ciudad de Nueva Orleans va recobrando más y más cada día su antiguo puesto como uno de los primeros puertos para la importación de café en los Estados Unidos. Se asegura que durante el mes corriente llegarán á dicho puerto 141,000 sacos de café que fueron embarcados en Río Janeiro y en Santos.

COMPRAS DEL GOBIERNO INGLÉS EN NUEVA ORLEANS.

Desde el mes de agosto de 1899 hasta el mes de octubre de 1900, el Gobierno británico ha mantenido una agencia en la ciudad de Nueva Orleans, por medio de la cual compró 15,000 caballos, 42,000 mulas y gran cantidad de forraje y otros efectos, todo con destino á Cape Town en África. La cantidad de dinero invertido por el Gobierno inglés en Nueva Orleans fué de cerca de $10,000,000.

AUMENTO DEL COMERCIO CON LAS FILIPINAS.

Desde que las Islas Filipinas pasaron al dominio de los Estados Unidos, su comercio con este país viene creciendo rápidamente, como se ve por el informe publicado con fecha 6 de octubre por el Departamento de la Guerra, en el cual se muestra que el producto de las rentas públicas durante los primeros siete meses de 1900, fué mucho mayor que en el mismo período del año anterior. El aumento fué más de

$1,000,000, pues de $3,626,745 á que ascendieron dichas rentas durante los siete meses que terminaron el 31 de julio de 1899, se elevaron á $4,782,030 en los siete primeros meses de 1900. El principal aumento se verificó en las entradas de aduana que crecen con rapidez y que por término medio exceden cada mes á las del año pasado en $300,000.

DONACIÓN DE OBJETOS EXHIBIDOS EN PARÍS.

Los comisionados de California en la Exposición de París han resuelto presentar los objetos que han exhibido en aquel gran certamen á personas distinguidas de Francia, á museos, hospitales y escuelas de París. Una hermosa mesa de palo rojo de ocho pies de diámetro, hecha de un árbol de California, y que llamó mucho la atención, fué presentada al President Loubet. Muchas muestras de maderas que obtuvieron grandes premios han sido dadas á un museo de Vincennes. Presentes parecidos se han hecho también á otros museos. El gran hospital de la ciudad de París, el Hotel Dieu, recibió vinos, frutas y artículos alimenticios de California.

POBLACIÓN DEL DISTRITO DE COLOMBIA.

Según el informe dada por la Oficina del Censo, la población del Distrito de Colombia, donde está situada la ciudad de Washington, capital de los Estados Unidos, es de 278,718, contra 230,392 en 1890. El aumento en diez años fué de 48,326, ó sea 20.9 por ciento.

LA DEUDA PÚBLICA.

Durante el mes de septiembre de 1900 la deuda pública de los Estados Unidos disminuyó en $6,112,435. La deuda que paga intereses permaneció como antes; la deuda que ha dejado pagar intereses disminuyó en $3,685,740; la deuda que nunca ha pagado intereses aumentó en $358,487. La cantidad de metálico en la tesorería aumentó en $2,785,182. El 1° de septiembre de 1900 la deuda publica era como sigue; la que paga intereses $1,001,499,260; la que ha dejado de pagarlos $5,516,220.26; la que nunca ha pagado intereses $387,346,.069.41; total $1,394,361,549.67. La cantidad de certificados y billetes del tesorero en circulación era de $734,513,679, cubierta con igual suma en metálico en las arcas nacionales.

GUATEMALA.

DECRETO SOBRE CAMINOS DE HIERRO, CANALES, ETC.

"El Guatemalteco," diario oficial de la República de Guatemala, en su edición de 3 de septiembre de 1900 publica el siguiente importante decreto:

"Artículo 1°. Los caminos de hierro y sus concesiones, canales y

demás obras públicas de igual índole, son inscribibles en el Registro de la Propiedad Inmueble, como derechos reales. Para ese efecto se llevará un libro especial destinado únicamente á las inscripciones de ese género.

"ART. 2°. La inscripción se hará presentando el título en que se hubiere otorgado la concesión definitiva de la obra, expedido por el notario del Gobierno, acompañando los demás documentos que determinen los derechos concedidos ó la personalidad del concesionario.

"ART. 3°. Si la inscripción se hace durante la construcción de la obra pública, podrá adicionarse ó rectificarse al concluir la misma obra ó cada una de sus secciones, presentando al efecto certificación expedida por el notario del Gobierno en que conste que el Poder Ejecutivo se da por recibido de la obra ó de la sección que se pone al servicio público.

ART. 4°. La inscripción debe hacerse en el libro del registro del Departamento á que corresponda el punto de arranque ó cabeza de camino ó canal, haciendo la transcripción que corresponda en el libro del registro de los otros departamentos cuyo territorio atraviese la obra pública.

ART. 5°. En cuanto la compañía adquiera, en forma legal, terreno para la construcción del camino ó canal, se inscribirán los títulos de la adquisición, en la forma prevenida en el párrafo VI, Título V, Libro III del Código Civil.

"ART. 6. Las estaciones, almacenes, presas, puentes, acueductos y demás obras que constituyan parte integrante del mismo camino ó canal, como necesarios para su existencia y explotación, no requieren inscripción separada y especial, sino que se incluirán en lo general de la propia obra pública; pero las demás fincas rústicas ó urbanas que adquiera la compañía concesionaria y que estén separadas del camino ó canal, deben inscribirse separadamente, con las condiciones y requisitos que exige la ley.

"ART. 7. En la primera inscripción del camino de hierro, canal ú otra obra pública, deberá expresarse si la compañía concesionaria está ó no autorizada para emitir obligaciones hipotecarias al portador; y en caso de estarlo, las bases principales que para ello se le hayan fijado y la extensión y límites de las facultades de la compañía en este punto. Si dicha autorización fuese concedida después de hecha la inscripción en el registro, se hará constar en él por nota marginal, sirviendo para este objeto, también certificación expedida por el notario del Gobierno que contenga la disposición autorizando la emisión de tales obligaciones.

"ART. 8. Las obligaciones hipotecarias al portador con la designación especial que se les dé, de títulos, bonos, etc., emitidas por las sociedades de obras públicas, no son inscribibles especial y determinadamente una por una; pero á fin de asegurar, con perjuicio de tercero, el derecho hipotecario que puede establecerse á favor de las mismas,

deberá constituirse la hipoteca en escritura pública, é inscribirse en el registro en la forma que previene la ley.

"ART. 9°. La escritura de constitución de hipoteca á favor de dichas obligaciones al portador debe expresar la autorización obtenida por la compañía concesionaria para emitirlas; el número y valor total de las emitidas á cuyo favor se constituya la hipoteca; la serie ó series á que correspondan; su numeración y el valor nominal de cada una de ellas; la fecha ó fechas de la emisión; el interés que devenguen; circunstancias que fijen y determinen la clase de títulos y valores; la cosa hipotecada, esto es, si son las obras ó los rendimientos de toda la línea ó sólo de parte de ella. El notario, ó juez en su caso, dará fe de tener á la vista estos documentos y los títulos de propiedad citando el folio, tomo y número bajo el cual esté inscrita la finca que se hipoteca.

"ART. 10°. Las circunstancias indicadas se harán constar también en la inscripción, lo cual se verificará solamente en el libro del registro, folio y número que cite el notario, que es el que tendrá á la vista los documentos de que se ha hecho mérito.

"ART. 11°. No siendo posible hacer constar el nombre y apellido de la persona ó personas á cuyo favor se hace la inscripción, por tratarse de título al portador, se suplirá esta circunstancia exigida por la ley, expresándose que la hipoteca queda constituída á favor de los tenedores de las obligaciones á que la escritura se refiera y en la parte proporcional que á cada obligación corresponda.

"ART. 12°. Para hacer uso de su derecho los portadores de tales obligaciones deberán presentar el título, obligación ó cédula hipotecaria al portador y la escritura de constitución de la hipoteca, debidamente inscrita en el registro de la propiedad, cuyos documentos serán suficientes para justificar la constitución de la hipoteca á favor de aquella obligación al portador; siempre que sea de las comprendidas en la escritura y conste su autenticidad, pero entendiéndose todo sin perjuicio de las facultades de los tribunales para calificar el valor legal de tales documentos y los derechos reclamados por los portadores.

"ART. 13°. Cuando se trate de concesiones hechas á extranjeros, no podrá procederse á las inscripciones en el registro, sin que conste en escritura pública el sometimiento expreso de los concesionarios á las leyes del país, para todos los efectos del contrato; y la renuncia también expresa é incondicional del derecho de ocurrir en ningún caso á la vía diplomática, en el concepto de que ese será requisito indispensable y necesario.

"ART. 14°. Para verificar las inscripciones á que se refiere esta ley se observarán las disposiciones que sobre la materia contiene el código civil.

"ART. 15°. Las concesiones de que trata el presente decreto no podrán enajenarse á gobiernos extranjeros ni á compañías que no tengan su domicilio legal en la República.

"ART. 16°. Los derechos inscritos conforme á esta ley comenzarán á surtir sus efectos hipotecarios desde el día en que esté concluída la obra. Dichos derechos caducarán al concluir el término de la concesión.

"ART. 17°. De este decreto se dará cuenta á la Asamblea Nacional Legislativa en sus próximas sesiones.

"Dado en el Palacio del Poder Ejecutivo, en Guatemala, á veintiocho de agosto de mil novecientos."

MÉXICO.

MENSAJE DEL PRESIDENTE DE LA REPÚBLICA.

Del mensaje que con fecha 16 de septiembre de 1900 dirigió el Señor Presidente de la República al abrirse el primer período de sesiones del 20° Congreso de la Unión, se han tomado los párrafos siguientes:

"Señores DIPUTADOS Y SENADORES: Obedeciendo con gusto un precepto de la Constitución, vengo en este día de gloriosos recuerdos para la patria á informaros del estado que guardan los negocios é intereses que el Ejecutivo tiene á su cargo.

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"Aceptadas por los Representantes de las Repúblicas Americanas la proposición del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos para que se celebre una segunda Conferencia, semejante á la que se efectuó en 1889, pero ya no en la capital de aquel país, sino en otra de las ciudades del nuevo mundo, dichos representantes tomaron en cuenta la indicación privada del Secretario de Estado en Wáshington y resolvieron que la próxima conferencia se reúna en esta capital, dejando á nuestra elección la fecha en que debiera inaugurarse.

"Entonces, considerando cual es la situación de esta ciudad por las obras que en ella se ejecutan y las condiciones probables de Veracruz durante el verano, el Gobierno propuso que la reunión se verifique en octubre del año próximo, época en que esas obras estarán muy avanzadas y el clima del mencionado puerto más salubre. Aprobada que fué nuestra propuesta, la Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores dirigió la invitación correspondiente (que se publicó en el "Diario Oficial") á los Gobiernos todos de las Repúblicas de América para que se sirvan enviar sus delegados á dicha conferencia, asegurándoles que sus respectivas delegaciones recibirán en México la más cordial bienvenida.

"Aún prescindiendo de la importancia práctica que tuvieren los acuerdos de esa asamblea internacional, una vez que obtengan la aprobación de los gobiernos en ella representados, el hecho sólo de reunirse en nuestra capital los delegados do todas las Repúblicas de este Continente es un acontecimiento que ofrece vivo interés al pueble mexicano, presentando ocasión favorable para cultivar la simpatía que nos une con gobiernos y pueblos regidos por instituciones políticas que nos

son tan caras. Por otra parte, la elección de nuestra capital como sitio á propósito para la conferencia, si bien no fué una honra solicitada, tiene que ser debidamente apreciada por cuantos estimen el buen nombre de México.

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"Coincidiendo con nuestra invitación para la Conferencia Panamericana de 1901, se nos ha notificado oficialmente el proyecto aprobado por el Gobierno español para la celebración en Madrid, el próximo mes de noviembre, de un congreso hispano-americano de carácter económico y social. Desde luego hemos manifestado nuestra buena disposición para concurrir á ese Congreso, cuyas tendencias, apoyadas en la comunidad de lengua y en el origen de nuestra actual civilización, son para nosotros muy simpáticas en tanto que puedan conciliarse (como lo creemos posible) con las miras de la conferencia á que hemos invitado á todas las naciones de América.

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"México ha sido dignamente representado en la Tercera Conferencia Internacional de Londres para la formación de un catálogo de literatura científica. Lo será también en el Médico pan-americano que próximamente se reunirá en la Habana, para el cual se ha recibido y aceptado la invitación respectiva.

"La industria minera sigue en constante desarrollo. El número de títulos expedidos en el último año fiscal ascendió á dos mil ciento ochenta y cuatro, amparando treinta y tres mil ochocientas noventa y nueve pertenencias de una hectárea, habiendo resultado un aumento de cuatrocientos ochenta y nueve títulos respecto del año fiscal anterior. Los Estados en que hay ahora mayor número de propiedades mineras son, por su orden, Durango, Sonora y Chihuahua.

"Es notable el aumento que va teniendo la explotación del cobre en la República; pues por los datos de exportación aparece en el último año fiscal con un valor casi doble del que obtuvo el año anterior, y llega á poco menos de diez millones de pesos. El desarrollo de las industrias ha hecho también que se activen las exploraciones en busca de carbón de piedra, y que se establezcan nuevas empresas en los yacimientos ya encontrados, como la de Las Esperanzas en Coahuila, que tienen emprendidos trabajos de importancia para comenzar la explotación de sus minas en grande escala.

"En el año fiscal que terminó el 30 de junio último se redujeron á propiedad particular y se legitimaron quinientas setenta y cinco mil hectáreas de terrenos de la Nación por adjudicaciones en virtud de denuncios, por composiciones, por ventas á particulares y á colonos, por fraccionamiento de égidos y por cesión gratuita. Los terrenos que no fueron enajenados gratuitamente produjeron para el erario federal la amortización de $382,000 en títulos de la deuda pública.

"La exportación de los productos agrícolas aumentó de un modo

notable en el último año fiscal, puese el valor de los productos vegetales y animales exportados ascendió á $61,500,000, acusando un aumento de $12,000,000 sobre el valor del año precedente.

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"Oportunamente instalados en el edificio construido al efecto en los terrenos de la Exposición de París, los objetos que envió la República fueron examinados y calificados por tres jurados distintos que respectivamente les correspondían; habiéndose concedido á nuestros expositores mil setenta y ocho recompensas, en las que se encuentran veintinueve grandes premios, ciento doce medallas de oro, doscientas cuarenta y cuatro de plata, trescientas cuarenta y una de bronce y trescientas cincuenta y dos menciones honoríficas. Los premios obtenidos compensan ciertamente los afanes de los expositores y los esfuerzos del Gobierno para concurrir dignamente á ese gran certamen.

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"En agosto se ha dado principio á los trabajos del censo, con el empadronamiento de las casas y el primer cómputo de habitantes, para la distribución de las boletas. Contando con el empeño de las autoridades y la buena voluntad del pueblo es de esperarse que la operación definitiva del recuento tenga las condiciones de simultaneidad y exactitud requeridas.

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De abril á la fecha han aumentado en 859 kilómetros las vías férreas de la República, siendo las empresas que más han contribuido á este aumento la del Ferrocarril Internacional, con 62 kilómetros; la del Central, con 82 en sus líneas de Guadalajara al Manzanillo, Yurécuaro á Ario, y de la Vega á San Marcos, y con 37 de San Marcos á Tecolutla, formando el resto las demás empresas. En conjunto suma la red ferroviaria 14,573 kilómetros.

"El servicio de correos tuvo el siguiente movimiento: Se establecieron seis administraciones locales y cuarenta y nueve agencias. La ampliación de las rutas postales fué de un mil ochenta kilómetros, con un recorrido de cuatrocientos treinta y un mil kilómetros por año. La circulación de bultos postales superó á la del período anterior en treinta y siete mil envíos, pues el movimiento fué de ciento ochenta y siete mil bultos. La circulación de toda clase de correspondencia tuvo un aumento de siete millones de envíos, siendo el total de setenta y cuatro millones.

"Los giros postales cambiados entre México y los Estados Unidos importaron $177,000 en moneda mexicana, siendo $39,000 el valor de los giros procedentes de los Estados Unidos y $138,000 el de los procedentes de México.

"La expedición de giros postales interiores fué de $9,700,000, lo que da un aumento de $4,300,000. En el servicio especial de giros de

editores hubo un movimiento de $224,000 cobrados, contra $210,000 en el período anterior.

"Los productos totales del ramo fueron $970,000, teniendo un aumento de más de $70,000.

"En todo el año fiscal de 1899 á 1900 hubo un exceso sobre el anterior de $270,000.

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"En cuanto al ramo de Hacienda me complazco en manifestaros que la total recaudación de ingresos federales en el año económico que acaba de fenecer ascendió á más de $63,500,000 superando en unos $3,500,000 á la del ejercicio fiscal anterior. Los gastos de la Federación, aunque todavía no depurados, y á pesar de las diversas y muy importantes ampliaciones de partidas que fueron decretadas por la Cámara en el curso del ejercicio fiscal, no alcanzaron la cifra de los ingresos; de suerte que los presupuestos del año económico de 1899 á 1900 se saldaron, como los anteriores, dejando en las arcas del tesoro un sobrante de consideración.

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"Señores Diputados y Senadores, he concluido esta breve exposición que, como en años anteriores, revela no solamente los adelantos administrativos que alcanza el Gobierno merced á sus constantes esfuerzos por mejorar el servicio público, sino también el continuo desarrollo de los elementos de riqueza que abundan en el país y sólo esperaban la fecundación del trabajo para darse á luz en medio de los resplandores de la paz reinante en México desde hace un cuarto de siglo, y por fortuna ya asegurada. Natural es, en ocasión como la presente, congratularnos por situación tan bonancible, y pagar el tributo que corresponde al pueblo mexicano y á sus dignos legisladores, que tan eficazmente han contribuido á crearla y sostenerla."

COMUNICACIONES DIPLOMÁTICAS REFERENTES AL CONGRESO SOCIAL Y ECONÓMICO HISPANO-AMERICANO.

El "Diario Oficial," de México, ha publicado las comunicaciones que se cruzaron entre el Ministro de España en aquella república y el Señor Don Ignacio Mariscal, Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores del Gobierno mexicano. La primera es la invitación que España hace á México para que concurra á dicho Congreso. Á esa invitación el Señor Mariscal contestó de la manera siguiente:

"Señor Ministro: Con vivo interés he leído la nota que V. E. se sirvió dirigirme el 13 del mes actual, de su contenido he dado cuenta al Señor Presidente, y con su acuerdo tengo la honra de contestarla. Por ella y sus importantes anexos quedo impuesto de que la Sociedad Ibero-Americana, cuyos méritos me son conocidos, inició la celebración en Madrid de un Congreso Social Económico Hispano-Americano para el próximo mes de noviembre, y que por el Gobierno de V. E. se ha

expedido un Real Decreto creando una Junta Suprema de Patronato, cuya primera atribución es invitar á los Estados que hayan de concurrir al Congreso, y una Comisión organizadora que, según lo previene el decreto, ha formado ya el Reglamento de la proyectada Asamblea.

"V. E., al comunicarme tan plausibles noticias, me llama la atención hacia el carácter económico que tendrá dicho Congreso, como una de sus líneas más salientes. Desde luego eso le da un aspecto interesante y serio, reclamando para sus trabajos todo el espíritu práctico que caracteriza la civilización moderna.

"Por otro lado, se sirve V. E. notar que la unión intelectual entre España y los Estados de América, que hablan una misma lengua, tendrá que imponerse en el futuro Congreso, el cual ofrecerá por esa circunstancia un interés particular. Observación es ésta de una verdad indiscutible; y considerado bajo esta luz, no cabe duda que el proyecto ha de alcanzar felices resultados para las bellas letras y aún varios de los conocimientos científicos cultivados en los pueblos de raza española. Además, el fomento de la natural simpatía que entre ellos despierta la comunidad de idioma y en parte de raza y costumbres, es un fin importante y digno de procurarse con empeño, ya que todo esfuerzo para lograr una inteligencia harmónica entre los pueblos, sobre todo los que entre sí tienen puntos de contacto, viene á ser un paso encaminado á la harmonía universal entre las naciones, ideal tan opuesto á los celos y rivalidades que hoy, por desgracia, suelen dividirlas.

"Cierto es que la simpatía, por profunda que sea y por mucho que se desarrolle, no será una razón suficiente para sacrificar intereses positivos ó materiales en el orden económico ó en el político, olvidando las circunstancias especiales de un Estado, como son, verbi gracia, las que guarda México; pero servirá á lo menos de poderoso estímulo para buscar la conciliación de esos intereses con las inspiraciones del sentimiento, y debe esperarse que en algunos puntos se encuentre la manera de conciliarlos. Así es como, á mi juicio, caben perfectamente las aspiraciones que representa el Congreso proyectado para Madrid, al lado de las que se revelan en la convocatoria que acaba de expedir el Gobierno mexicano para otro Congreso, ideado desde hace algún tiempo y donde por segunda vez han de figurar todas las naciones de América.

"Para los que lealmente se propongan servir el interes de los pueblos, el campo es amplísimo y puede contener todos sus más fervientes anhelos, siempre que no abriguen tendencias de exclusivismo por razón de raza, religión ú otro motivo extraño al concepto liberal de la humanidad y sus innegables progresos.

"El Go bierno de México, inspirado por estas ideas y simpatizando con el proyecto á que se contrae la nota que me honro en contestar, acepta desde ahora la invitación de España á que V. E. se refiere y autorizará á sus funcionarios diplomáticos y consulares para aceptarla

por su parte, si se extendiere á ellos conforme á lo prevenido en el Reglamento; proponiéndose expedir oportunamente todas las disposiciones necesarias á la conveniente representación de esta república en el Congreso de Madrid.

"Aprovecho esta oportunidad para reiterar á V. E. las protestas de mi más distinguida consideración. IGNACIO MARISCAL."

Asimismo publica el "Diario Oficial" el real decreto de 16 de abril de 1900, dictando reglas para la celebración del mencionado Congreso.

Los temas que el Congreso habrá de estudiar y discutir serán:

1. Medios creadores de una gran corriente de opinión que induzca á los Gobiernos de España, Portugal y pueblos ibero-americanos á realizar íntima alianza que permita resolver las cuestiones que puedan suscitarse entre las indicadas naciones, por Tribunales arbitrales.

2. Manera y procedimiento de dar una dirección fija y determinada al derecho público y privado, para armonizar las diversas leyes civiles, penales y administrativas en España, Portugal y América latina, de tal suerte, que siendo unos mismos los principios generales y bases que informen los Códigos, pueda llegarse á unificarlos en cuanto las circunstancias especiales de cada nación lo consientan.

3. Estudio del problema de la emigración en general.

4. Medios más adecuados para que en España, Portugal y Repúblicas ibero-americanas tengan las obras y descubrimientos científicos de dichos Estados fácil y rápido desarrollo, garantizando los intereses de autores é inventores eficazmente y de las marcas de fábrica y de comercio, á fin de que los progresos y adelantos de estos pueblos se utilicen preferentemente por ellos mismos, según demandan los vínculos de raza.

5. Procedimientos para conservar íntegro y puro el idioma español en todas las naciones hispano-americanas; medios de evitar que las ediciones de libros en castellano se hagan fuera de los territorios donde se hable este idioma; forma de dar mayor esplendor á las Bellas Artes ibero-americanas y manera de asegurar el reconocimiento de los derechos de la propiedad literaria y artística en todos los órdenes.

6. Unificación de los planes de enseñanza; recíproca validez de los títulos profesionales en España, Portugal y Estados americo-latinos, y creación de Museos pedagógicos internacionales de Ciencias, Letras, Artes y Oficios.

7. Modificaciones en las leyes de los respectivos países, para que los tratados internacionales respondan á las necesidades comunes, ampliando las relaciones del comercio, industria y navegación entre España, Portugal y las Naciones ibero-americanas.

8. Unificación de tarifas postales y telegráficas que permitan mayor impulso, facilidad y economía en el cambio de la correspondencia privada, noticias, impresos, muestras, valores y órdenes telegráficos ó cablegráficos, fletes y regularización de los medios internacionales de transporte.

9. Establecimiento en España, Portugal y naciones ibero-americanas de exposiciones permanentes internacionales de obras científicas, literarias, artísticas, catálogos y muestras de productos agrícolas é industriales, para evidenciar los adelantos y elementos de riqueza de cada país y dar mayor amplitud al comercio, haciendo más íntimo y provechoso el contacto entre productores y consumidores.

10. Creación de bancos generales ibero-americanos, con sucursales y delegaciones en Portugal y Estados Americo-Latinos, que faciliten los giros y transacciones mercantiles. Cuestión monetaria. Medios adecuados para que los valores públicos é industriales de cada nación se coticen en las bolsas de todas las demás.

11. Procedimientos para facilitar y dar más amplitud al cambio mutuo de periódicos españoles, portugueses y americanos, y estrechar las relaciones entre los periodistas de España, Portugal y América latina.

Del estudio y redacción de las ponencias acerca de los temas, se encargarán las siguientes Comisiones:

1. De Arbitrajes.
2. De Jurisprudencia y Legislación.
3. De Economía pública.
4. De Ciencias.
5. De Letras y Artes.
6. De Enseñanza.
7. De Relaciones comerciales.
8. De Transportes, Correos y Telégrafos.
9. De Exposiciones Permanentes.
10. De Relaciones Bancarias y Bursátiles.
11. De Prensa.

Á estas Comisiones corresponderán respectivamente, y por el orden apuntado, los temas en referencia.

CÓMO FIGURA MÉXICO EN LA EXPOSICIÓN DE PARÍS.

Los miembros de dichas Comisiones serán designados por la Comisión organizadora del Congreso, tomando como base los de las Comisiones permanentes de la Unión Ibero-Americana.

El periódico "Deutsche Export Zeitung," correspondiente al 20 de agosto de este año, publica un artículo de M. H. LEMCKE, comisionado especial del Gobierno mexicano en la Exposición de París. Dicho trabajo es una descripción de cuanto ha exhibido México en aquel gran certamen.

Dice M. LEMCKE que el edificio de México en la calle de las Naciones, que aparece en el catálogo especial con el nombre de Pabellón de México, es una construcción muy hermosa, de estilo griego moderno, rodeada de plantas tropicales que crecen en la mencionada República. En ese edificio se exhiben los productos del suelo, de la industria y del

arte mexicanos. Notable es, sobre todas, la exhibición de minerales. Es bien sabido que México ocupa uno de los primeros lugares entre los países que producen metales preciosos.

La exportación de productos de aquella República ascendió durante el año económico de 1898–99 y representó un valor de $95,273,000 pesos. En esa exportación figuran los siguientes minerales: Oro, plata, plomo, hierro, cobre, azogue, estaño, antimonio, azufre, carbón de piedra, ónix, ópalos y petróleo.

Como productor de plata México ocupa el segundo lugar entre los países del mundo. Como productor de oro, el sexto, y de cobre el séptimo. Sin embargo, el rápido desarrollo de la industria minera puede alterar pronto estas condiciones.

Los Estados de Chihuahua, Guerrero, Zacatecas, Guanajuato, Hidalgo, Sonora y Sinaloa han exhibido en París una notable colección de minerales. Una compañía de Baja California que posee algunas de las primeras minas de cobre del mundo exhibe en la Exposición un modelo de sus inmensos talleres. Otras compañías han enviado á París ricas muestras de mineral de hierro. Hay también en exhibición muestras de ónix de varios colores, y una riquísima de conchas y perlas procedentes de la costa del Pacífico.

Las ricas maderas que producen los bosques mexicanos llaman la atención de cuantos visitan la Exposición. Hay no menos de 114 clases diferentes, entre las cuales se encuentran el ébano, la caoba, el palo de rosa, el roble, cedro, pino, tamarindo, nogal, zapote, etc.; figuran 12 clases de maderas de tinte, 8 árboles que producen goma elástica y 17 de las plantas que dan aceites y bálsamos.

La fama de México está representada por un gran número de animales, entre los que figuran el jaguar y otros felinos, osos, ciervos, caimanes, tortugas y numerosos pájaros de hermoso plumaje. La colección de mariposas es bellísima y abraza más de mil especies distintas.

El Estado de Veracruz ha enviado á París una colección de helechos y otras plantas tropicales, así como fibras, raíces y cortezas empleadas en la industria.

El Instituto Médico Nacional ha mandado muchos extractos hechos de plantas medicinales, de las cuales hay clasificadas no menos de 60.

Ocupa lugar prominente el henequén, que es uno de los artículos de exportación de que México dispone.

Entre los numerosos productos vegetales merece mencionarse el café, el cacao, la vainilla, la goma elástica, el tabaco, el algodón, la caña de azúcar, el trigo, la cebada, la avena, los frijoles y los guisantes. Han sido muy admiradas las vainillas del Estado de Veracruz, así como las reproducciones en cera de las frutas y legumbres de México, hechas por los indios.

Sorpresa grande ha causado en París el desarrollo de las industrias

textiles en México. La exhibición de la Compañía Industrial de Orizaba, que cuenta con un capital de 6,500,000 pesos, es muy notable, y no lo es menos la de los productos de la gran fábrica de yute de Santa Gertrudis, en Orizaba. La fábrica de tejidos de lana de Ildefonso exhibe paños, frazadas, alfombras, etc. Es digno de mencionarse el hecho de que á fines de 1899 la industria textil de México estaba representada por 137 fábricas que empleaban 25,761 operarios.

En cuanto á la industria de hierro, la exhibición merece mencionarse como muy interesante, no menos que la de papel, que representa un capital de 5,000,000 de pesos. Los productos de esta última son hechos principalmente de pulpa de madera, y hoy por hoy México ofrece vasto campo para el establecimiento de fábricas de papel de lino de la mejor calidad.

Atraen gran atención en París los cañones, rifles y otras armas y municiones para el ejército, de fabricación mexicana. Las sillas de montar han sido objeto de mucha admiración.

La industria de tabaco está admirablemente representada. La producción anual de este artículo es de 360,000,000 de cajetillas de cigarrillos, y de 114,000,000 de cigarros, pero la gran cantidad del tabaco que se exporta de México es en rama.

Ofrece la exhibición mexicana preciosas producciones de la industria de cuero, y en cuanto á la fotografía y litografía, los trabajos expuestos pueden competir con los mejores de Europa.

Vénse en el Pabellón de México muestras admirables del grado de adelanto á que ha llegado en México la confitería, así como la fabricación de licores, tales como mezcal, tequila, aguardiente, etc. En lo futuro aquel país será indudablemente un gran productor de vino. En la actualidad se fabrican varias clases de cerveza.

Productos químicos y farmacéuticos, así como perfumería se exhiben en grande escala.

Las artes se encuentran representadas por pinturas al óleo, acuarelas y esculturas. Hay fotografías de las varias líneas de ferrocarriles de la República.

Las exhibiciones de los diferentes departamentos del Gobierno consisten en libros, mapas, cuadros estadísticos, etc., que muestran el gran desarrollo del país.

La Administración General de Correos tiene su exhibición especial, que comprende, entre otras cosas, una valiosa colección de estampillas.

El número de expositores mexicanos en París es, según el catálogo oficial, de más de tres mil.

CONTRATO PARA RIEGO.

El "Diario Oficial" de México publica un contrato que fué celebrado entre el Ministro de Fomento de aquella República y el Señor Manuel Cuesta Gallardo, para el aprovechamiento como riego de

las aguas del Lago de Chapala y del río de Santiago, del Estado de Jalisco.

El contrato autoriza al Señor CUESTA GALLARDO para que por sí ó por medio de la compañía que al efecto organice pueda ejecutar las obras hidráulicas necesarias para utilizar como riego las aguas aludidas.

El concesionario queda obligado á presentar en la Secretaría de Fomento el proyecto de las obras hidráulicas, así como una memoria descriptiva y los planos y perfiles necesarios para la mayor claridad de los detalles.

Los reconocimientos del terreno para la localización de las obras hidráulicas deberá comenzarlos el concesionario dentro de diez meses contados desde la fecha de la promulgación del presente contrato, y dentro del plazo de 36 meses, contados desde la misma fecha, presentará en la Secretaría de Fomento los planos y perfiles relativos á dichas obras por duplicado y á escala métrica decimal apropiada.

Dentro del plazo de diez meses, contados desde la fecha de la aprobación de los planos por la Secretaría de Fomento, el concesionario dará principio á la construcción de las obras, las que deberán estar terminadas, á más tardar, dentro de los diez años contados desde le misma fecha.

Una vez concluidas las obras hidráulicas, aprobadas por la Secretaría de Fomento y hecha por ésta la declaración correspondiente, se expedirá al concesionario el título que le asegure el derecho al uso y aprovechamiento de las aguas, objeto de este contrato.

El concesionario podrá construir sobre los canales que establezca los puentes que juzgue necesarios para el tráfico particular, presentando préviamente los planos en la Secretaría de Fomento para su debida aprobación, y quedará obligado á construir también, por su cuenta, los puentes que demande el tráfico local ó general, siempre que atraviese con sus canales algún camino, calzada ó vía de uso público.

Para la ejecución de los trabajos de reconocimiento y de trazo, y para los de construcción de las obras hidráulicas, la Secretaría de Fomento nombrará un ingeniero inspector.

Los terrenos de propiedad nacional que ocupare el concesionario y los que llegue á necesitar para los receptáculos y depósitos de agua, almacenes y otros edificios, los tomará gratuitamente.

El concesionario podrá tomar, conforme á las leyes de expropriación por causa de utilidad pública, los terrenos de propiead particular necesarios para el establecimiento de sus acueductos y dependencias, depósitos, estaciones y demás accesorios.

En caso de que no haya avenimiento entre el concesionario y los proprietarios de los terrenos, se nombrará un perito valuador por cada una de las partes y ambos presentarán á las mismas sus avalúos dentro del término de 8 días, contados desde su nombramiento. Si los avalúos son discordantes, se someterá el negocio á conocimiento del juez de distrito del Estado de Jalisco para que nombre un perito tercero en

discordia que emita su dictamen dentro del perentorio término de 8 días, contados desde su nombramiento, sobre lo que sea de justicia dar por indemnización al dueño de los terrenos que deban ser ocupados.

Queda autorizado el concesionario para construir todas las líneas telegráficas y telefónicas que fueren necesarias. Podrá importar, libres de derechos arancelarios, por una sola vez, todas las máquinas, instrumentos científicos y aparatos que fueren necesarios para el tráfico, construcción y explotación de las mismas obras.

Durante cinco años, contados desde la promulgación del contrato, los capitales invertidos por el concesionario en el trazo, construcción y reparación de las obras á que se refiere este contrato, gozarán de exención de todo impuesto federal, á exepción de los que se pagan en la forma del timbre.

Queda el concesionario en libertad para celebrar con los particulares y corporaciones públicas y privadas los contratos y convenios que juzgue necesarios para el aprovechamiento del agua que se le concede.

El concesionario perderá el derecho al uso de las aguas en el caso de que dejare de utilizarlas por un período de 10 años consecutivos.

El concesionario podrá traspasar todas ó parte de las concesiones, previo permiso de la Secretaría de Fomento, así como hipotecarlas á individuos ó corporaciones particulares, siendo indispensable en el primer caso que aquéllas y éstas acepten respectivamente todas y cada una de las obligaciones impuestas el concesionario por el presente contrato. Pero en ningún caso podrá enagenar ó hipotecar las concesiones hechas por el contrato á ningún Gobierno ni Estado extranjero, ni admitirlo como socio.

El concesionario debe garantizar el cumplimiento de las obligaciones que le impone este contrato, constituyendo en el Banco Nacional de México un depósito de $5,000 en bonos de la deuda pública consolidada dentro de ocho días de la promulgación del contrato, depósito que le será devuelto cuando haya terminado las obras hidráulicas en referencia.

El contrato caducará por las causas siguientes:

1. Por no constituir el depósito dentro del plazo mencionado.
2. Por no comenzar los trabajos de reconocimiento y de construcción de las obras y por no terminarlos en los plazos fijados.
3. Por no hacer uso de las aguas en un plazo de diez años consecutivos.
4. Por traspasar el contrato á un particular ó Compañía sin previo permiso de la Secretaría de Fomento.
5. Por traspasar ó hipotecar el contrato y las concesiones que de él se derivan á un Gobierno ó Estado extranjero, ó por admitirlo como socio.

IMPORTACIONES Y EXPORTACIONES.

Según el periódico "The Two Republics," que se publica en la capital de México, los datos estadísticos oficiales correspondientes al año económico que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900 demuestran que ha

habido un aumento extraordinario en el tráfico entre aquella república y los Estados Unidos, especialmente en las exportaciones de México para estos.

En 1899 la exportación total de dicha república ascendió á $138,478,137, contra $149,992,920 durante el año económico á que se ha hecho referencia. Más de las tres cuartas partes de ambas cantidades fueron enviadas á los Estados Unidos, es decir, $103,553,486 en el año económico que terminó en junio de 1899, y $116,098,456 en el subsiguiente.

En cuanto á lo que en México se importa, los informes estadísticos mencionados dejan ver más de la mitad de toda la cantidad fué de los Estados Unidos durante el último año fiscal.

NUEVO FERROCARRIL.

El periódico titulado "El Reproductor," que se publica en el estado de Vera Cruz, trae en su número 36 un decreto de la Legislatura de dicho estado que dice:

"Se aprueba el contrato que el Ejecutivo del estado celebró el 17 del corriente con el ingeniero, ciudadano JUAN A. NAVARRO, cesionario de los ciudadanos LUIS GRAJALES y ÁNGEL DE CASO, para la construcción de un ferrocarril entre las ciudades de Córdoba de Hernández y Hernández Huatusco, concediendo al expresado ciudadano NAVARRO, ó á la Compañía ó Compañías que organice, un subsidio de $108,000, de los cuales se entregarán $27,000 al ser recibida y abierta al tráfico la vía, y el resto en exhibiciones anuales del mismo valor, á contar de la fecha de la inauguración.

NICARAGUA.

MENSAJE DEL PRESIDENTE ZELAYA.

"El Comercio," de Managua, ha publicado algunos párrafos del notable Mensaje que el Presidente de Nicaragua dirigió al Congreso al inaugurar éste sus sesiones ordinarias correspondientes á 1900.

Al referirse al trazo de la línea divisoria entre Nicaragua y Costa Rica, el Presidente ZELAYA se expresa de la siguiente manera:

"Inspirado en el más acendrado patriotismo, y no queriendo terminar mi período presidencial sin cortar de raíz todo género de discordia entre pueblos hermanos, ligados por comunes intereses, por vínculos estrechos, y llamados á idéntico destino, puse especial empeño en la continuación de los trabajos de demarcación de límites entre Nicaragua y la vecina república de Costa Rica, que principiaron en mayo de 1897 de conformidad con el tratado Matus-Pacheco; porque, en mi concepto, ningún servicio mejor puede hacerse á la patria, des-

pués de la reintegración de su territorio, que el de deslindar sus fronteras, para alejar la causa primordial en la mayor parte de las veces, de las desavenencias entre países limítrofes.

"El 25 del mes que acaba de finar se suscribió en este mismo local, por los Señores Comisionados de Nicaragua y Costa Rica y el Árbitro, General ALEXANDER, el acta en que se da por terminada la demarcación de límites y por disueltas las comisiones.

"En la ardua é importantísima labor de deslindar nuestra frontera del sur ha colaborado con patriotismo y desinterés dignos de mencionarse el Señor ingeniero, General E. P. ALEXANDER, árbitro designado bondadosamente por el Excelentísimo Señor ex-Presidente de los Estados Unidos, Mr. GROVER CLEVELAND, conforme con lo dispuesto en el tratado Matus-Pacheco; y aproveché la solemne ocasión en que se firmaba el importante documento de que acabo de hablaros para dar público testimonio de agradecimiento al Gobierno de la Gran República y á tan distinguidos personajes en nombre del pueblo y Gobierno nicaragüenses por los eminentes servicios prestados á la patria.

"Ningún regocijo mayor, señores disputados, que el de presenciar ejemplos de civilidad como el que en esta vez han dado los Gobiernos de Nicaragua y Costa Rica, dirimiendo su discordia de límites que puso en peligro en repetidas ocasiones la tranquilidad y bienestar de ambos pueblos, por el medio armonioso del arbitramento, que si bien es el aconsejado por la razón y el derecho y el más humano y de resultados más provechosos, desgraciadamente no es el más escogido ni aún entre los países más adelantados del uno y otro Continente; y abrigo la esperanza de que removido el antiguo semillero de disenciones entre estos pedazos de la antigua patria centroamericana, comenzará un período de verdadera paz, concordia y fraternidad para ambos pueblos."

Cuando trata de la situación interior del país, el Señor ZELAYA la presenta de esta manera:

"Han desaparecido los nubarrones que amenazaban envolver á la República en los horrores de la anarquía, y restablecido el principio de autoridad, ahogado el germen revolucionario, no se ve en el horizonte de la patria una sola nubecilla que pudiera empañar el cielo de la paz y la tranquilidad.

"Así ha tenido la satisfacción de palparlo el Ejecutivo, con especialidad en occidente durante su visita llevada á efecto en junio último, con el fin de atender de cerca á las ingentes necesidades de aquellos departamentos, de remediarlas en lo posible y de procurar su mejoramiento intelectual y material; habiendo sido objeto de espléndidas y repetidas ovaciones por parte de los vecinos, sin distinción de colores políticos, sobre todo en la heroica ciudad de León, donde hicieron derroche de entusiasmo las diferentes clases sociales."

En cuanto á la cuestión del Canal interoceánico, he aquí las palabras que le dedica el Señor Presidente:

"Poco tengo que agregar á lo que os manifesté el año próximo pasado

sobre el asunto del Canal; y bien conocidos son los anhelos del pueblo y Gobierno nicaragüenses por esta importantísima obra que hará de este pedazo privilegiado del Continente un verdadero emporio de riqueza, para que tenga necesidad de extenderme ahora sobre el particular. Baste saber que jamás le pondremos obstáculos y que, por el contrario, emplearemos todas nuestras influencias, todas nuestras actividades en la realización de tan bello pensamiento."

Por lo que hace á instrucción pública, el Señor ZELAYA dice lo que sigue:

"Las escuelas graduadas superiores de ambos sexos, que tan buenos resultados han dado en los diferentes departamentos, han sido mejoradas notablemente y su número ensanchado en varias cabeceras; y las elementales se continúan llevando hasta los más apartados caseríos con verdadero provecho."

Al ocuparse del importante ramo de Hacienda, el Mensaje hace las observaciones que á continuación se leerán:

"Á fuerza de economías de todo género, disminuyendo los empleos á los individuos indispensables para la buena marcha administrativa, y reduciendo las diferentes guarniciones al número estrictamente necesario; á fuerza de ser estricto en la elección de los encargados de manejar los fondos nacionales, de perseguir sin tregua á los contrabandistas, y de una consagración especialísima al Tesoro Público, ha logrado el Ejecutivo cubrir la lista militar y civil con la mayor regularidad; no omitir las fuertes erogaciones que ha demandado la instrucción popular con el aumento de escuelas y la reforma implantada; llevar á cabo reparaciones y mejoras en los edificios nacionales; pagar la subvención acordada á los constructores del ferrocarril del Sílico; atender á los gastos extraordinarios del ramo de Guerra; hacer aumentar las rentas; tender alambres telegráficos en diferentes pueblos que permanecían aislados del resto de la República, y que hoy pueden ensanchar sus transacciones y contribuir con ellas al engrandecimiento del país; promover otras obras de progreso, y, en fin, como acabáis de notarlo, pagar cumplidamente y hasta con anticipación los cupones de la deuda inglesa y proveer á sus corresponsales extranjeros de los fondos necesarios para llenar sus pedidos."

DOS DECRETOS IMPORTANTES.

"El Comercio," de Managua, publica los siguientes decretos:

"El Presidente de la República, Considerando:

"Que es un deber primordial del Gobierno fomentar las industrias y las artes nacionales, así como el estudio de las ciencias, estimulándolas por todos los medios posibles para que alcancen el mayor grado de prosperidad y desarrollo; Considerando:

"Que por la cortés invitación que ha dirigido al Gobierno el Comité Directivo de la Exposición Pan-Americana de Búfalo (EE. UU.) para

que haga figurar al país en aquel certamen que se abrirá el año entrante; y que Nicaragua está en posibilidad de exhibir sus productos industriales agrícolas, científicos, artísticos ó literarios; Decreta:

"1°. El Gobierno de Nicaragua tomará parte oficialmente en la Exposición Pan-Americana de Búfalo, y se hará representar en aquel certamen por una Comisión nombrada al efecto.

"2°. Para dar mejor realce á la exhibición de Nicaragua, se organizarán secciones correspondientes á cada industria ó ramo de lo que se cultiva en el país, para cuyo fin se invita á los agricultores, industriales, artistas, literatos y hombres de ciencia, para que envíen al Ministerio de Fomento las obras ó productos que deseen exhibir.

"3°. Los objetos destinados á la Exposición deberán estar coleccionados antes del 31 de diciembre próximo.

"4°. Los Jefes políticos de los departamentos excitarán á los vecinos de su respectiva jurisdicción para que á la mayor brevedad posible contribuyan con los objetos que deseen exhibir, recibiéndolos oficialmente para su inmediato envío á esta capital.

"5°. Se imputarán á crédito suplementario los gastos que ocasionará la representación de Nicaragua en la Exposición Pan-Americana de Búfalo.

"6°. Se dará cuenta de este decreto á la Asamblea nacional legislativa."

"El Presidente de la República, Considerando:

"Que con motivo de los aranceles aduaneros, puestos en vigor generalmente en la República desde el 1° de mayo próximo pasado, una parte considerable del comercio de la ciudad de Bluefields ha solicitado del Gobierno la rebaja de los derechos de importación sobre gran cantidad de artículos de toda clase de consumos en aquellas regiones, y que si bien las razones en que se apoya tal solicitud son algún tanto atendibles, el Gobierno se ve en el caso de no deferir á ellas, porque ante todo debe respetar el principio constitucional que prohibe los privilegios á determinados gremios y evitarse, asimismo, el inconveniente que resulta de la protección seccional con menoscabo de la mayoría del comercio nacional. Considerando,

"Sin embargo, que también conviene por vía de protección al desarrollo de las empresas que explotan las inmensas riquezas naturales del litoral atlántico, el disminuir el gravamen aduanero de la introducción de determinados artículos de indispensable necesidad, al grado de que siendo un beneficio para aquella costa no perjudiquen los intereses fiscales y comerciales del interior.

"Por tanto, y en uso de sus facultades, decreta:

"Artículo 1°. Desde el primero de septiembre próximo, en las aduanas del Bluff y del Cabo de Gracias á Dios, no se cobrará más de las tres cuartas partes de los derechos que establece la ley de aranceles

aduaneros de 25 de noviembre de 1899, sobre los artículos que llevan los números siguientes:

"1. 176—Aceitunas rellenas.
"2. 180—Arroz y avena.
"3. 7—Carnes ahumadas ó en salmuera.
"4. 40—Carnes de todas clases, conservadas y condimentadas en latas.
"5. 187—Cebollas y ajos.
"6. 188—Clavo especia ó clavillo de olor.
"7. 41—Extracto de carne.
"8. 189—Especias no clasificadas, grano ó fruto.
"9. 190—Frijoles.
"10. 194—Frutas conservadas en cualquier licor simple ó compuesto.
"11. 243—Fideos, tallarines, macarrones y demás pastas farináceas.
"12. 198—Garbanzos y cualquiera otra legumbre seca.
"13. 247—Harina de trigo.
"14. 248—Harina de maíz ó maicena, id. de arroz, patatas, cebada, avena, centeno, sagú, tapioca y otras semejantes.
"15. 44—Leche condensada.
"16. 200—Legumbres frescas en su estado natural.
"17. 201—Maíz.
"18. 46—Manteca de puerco.
"19. 47—Manteca de res.
"20. 48—Mantequilla.
"21. 49—Mariscos de toda clase conservados en aceite, vinagre, etc., no especificados.
"22. 202—Papas y tubérculos semejantes, frescos.
"23. 9—Pescados y mariscos secos, salados, ahumados ó salpresos.
"24. 203—Pimienta, anís y otras especias semejantes.
"25. 256—Polvos ó levaduras de harina.
"26. 50—Sardinas de todas clases.
"27. 102—Zapatones para operarios.

"Art. 2°. Las aduanas liquidarán íntegros, conforme arancel, los derechos de importación de las mercancías enumeradas en el artículo anterior, y del total de cada póliza liquidada deducirán el 25 por ciento del beneficio concedido por el presente decreto.

"Art. 3°. Las mercancías protegidas con el 25 por ciento de rebaja, á que se refiere el Artículo 1°, no podrán ser internadas en nigún otro punto de la República si no es con guía de las aduanas del Bluff ó el Cabo y pagando, además, el 25 por ciento de los derechos, según los aranceles vigentes á que está sujeta su importación por cualquiera de las otras aduanas.

"Art. 4°. El presente decreto deroga especialmente el Art. 11 de la Ley de Aranceles Aduaneros del 25 de noviembre de 1899 y demás disposiciones de la misma que se le opongan."

VENEZUELA.

HABILITACIÓN DE UN PUERTO.

La "Gaceta Oficial" de Caracas publica el siguiente decreto emitido por el Gobierno de Venezuela:

"1°. Se habilita el puerto de Manoa, en la parte oriental del Delta del Orinoco, únicamente para la exportación del mineral de hierro que se explote en las minas de Imataca.

"2°. Los buques grandes de vapor en que haya de exportarse este mineral, cuando vengan en lastre, ó cuando solamente traigan á su bordo maquinarias para el servicio de aquella mina, que por la ley son de libre importación, podrán rendir su viaje en Manoa sin tener que subir hasta Ciudad Bolívar.

"3°. La Aduana Marítima de Ciudad Bolívar autorizará al Comandante del Resguardo establecido en Manoa para que despache á su destino los vapores de dicha empresa y para que permita descargar allí las maquinarias destinadas á la explotación de las minas de Imataca que vengan en los vapores en que ha de exportarse el mineral de hierro.

"4°. Estas maquinarias podrán ser reconocidas y despachadas en Manoa por el empleado que designe el Administrador de la Aduana Marítima de Ciudad Bolívar, después que se hayan presentado en dicha Aduana los documentos referentes á la importación y libre despacho de las referidas maquinarias y llenadas en cada caso todas las formalidades y requisitos exigidos por la ley.

"5°. El Ministro de Hacienda y Crédito Público dictará las disposiciones que sean necesarias para el mejor cumplimiento de este decreto, de cuya ejecución queda encargado.

"Dado, firmado de mi mano, sellado con el Sello del Ejecutive Nacional y refrendado por el Ministro de Hacienda y Crédito Público, en el Palacio Federal, en Caracas, á 25 de julio de 1900.

"Año 90° de la Independencia y 42° de la Federación."

CUESTIÓN DE LÍMITES.

El Gobierno venezolano ha informado al encargado de negocios de aquella República en los Estados Unidos, Señor PULIDO, del nombramiento de Don FELIPE AGUEREVERE, notable ingeniero civil de Venezuela, como jefe de la Comisión que, en unión de la Comisión británica, debe fijar la línea divisoria entre Venezuela y la Guayana inglesa, según lo dispuesto por el tribunal de arbitraje de París. El Señor AGUEREVERE ha llegado ya á este país con el fin de proveerse de los instrumentos necesarios para su trabajo, en el cual contará con la cooperación de seis ingenieros civiles y de 60 individuos más. Dichos trabajos comenzarán en el mes de noviembre. El Señor PULIDO y el

ingeniero AGUEREVERE han comprado en los Estados Unidos instrumentos por valor de varios millares de *dollars*. Habrá necesidad de algunos meses para fijar la línea divisoria, y esto será el fin de una de las más serias cuestiones diplomáticas de los tiempos modernos.

NUEVO MIEMBRO CORRESPONDIENTE HONORARIO.

Con gusto anuncia á sus lectores el BOLETÍN MENSUAL de este Oficina que el distinguido centro-americano, Señor Don SALVADOR GALLEGOS, ha aceptado el cargo de miembro correspondiente honorario de la Unión Internacional en la República del Salvador. Es el Señor GALLEGOS, notable abogado y estadista de la América Central. Nació en Honduras el año de 1844, y cuando era aún muy niño, su familia se radicó en la ciudad de San Salvador. Allí hizo sus primeros estudios, y se recibió de abogado, habiendo comenzado á figurar en la política salvadoreña siendo todavía muy joven. Este ilustrado hombre público ha desempañado los siguientes cargos: Juez de 1ª instancia, abogado consultor del Gobierno, catedrático de la Universidad, Ministro Plenipotenciario y Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores, Instrucción Pública y Justicia. Últimamente ha sido decano de la Facultad de Jurisprudencia de la República del Salvador.

EL AMIANTO.

El periódico "El Azúcar," de la Habana, ha publicado el siguiente interesante artículo:

"De todas las anomalías producidas por la naturaleza, no hay ninguna más interesante que el amianto. Parece ocupar un intermedio entre el reino vegetal y el mineral, y aunque sea como una roca compuesta de silicatos de cal, de magnesia y de aluminia, posée fibras suaves y lisas como la seda, las que pueden hilarse y tejerse cual las fibras orgánicas.

"En la antigüedad se consideraba como una especie de madera incorruptible, pero hoy se sabe que proviene de la transformación de ciertos minerales, entre otros la serpentina, que cristalizaron á consecuencia de un enfriamiento lento en presencia del agua. Es, pues, una materia mineral filamentosa, de composición variable, que se encuentra en pequeñas aglomeraciones en ciertas rocas primitivas, en forma de vetas asociadas con la serpentina; aunque se encuentre también, pero de menos valor, en las piedras coloreadas. Lo hay en los Alpes, los Pirineos, Córcega, Italia y Escocia; y en 1878 se descubrieron grandes

depósitos de esta materia también en el Canadá, que con Italia son hoy los principales proveedores del mercado.

"Las condiciones particulares de resistencia al fuego del amianto eran conocidas de los griegos, que lo llamaron *asbestos*, que quiere decir incombustible, cuyo nombre conserva en inglés. Lo utilizaban para tejer unas sábanas en las que se envolvían los muertos para incinerarlos, recogiendo así intactas sus cenizas que conservaban en urnas cerradas.

"Las calidades peculiares del amianto quedaron al estado de mera curiosidad, sin aplicación práctica, hasta hace unos treinta años cuando los americanos idearon utilizarlas industrialmente, transformando el amianto, primero en pasta, luego en cartón y finalmente en papel.

"Al principio se fabricó la pasta de amianto para con ellas cubrir las partes expuestas al aire de las calderas y tuberías de vapor con el fin de aislar éstas y reducir la condensación del vapor en las mismas. Pero esta pasta presentaba el inconveniente de tener que ser removida cada vez que había que verificar una juntura ó zafar una sección de tubería; así que se ideó fabricar con ellas unas tiras de cartón que se amoldaban á la forma de la superficie que había que cubrir, y podían colocarse y removerse á voluntad, con más comodidad y mayor rapidez. Además, en esta nueva forma, ofrece la ventaja de permitir un hueco entre la superficie cubierta y la materia aisladora, cuyo hueco lleno de aire constituye también otra capa aisladora.

"Progresando las aplicaciones del amianto, se fabricaron también cartones especiales para guarnecer los prensa-estopa, los pistones, y en general todas las junturas que estén expuestas á la vez á una fricción y á una temperatura elevada. En tales condiciones, el cartón de amianto resiste perfectamente, donde quedaban rápidamente destruidas las materias vejetales que se usaban anteriormente. Por ejemplo, en locomotoras que recorren 300 kilómetros diários, las empaquetaduras y junturas de amianto aguantan tres ó cuatro meses consecutivos sin deteriorarse, cuando las otras empaquetaduras y junturas que se usaban antes tenían que reponerse cada quince ó veinte días. El cartón de amianto se emplea también con mucha ventaja en las máquinas motoras de gas.

"El amianto en bruto constituye una excelente materia filtrante, con la particularidad que después de usado puede limpiarse de todas las impurezas que ha recogido en el filtro, sometiéndolo á cierta temperatura en una hornilla, puesto que es incombustible.

"El papel de amianto se emplea en la industria y en los laboratorios para la filtración de los ácidos cuyo contacto atacaría las materias orgánicas en los otros elementos de filtración.

"Tal es el amianto, hoy en uso en casi todas las casas de calderas, y que ha venido á desterrar las antiguas junturas de estopa, y las de goma en muchas de sus aplicaciones."

NOTICIAS EXTRANJERAS DE INTERÉS.

UNA NUEVA CLASE DE GUTAPERCHA.

El Cónsul interino de la Gran Bretaña en Zanzibar informa á su Gobierno del descubrimiento de una nueva clase de gutapercha obtenida de un árbol que crece principalmente en Dunga. Cuando se hace una incisión en este árbol corre un líquido blanco que al ser echado en agua hirviendo, se coagula en forma de una substancia muy semejante á la gutapercha. Al enfriarse, se vuelve muy dura, pero mientras permanece suave puede dársele la forma que se quiera. La fruta del árbol tiene la figura de un melocotón y llega á crecer hasta el tamaño de un melón pequeño. Este nuevo producto ha sido examinado por peritos á fin de determinar si posee las cualidades de la gutapercha. Aunque estos experimentos no han demostrado que pueda ser usado en lugar de gutapercha, se cree que servirá para ciertos objetos en los que se emplea la gutapercha legítima y que, por tanto, puede llegar á tener valor en el mercado. El Cónsul manifiesta que el árbol es muy abundante en Zanzibar y que el producto es mucho más barato que la gutapercha.

PREVENCIÓN DE LAS GRANIZADAS.

Los esfuerzos que se hacen en Francia para evitar las granizadas en los distritos donde se cultiva la vid disparando cañonazos á las nubes cuentan con el apoyo decidido del Gobierno. Se han distribuido 52 cañones, manejados por 104 artilleros y sus jefes, en una extensión de 2,500 acres de ricos terrenos sembrados de vides. Se da tanta importancia al experimento que no solamente el Gobierno contribuyó con 2,000 francos y el Consejo Departamental con 1,500, sino que la Sociedad Agrícola Nacional de Francia dió 12,000 francos y 14 cañones. El Ministro de la Guerra suministra la pólvora á un precio nominal. La operación se hace sistemáticamente. Se escoge un punto elevado en el terreno donde se ha de hacer el experimento, que sirve de punto de observación, y se observa un método de señales. Cuando se dispara el primer tiro del puesto central, tiro que sirve de señal, se disparan también todos los otros cañones, primero cada dos minutos, pero con más frequencia después que se han disparado diez tiros. Se asegura que una gran tempestad accompañado de truenos y rayos, que comenzó en la mañana de 6 de julio de este año, fué completamente disipada á cañonazos por los agricultores de Denice, que en gran número salieron á combatirla. Ha sido tal el buen éxito de los experimentos que los dueños de viñedos se preparan para defenderse de la misma manera contra las granizadas en las regiones vinícolas de la república.

Como en algunos países de la América del Sur se cultiva le vid en

escala considerable, los informes aquí contenidos pueden ser de utilidad para preservar los viñedos contra una de las fuerzas más destructoras de la naturaleza.

EL SISTEMA MÉTRICO EN RUSIA.

Antes de mucho tiempo se introducirá en Rusia, probablemente, el sistema métrico. El proyecto de ley preparado con este objeto por el Ministro de Hacienda ha recibido la aprobación del Consejo de Estado. Se espera que las sociedades científicas cooperarán en los trabajos necesarios, para que el comercio pueda sin dificultad usar las pesas y medidas del sistema métrico.

BIBLIOGRAFÍA.

En esta sección del Boletín Mensual se tratará de los libros y folletos enviados á la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas, que se refieren á asuntos relacionados con los países de la Unión Internacional de Repúblicas Americanas.

El canje de publicaciones de Centro y Sud América puede efectuarse por conducto de la "Smithsonian Institution," Wáshington, D. C., por medio de las agencias de distribución que tiene en aquellos países, y que son las siguientes:

Argentina: Museo Nacional, Buenos Aires.

Bolivia: Oficina Nacional de Inmigración, Estadística y Propaganda Geográfica, La Paz.

Chile: Universidad de Chile, Santiago.

Colombia: Biblioteca Nacional, Bogotá.

Costa Rica: Oficina de Depósito, Reparto y Canje Internacional, San José.

El Salvador: Museo Nacional, San Salvador.

Guatemala: Instituto Nacional de Guatemala, Guatemala.

Honduras: Biblioteca Nacional, Tegucigalpa.

México: Todos los envíos gozan de la franquicia del correo.

Nicaragua: Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Managua.

Paraguay: Oficina General de Informaciones y Canje y Comisaría General de Inmigración, Asunción.

Perú: Biblioteca Nacional, Lima.

Uruguay: Oficina de Depósito, Reparto y Canje Internacional, Montevideo.

Venezuela: Museo Nacional, Caracas.

Se ha recibido en la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas un folleto que contiene la introducción escrita por Don Enrique M. Nelson para la obra del Señor Carlos Lix Klett titulada "Estudios Sobre

Producción, Comercio, Finanzas é Intereses Generales de la República Argentina." Es éste un trabajo notable al cual el Señor LIX KLETT ha dedicado especial atención. Al terminar su introducción, en la cual el Señor NELSON trata largamente sobre el libro del Señor LIX KLETT, se expresa de esta manera:

"Las líneas que anteceden, aunque ellas son necesariamente incompletas, bastarían para señalar la acción de este infatigable obrero á la consideración del país; pero nada reemplazará la fuerza persuasiva de este mismo libro, que guarda los rastros de un pasado tan ejemplar y meritorio. En esta época de producción intelectual escasa, en momentos en que se agitan graves problemas comerciales y económicos que nos sorprenden desprevenidos, el libro de LIX KLETT es de una oportunidad indiscutible por la savia que lleva, la enseñanza que ofrece, los ejemplos que muestra y las previsiones que anticipa.

El periódico "Mining and Engineering Review," de San Francisco de California, publicó en el mes de septiembre próximo pasado una edición especial muy bien ilustrada, dedicada enteramente á la descripción de aquellas regiones del estado de California donde se encuentran depósitos de petróleo. Las ilustraciones no son otra cosa que reproducciones de vistas fotográficas tomadas en varios de los lugares donde se encuentra petróleo. Anexos á dicho trabajo hay varios mapas que representan algunas secciones del estado de California en que abunda el mencionado producto mineral.

Con el título de "A Republic in the Tropics," (Una República de los Tropicos) el Rev. EUGENE R. HENDRIX, Doctor en teología, Obispo de la iglesia Episcopal Metodista, ha publicado un interesante artículo sobre el Brasil en uno de los últimos números del "New York Independent." Además de suministrar datos estadísticos de mucho interés, el Dr. HENDRIX trata de la inmigración y su influencia, de las leyes y costumbres del país, y particularmente de la libertad religiosa establecida por la Constitución y fielmente respetada por el Gobierno brasileño.

En 1888 la Sección de Entomología del Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos publicó un trabajo titulado "An Enumeration of the Published Synopses, Catalogues, and Lists of North American Insects, etc." El gran desarrollo que han tenido los estudios entomológicos desde la publicación de la mencionada obra ha hecho necesario que se dé á luz un nuevo trabajo sobre la materia, y el Departamento de Agricultura acaba de publicarlo con este nombre: "A List of Works on North American Entomology."

"Ni aun en las épocas de mayor florecimiento en los estudios se ha publicado entre nosotros un trabajo que considere por más lados el problema nacional. Este libro ofrece así una multitud de horizontes,

pues con igual discreción y suficiencia agota el asunto de la producción de nuestras materias primas, como examina las doctrinas económicas imperantes ó diserta libremente sobre las relaciones comerciales entre las naciones del mundo."

Una de las publicaciones conmemorativas del cuarto centenario del descubrimiento del Brasil lleva este titulo: "Historia topographica e Bellica da Nova Colonia do Sacramento do Rio de Prata." Esta obra tiene un gran interés historia y es una valiosa adición á la historia del Brasil y del Río de la Plata. Contiene una reseña de la lucha entre portugueses y españoles para la posesión del territorio que en la actualidad forma la República del Uruguay.

El Dr. Don Martín García Mérou, Ministro de Agricultura de la República Argentina, ha hecho publicar un trabajo preparado por el Señor Don Rafael Hernández, que fué leído ante el último Congreso Industrial de Buenos Aires, y por el cual el autor recibió una medalla de oro. El Dr. Hernández asegura que la República Argentina paga cada año á países extranjeros la suma de $25,000,000 por sacos, cuerdas, cables y cañamazo, todo lo cual podría fabricarse en el país.

El "South American Journal" ha publicado en forma de folleto una serie de artículos que habían visto la luz pública en dicho periódico bajo el título de "South America as a Field for Enterprise" (La América del Sur como un Campo para Empresas). Este trabajo contiene datos sobre el tráfico y las ventajas comerciales que ofrecen los países de la América meridional.

Acaba de publicarse en Río Janeiro el anuario de la República brasileña con el título de "Jornal do Brasil." El libro contiene más de 500 páginas y muy interesantes datos relativos al comercio, al gobierno y al pueblo del Brasil. La obra esta admirablemente ilustrada, con hermosos grabados que dan excelente idea de las grandes riquezas de aquel inmenso país.

Con el título de "Anuario del Observatorio de la Plata," se acaba de publicar en Buenos Aires un interesante trabajo que contiene las observaciones astronómicas hechas en dicho observatorio durante el año de 1899. Es una obra de mucho interés para los astrónomos americanos y que sin duda alguna tendrá muy favorable acogida en este país.

Entre las publicaciones más importantes relativas á la República de Bolivia merecen mencionarse los folletos publicados por el Gobierno boliviano con este título: "Breves Indicaciones para el Viajero y el Inmigrante á Bolivia." Estos folletos contienen datos referentes á los recursos económicos é industriales del país, así como al comercio interior y exterior.

Asegura el "Montevideo Times" que el Presidente del Uruguay, Señor Don JUAN LINDOLFO CUESTAS, está para terminar una novela histórica con el título de "Una Heroína Mendocina," que ha podido escribir en sus ratos de ocio. Esta será la primera novela escrita por el Presidente CUESTAS, pero no su primer trabajo literario.

El Directorio en inglés de la ciudad de Buenos Aires para 1900–1901, compilado por Mr. JOHN GRANT, contiene los nombres y direcciones de 15,000, personas residentes en la República Argentina que hablan el idioma inglés. Encierra también informes relativos al país y á la arancel de aduana de 1900.

El Señor L. P. NUNES, comerciante de Río Janeiro, ha publicado últimamente un folleto con este título: "Café—Sinopse—1893–1900." Es dicho trabajo una relación completa de lo que ha producido el café del Brasil en los años á que se refiere, asi como del total de las exportaciones de dicho artículo y su destino, las cantidades disponibles, etc.

El conocido y hábil cartógrafo Señor Don PABLO LUDWIG ha puesto en circulación una reducción del plano de Buenos Aires que publicó hace muy poco tiempo. Esta edición ha de tener favorable acogida por la comodidad de su reducido tamaño, la precisión de sus datos y la abundancia de detalles que contiene.

El ingeniero L. BROUGNIART ha dado al público un extenso estudio técnico sobre la teoría de las pólvoras modernas reglamentarias en la armada argentina. Tiene la obra numerosos grabados y se ocupa especialmente de la teoría termoquímica y mecánica de las pólvoras modernas y de las formas de fabricación.

"La Ilustración Sudamericana," que se publica en la ciudad de Buenos Aires, es uno de los periódicos más notables que ven la luz pública en la América latina. Es una revista muy bien escrita y que contiene magníficos grabados. Además de tratar de asuntos literarios, se ocupa de las noticias del día, de política, ciencias y artes.

El redactor del periódico "Le Nouveau Monde," de París, M. GOSTKOWSKI, ha publicado un libro titulado "Mexique," que es un manual de la República mexicana y contiene en forma concisa gran número de datos. Anexos á la obra hay un mapa general de la República y dos mapas que representan ferrocarriles.

El Dr. W. SIEVERS ha dado á luz en el periódico "Petermanns Mitteilungen" un interesante artículo sobre el informe de la Comisión de Ferrocarril Intercontinental, que salió á luz en Wáshington en 1898. Opina el autor que la construcción del Ferrocarril Intercontinental se llevará á efecto en no lejano día.

BOLETIM MENSAL

DA

SECRETARIA DAS REPUBLICAS AMERICANAS,

União Internacional das Republicas Americanas.

VOL. IX. OUTUBRO DE 1900. No. 4.

REPUBLICA ARGENTINA.

EXPORTAÇÃO DE PRODUCTOS AGRICOLAS.

As exportações da Republica Argentina nos primeiros cinco mezes do presente anno foram as seguintes: Trigo, 45,785,382 alqueires; milho, 5,884,246 alqueires; farinha de trigo, 556,540 barricas; farelo, 26,034 toneladas; linhaça, 183,559 toneladas de 2,204 libras cada uma; sementes de oleo, 55,108 saccos; farelo grosso, 55,382 saccos; tabaco, 1,726 fardos; quebracho, 104,146 toneladas; assucar, 1,088 toneladas; feno, 877,573 fardos de 110 libras cada um; manteiga, 428,450 libras; sebo, 16,198,960 libras; carneiros gelados, 989,058; quartos de rezes, 80,428; lã, 187,934,220 libras; pello, 1,284,654 libras; pelles de cabra, 1,167 fardos de 1,002 libras cada um; pelles de carneiro, 17,220 fardos; couros de boi seccos, 593,034; couros de boi salgados, 371,659; couros de cavallo seccos, 25,559, e couros de cavallo salgados, 8,060.

BOLIVIA.

MENSAGEM DO PRESIDENTE.

O periodico "El Estado," diario official da Republica boliviana, publica a mensagem que o Presidente Constitucional, General Don JOSÉ MANUEL PANDO, dirigio ao Congresso Nacional ao inaugurar suas sessões em La Paz, o dia 6 de Agosto deste anno. Desse notavel documento extrahimos os seguintes paragraphos:

"O Congresso Nacional de 1900 se reune hoje em favoraveis condições politicas, porque o Governo e o pais teem propendido a cimentar a paz publica e a consolidar a ordem constitucional.

"As relações de Bolivia são pacificas e amistosas com todos os Estados, e o Governo se propõe cumprir com lealdade os tratados vigentes, outorgando amplias garantias ao commercio estrangeiro.

"Com a Republica Argentina se tem levado a cabo os estudos sobre demarcação de fronteiras, e em breve se fixará a linha divisoria entre ambos estados.

"Está concordado proseguir os estudos technicos para a prolongação até Bolivia da Estrada de Ferro Central Norte Argentina, e se trata hoje de constituir a respectiva commissão de engenheiros.

"Pelo demais, as relações de Bolivia com a Republica Argentina são perfeitamente cordiaes.

"Com o Brazil se procura levar á devida execução o Tratado de Limites de 27 de Março de 1867, em conformidade com o protocollo de 30 de Outubro ultimo, no qual se estipulou explorar novamente as vertentes do rio Javary e collocar o marco divisorio na verdadeira nascente. Para o effeito se tem constituido de parte da Bolivia a Commissão demarcadora, se tem mandado a construir em Londres um vapor apropriado ao objecto, se tem depositado em Londres e em Pará os fundos sufficientes para fazer os gastos da operação e o Governo se propõe leval-a a termo por todos os meios que dependem da acção nacional.

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"Com a Republica dos Estados Unidos de Norte America procuramos estreitar nossas relações commerciaes, e Bolivia respondendo ao Governo desta nação tem aceito concurso na Exposição de Buffalo, que se inaugurará o 1° de Maio de 1901, e no Congresso Americano que deve reunir-se em Mexico, no qual se discutirão questões que interessam a todas as republicas americanas.

"As industrias e o commercio tomam cada dia proporções mais importantes, produzindo o melhoramento do cambio e uma actividade desconhecida até o presente. Daqui o incremento aduaneiro em Antofagasta e La Paz que tem permittido ao Governo attender com pontualidade a todos os serviços da administração publica.

"Com as medidas e reformas que proporá o Ministro de Fazenda, é possivel augmentar a renda nacional dentro de um systema de bem entendida equidade para o fomento das industrias e o commercio.

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"A Administração de Correios se encontra regularizada e melhorado seu serviço.

"Teem-se pago os creditos que reconhecia a Nação á Secretaria Internacional de Berne, a Republica Argentina e o Peru, por direitos de transito.

"Esgotadas as estampilhas de cinco centavos se autorizou uma nova emissão, pela somma de vinte-cinco mil bolivianos.

"Tem-se decretado um novo Regulamento de Correios devido á competencia do Director Geral do ramo.

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"Tem-se ordenado a organisação do recenseamento geral da população da Republica, que é urgente conhecer, dictando-se o regulamento e as ordens que requer sua execução encommendada esta vez a Repartição de Immigração, Estatistica e Propaganda Geographica.

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"O Governo tem o proposito de applicar de uma vez todos os fundos destinados á execução das obras de reconhecida utilidade, para que realizadas que estas sejam, possa applicar-se a direcção technica, o esforço e os recursos sufficientes á satisfação de outras necessidades.

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"Investigada a opinião do Governo sobre a construcção de uma estrada de ferro de Arica a Corocoro por capitaes americanos tem manifestado que veria com agrado a realização desse pensamento.

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"Adoptado como se acha o systema intuitivo na instrucção publica, o Ministerio tem dictado os programmas do primeiro gráo para a melhor applicação do novo systema de ensino, e continuará seu labor em igual sentido para os gráos seguintes.

"Os Collegios de Artes e Officios de La Paz e Sucre, os institutos medicos, os collegios nacionaes e as sociedades geographicas teem recebido pontualmente as subvenções que lhes estão assignadas no presupposto vigente.

"Tem-se attendido devidamente á melhora dos locaes de instrucção e a sua mobilia, entregando-se ao effecto, o total das escassas sommas assignadas na Lei Financial. Assim mesmo se tem procurado a acquisição de material scientifico para estes estabelecimentos.

"O Governo se preoccupa actualmente dos trabalhos preliminares de acquisição e adaptação de locaes para estabelecer de um modo conveniente as escolas normaes nos principaes districtos. O Ministerio se occupa hoje da regulamentação destas e da collecção de leis sobre instrucção publica que hão de servir de antecedente para a preparação do Estatuto Geral.

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"No ramo de Colonização pouco tenho que dizer-vos, porque não leva muito tempo o decreto de erecção do Territorio de Colonias.

"Sem embargo, a attenção desse Territorio em todos os ramos da Administração publica requer labor assiduo e incessante para fomentar seu progresso, conhecida, como é, a importancia que tem.

"Quando estava em sessão a Convenção Nacional não tomou particu-

lar interesse o Governo na creação de uma nova Secretaria de Estado, que comprehendesse os ramos de Fomento e Colonização. Mas hoje que reconhece a necessidade de sua creação, pelo augmento de cargo das outras carteiras, proporcionando ao desenvolvimento que toma a administração publica, creio que deve dictar-se uma nova lei de organização politica amoldada ás exigencias do presente.

"As Colonias do Chaco e as de outros pontos que se achavam constituidas, se teem mantido como antes e attendido com alguma regularidade.

"Concluo, Honrados Representantes, desejando que façais labor proficuo, em bem da Patria, e que sobre o legitimo amor que professais aos Departamentos que tendes vindo a representar, prevaleça o sentimento boliviano e a percepção clara das necessidades do presente e das responsabilidades que os correspondem em um periodo decisivo para a salvação ou ruina de Bolivia."

BRAZIL.

TRATADO DE LIMITES.

O "Boletim Official" da Republica Argentina publica o tratado geral de limites celebrado entre aquella republica e o Brazil. O artigo primeiro diz: Que a linha divisoria entre a Republica Argentina e o Brazil começa no Uruguay, frente á bocca do Guareim, e segue pelo thalweg daquelle rio até a foz do Pepiri-Guazú. A margem direita ou occidental do Uruguay pertence á Republica Argentina e a esquerda, ou oriental, ao Brazil. Da foz do rio Pepiri-Guazú, a linha segue pelo alveo desse rio até sua cabeceira principal, de onde continúa pelo terreno mais alto até a cabeceira principal do rio San Antonio, e de alli por seu alveo até sua embocadura no rio Liguazú, de conformidade com o laudo proferido pelo Presidente dos Estados Unidos de America.

Pertence á Republica Argentina o territorio ao oeste da linha divisoria em toda a extensão de cada um dos dous rios, e da linha que divide o terreno mais alto entre as cabeceiras dos mesmos rios. Pertence ao Brazil o territorio que fica a leste. Da foz do rio San Antonio a linha segue pelo thalweg do rio Iguazú até sua embocadura no rio Paraná, pertencendo á Republica Argentina a margem meridional ou esquerda do mesmo Iguazú, e ao Brazil a septentrional ou direita. As ilhas do Uruguay e do Iguazú seguirão pertencendo ao paiz indicado pelo thalweg de cada um desses rios. Os commissarios demarcadores terão, sem embargo, a faculdade de propor o cambio que julgarem aconselhado pela conveniencia de ambos os paizes, e que dependerá da approvação dos respectivos Governos. Cada uma das Altas Partes Contratantes, trocadas as ratificações deste Tratado, nomearão uma Commissão demarcadora, composta de um primeiro commissario, de

um segundo commissario substituto e de dous ajudantes com o pessoal auxiliar que julgar necessario.

As duas commissões constituidas em Commissão mixta, no prazo de 6 mezes, contados desde a troca das ratificações, farão a demarcação da parte da fronteira ainda não demarcada, levantando planos detalhados dos rios Uruguay e Iguazú, pondo postes onde lhes for determinado em suas instrucções. No plano geral da fronteira que deverão formar, incluirão a parte comprehendida entre aquelles dous rios, servindo-se para isto do plano levantado em 1887 e 1888 pela respectiva commissão mixta e pelos trabalhos da organizada em virtude do protocolo de 9 de Agosto de 1895. Os dous Governos formularão de commum accordo as instrucções que forem necessarias. O presente tratado, depois de approvado pelos Congressos das duas republicas, será ratificado, e as ratificações serão trocadas na cidade do Rio de Janeiro no mais breve prazo possivel.

A COMPANHIA AURIFERA DE MINAS GERAES.

Transcrevemos do "Jornal do Commercio," a seguinte interessante noticia sobre a Companhia Aurifera de Minas Geraes:

"Em Março de 1892 fundou-se em Juiz de Fóra a Companhia Aurifera de Minas Geraes, para trabalhar e explorar as antigas lavras conhecidas pelo nome de 'D. Florisbella.'

"Essas lavras de ouro são situadas na estação Honorio Bicalho, no kilometro 561 da Estrada de Ferro Central.

"Desde a sua fundação tem a companhia funccionado sem interrupção e ha tres annos que todos os serviços essenciaes estão terminados e todos os machinismos funccionando.

"O capital primitivo da companhia era de 200:000$, que foi augmentado para 1,000:000$ e mais tarde a 5,000:000$ para corresponder ao seu desenvolvimento e expansão.

"Nas minerações de ouro, estabelecidos os serviços essenciaes, o primerio cuidado é alargar os trabalhos do engenho, porquanto maior a escala menores as despezas geraes, relativamente.

"Na industria da mineração do ouro devem se ter em linha de conta certos dados e considerações que constituem a razáo de ser de sua prosperidade.

"Verificada em determinada localidade a existencia de um ou mais veeiros, faz-se a analyse de laboratorio das amostras. Estas analyses, repetidas um sem numero de vezes, nos minerios da Aurifera, mostrárão sempre uma porcentagem nunca menor de cincoenta grammas por tonelada, e em alguns veeiros mais de cem grammas por tonelada.

"Em Dezembro de 1898, no Laboratorio da Escola de Minas de Ouro Preto, em tres ensaios feitos em minerio da Aurifera, achou-se a média de 407 grammas por tonelada.

"Para o bom exito de uma mineração, uma das principaes, senão a

principal condição, é a abundancia de agua com grande altura, isto é, a força hydraulica. A Aurifera tem a altura de agua de cem metros, e póde dispôr até de quinhentos litros de agua por segundo, o que produz uma força hydraulica consideravel.

"Essa massa de agua é conduzida por um canal de oito kilometros, perfeitamente construido, onde abundão muros de segurança, trabalhos de pedreiro, etc., servido de larga banqueta, pela qual se faz a vigilancia, e se póde fiscalisar a cavallo.

"Como complemento do serviço hydraulico possue a Companhia dous reservatorios á altura de cem metros acima da roda Pelton, que impulsiona os machinismos, e onde vem ter a agua trazida em tubos de ferro de 30 centimetros de diametro.

"É provavel que seja a Aurifera a unica empreza dessa natureza que tenha agua em tal abundancia e de tanta altura.

"Outro elemento de exito para a mineração aurifera é a abundancia de matas para o abastecimento de madeiras de construcção, e sobretudo para estivamento das minas.

"Aurifera possue as mais densas da região, e mesmo verdadeiras florestas da chamada 'candeia,' cuja propriedade, além de jamais aprodecer, é preciosa para o serviço das galerias.

"Todos os edificios e construcções da Aurifera são feitos de materiaes da sua propriedade, bem como os tijolos e telhas tirados das jazidas de argila de primeira qualidade, abundantissima, desde o barro commum até o kaolim.

"A companhia possue muito mais de mil hectares de terrenos de abundantes matas, de aguas, de campos, e jazidas de ouro, ferro, outros mineraes e productos naturaes.

"Sua propriedade territorial tem limites naturaes: de um lado o corrego Manoel João serve de ponto de referencia para os marcos do sul, do lado norte o Rio Cambimbe; no oriente as serras do Curralinho; no occidente, limitando como o morro Velho e com o Faria, o rio das Velhas, acompanhado, nas terras da Aurifera, pela Estrada de Ferro Central, desde o kilometro 560 até o kilometro 567.

"Numerosas habitações em numero superior a cem casas se encontrão distribuidas em seu vasto territorio, conforme as necessidades do serviço.

"Além da existencia real dos veeiros ricos, da força hydraulica necessaria aos machinismos, das matas para as construcções e para o estivamento das minas, ha ainda uma condição que sobreleva a todas e que é a chave da explorabilidade de uma mineração: é a facilidade de transporte, e esta a tem a Aurifera como nenhuma outra empreza. A estação da Estrada de Ferro Central está nas terras da companhia e suas galerias e engenhos estão a menos de cincoenta metros da plataforma da estação Honorio Bicalho, no kilometro 561 da Estrada de Ferro Central do Brazil, estação que serve ás Companhias do Faria e Morro

Velho, que está nove kilometros de distancia, estando o Faria a tres kilometros da estação.

"As galerias, em numero de nove, já attingem cerca de um kilometro, abertas nos veeiros, e desde seu inicio destinadas ao grande desenvolvimento que devião tomar os trabalhos em vista da situação favoravel da Aurifera, forão e continuão a ser perfuradas com todas as regras da sciencia, quer sob o ponto de vista technico, quer quanto ás direcções convenientes para descortinar a orientação, direcção, grossura, largura ou comprimento dos veeiros.

"Os engenhos são do typo californiano, da casa FRASER & CHALMERS, de Chicago, sendo actualmente de dez pilões e estando já preparado o local para assentamento de outros dez, sendo minimo o trabalho necessario para a collocação de cem pilões.

"Com vinte pilões, que é o typo minimo das minerações, e com um minerio de trinta grammas, que é commum, póde se ter a producção média de mil e duzentas grammas diarias, o que approxima o valor da extracção de cinco contos diarios. Cada pilão californiano póde esmagar e pulverisar duas toneladas de minerio em 24 horas.

"Todos os detalhes do serviço correspondem em correcta proporção á grandiosidade da empreza e seu futuro industrial, como se póde deprehender do relatorio do Capitão RICARDO HODGE, publicado na edição de 21 de Abril de 1900 do 'Mining Journal.'"

ESTRADAS DE FERRO PAULISTAS.

O movimento financeiro das quatro principaes estradas de ferro de São Paulo, no anno findo de 1899, foi o seguinte:

Companhias.	Receita.	Despeza.	Saldo.
São Paulo Railway Company, Limited	19,920,055$880	10,412,752$910	9,507,302$470
Companhia Paulista de Villafranca e Fluviaes:			
Bitola larga	13,656,310$488	5,553,862$659	8,102,447$829
Secção Rio Clara	6,938,672$410	3,047,374$851	3,891,297$559
Linha Descalvadense	54,046$900	66,392$617	[1] 12,345$717
Linha de Santa Rita	147,822$025	166,936$644	[1] 19,114$619
Linha fluvial	368,518$580	318,025$570	50,493$010
Total	21,165,370$403	9,152,592$341	12,012,778$062
Companhia Mogyana de Estrada de Ferro:			
Tronco e ramaes Linha do Rio Grande e Rio de Caldas Linha do Catalão	15,772,440$105	9,207,282$821	5,565,157$284
Companhia União Sorocabana e Ytuana:			
Secção Sorocabana Secção Ituana Itú a Mayrink (linha de ligação)	8,381,068$110	5,360,722$100	3,020,346$010
Linha fluvial	40,468$100	118,872$620	78,404$520
Total	8,421,536$210	5,479,594$720	2,941,941$490

[1] Deficit.

COSTA RICA.

DECRETOS RELATIVOS AO GADO E Á BANANA.

"La Gaceta," diario official de Costa Rica, publica os seguintes decretos:

"O Congresso Constitucional da Republica de Costa Rica, Considerando:

"Que é de todo ponto conveniente á riqueza publica como meio de fomentar o desenvolvimento da recente industria do cultivo de bananas no paiz, infundir aos promotores dessa industria a maior confiança respeito da isenção de direitos de exportação deste fructo;

"Em uso das faculdades constitucionaes, decreta:

"ARTIGO UNICO. Pelo prazo de dez annos, contados desde a publicação do presente decreto, não se gravará com direito algum a exportação da banana."

"O Congresso Constitucional da Republica de Costa Rica, em uso das faculdades constitucionaes e com o fim de proteger a industria pecuaria no paiz, decreta:

"ARTIGO 1°. Declara-se livre de todo direito fiscal pelo termo de dez annos a exportação de gado vaccum e a introducção de animaes de criação.

"ARTIGO 2°. O gado gordo que se introduzir no paiz pagará no primeiro anno dous, no segundo quatro, no terceiro seis e nos annos seguintes oito colones por cabeça.

"A disposição contida no artigo 2° começará a vigorar um anno depois de publicado o presente decreto."

EQUADOR.

MENSAGEM DO PRESIDENTE.

O Senhor Consul Geral do Equador em Nova York se tem servido remetter a esta Secretaria um exemplar da Mensagem que o Senhor Presidente do Equador, Don ELOY ALFARO, dirigio, com data de 23 de Agosto proximo passado, ao Congresso Nacional. Deste notavel documento se teem tomado os seguintes paragraphos:

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"Com Hespanha temos celebrado uma convenção sobre garantia reciproca da propriedade litteraria e artistica; tratado que o Ministro do Ramo vos apresentará opportunamente, para que vos sirvais deliberar sobre sua conveniencia e approvação. Tambem nos tem convidado a Mãi Patria a concorrer a um Congresso Social e Economico

Hispano-Americano que deverá reunir-se em Madrid, em Novembro proximo; convite que temos aceito, tendo em mira as immensas vantagens que desse Congresso podem tirar os paizes de origem hespanhola.

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"Congratulo-me em annunciar-vos a proxima reunião de outro Congresso Internacional Americano. Todo o que tende a estreitar os laços de fraternidade, por meio de pactos de geral conveniencia para as nações irmãs e amigas, tem merecido sempre a preferente attenção de nosso Governo; e pelo mesmo, o Equador concorrerá ao futuro Congresso, o que pode cumprir muitas das aspirações da America, como uniformar e dar força ao Direito Publico Americano, estabelcer a unidade do systema monetario para todo o Novo Mundo, dar forma pratica ao grandioso projecto de uma Estrada de Ferro Continental, etc.

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"Em obsequio da sciencia, o Governo FRANCEZ tem enviado o notavel astronomo, Sr. FRANCISCO GONNESSIAT, afim de que se entenda nos trabalhos preparatorios da missão scientifica que deverá cumprir no Equador a Grande Commissão Internacional que chegará nos primeiros mezes do anno proximo. Desde logo, temos posto nosso Observatorio Astronomico á disposição do Senhor GONNESSIAT, mediante um contrato por quatro annos, e nos propomos ajudar á commissão scientifica alludida, em tudo quanto esteja ao alcance do Governo.

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"A situação anomala pela que vem atravessando o paiz, tem detido um tanto o movimento progressivo das rendas fiscaes.

"As receitas no ultimo anno economico ascenderam a $7,565,963.99. A esta somma ha que aggregar $59,866.37, existencia na Thesouraria o 1° de Janeiro de 1899, o que faz subir a receita nos livros da contabilidade do ministerio a $7,625,830,36.

"As despezas se elevaram a $6,662,944.73. A differença entre as receitas e as despezas é de $962,885.63, e está representada por $86,794.76, existencia em thesourarias o 31 de Dezembro de 1899; e pelo valor dos depositos feitos nos Bancos de Guayaquil, para o serviço da estrada de ferro, divida externa e outras contas diversas, conforme a disposições legaes e contratos anteriores.

"O rendimento das alfandegas tem subido a $6,184,632.17; isto é, a $108,105.11 mais que no anno anterior.

"O producto das alfandegas terrestres de Tulcán e Loja, incluido no rendimento total de alfandegas, alcança a $2,713.85 e a $4,637.50, respectivamente; o que demonstra de maneira clara que ainda se verifica o contrabando em grande escala por nossas fronteiras. O unico meio de extirpar esse cancro que ameaça reduzir progressivamente as

entradas das alfandegas maritimas, é autorisar ao Poder Executivo para que estabeleça resguardos onde o estimar conveniente e para que fiscalize o movimento de mercadorias nos lugares mesmos onde se introduzirem para seu consumo.

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"Dá-me immensa satisfacção informar-vos que a divida externa—que sempre tem pesado angustiosamente em nosso orçamento—tem sido arranjada de maneira muito favoravel, em minha opinião. Esse arranjamento, como é natural, está sujeito á vossa approvação, e sem ella, ficará sem valor o pactado e as cousas volverão a seu estado primitivo. A importancia da negociação me autoriza para expôr-vos ligeiramente e em resumo aquellas estipulações que creio salvadoras do credito nacional.

"A companhia da Estrada de Ferro Transandina declarou no contrato, que era possuidor de 660,000 libras esterlinas em apolices da divida externa, e que as £18,000 restantes que ainda não estavam em seu poder, ficariam sem valor algum, si não eram apresentadas á commissão respectiva, até o 1° de Julho proximo passado. Em vista desta declaração, o Governo do Equador aceitou a venda dessas apolices, comprando-as do typo ao 34 por cento; e reduzindo por este modo a divida externa ao minimum de £233,800, ainda no supposto de que a companhia alcançasse a reunir em suas mãos o total das £678,000.

"Aggregue-se a isto que a companhia da estrada de ferro se tem convindo em pagar á Republica os $750,000 em ouro americano que temos na empreza viaferrea, em apolices da divida externa negociada, ao mesmo typo de 35 por cento. Esta operação reduziria a dita divida em £154,500, de sorte que as £233,800 se rebaixariam a 70,300 condores equatorianos. E, o que é mais, a divida externa se converteria em interna, com o 4 por cento de juro annual e 1 por cento de amortização; podendo-se, em consequencia, fazer o serviço daquelle credito com só 3,965 condores, ou sejam $39,650 annuaes.

"Conforme ao ajuste celebrado com a Companhia da Estrada de Ferro Transandina, o Governo tem remettido a Londres no anno anterior, para attender ao serviço da divida reduzida, a somma de £12,112; o qual vos mostrará desde logo as vantagens do mencionado contrato, pois si tivessemos tido que dar cumprimento ao que celebrou o Governo anterior, a dita remessa teria tido que passar de £34,000. A quota de £6,000, correspondente ao primeiro semestre deste anno, tem sido remettida com opportunidade a Londres, conforme ao contrato; e tenho confiança de que será a ultima remessa, si vos approvais o arranjo de que vos venho fallando.

"Entendo que em nenhuma epoca tem conseguido o papel de nossa divida externa o alto preço de um 25 por cento de seu valor nominal; em 1898 se cotisava a menos de 20 por cento, de maneira que na operação realizada pela companhia da estrada de ferro, os portadores de

apolices equatorianas teem obtido um grande beneficio. O arranjo tem sido, pois, vantajoso para os credores e, ao mesmo tempo, decoroso para a Republica, mercé á intervenção do Sr. ARCHER HERMANN, a cuja previsão e actividade deve a companhia da estrada de ferro o convenio definitivo com a Commissão de Portadores de Apolices em Londres. E isto, apezar de que a dita commissão, ao comprehender que a companhia da estrada de ferro tinha necessidade de adquirir esse papel, tratou de abusar elevando demasiado seu preço, e impondo ao comprador condições por demais duras.

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"O Ministro de Instrucção Publica vos fallará das reformas necessarias na instrucção publica, e espero que acolhereis aquellas indicações nascidas da experiencia e do interesse pelo engrandecimento da nação. Apezar do sem numero de obstaculos com que tem tropeçado a Administração Liberal, me é honroso informar-vos que, hoje por hoje, concorrem ás escolas 64,409 alumnos de um e outro sexo, e que só as escolas fiscaes ascendem a 1,039, algumas das quaes se acham até na Região Oriental e no Archipelago de Colon. Mas, ao mesmo tempo, devo informar-vos que não é possivel attender ás necessidades da instrucção primaria com as escassas rendas votadas no orçamento.

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'Os trabalhos do caminho de Quito a Chone teem continuado com vigor, e a respectiva junta administradora, presidida pelo Sr. Governador Dr. RAFAEL GOMEZ DE LA TORRE, tem contratado a abertura da dita via com differentes empresarios e por secções, nas quaes se trabalhará ao mesmo tempo, de modo que se ache expedita no curso do presente anno. Os gastos teem sido de $38,785 em 1899, e de $18,614 no primeiro semestre do anno actual.

"No caminho de Ibarra ao Pailón trabalham constantemente mais de quinhentos trabalhadores, e a obra se encontra concluida até o ponto chamado o Achiotal, cerca do rio Lita, onde principia a zona calida á costa.

"A ponte de aço, contratada com os Srs. SCHMIDT e ANDA para o passo do río de Guayllabamba, se encontra já em Guayaquil. Essa ponte substituirá com grande vantagem a que foi destruida pelas fortes inundações daquelle rio.

"O caminho de Calasalí á montanha de Nanegal se continúa tambem trabalhando com todo empenho.

"A antiga ponte de pedra de Cusiacú destruida por grandes torrentes no anno anterior, tem sido reconstruida solidamente, afim de evitar uma nova destruição.

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"Em 1898 tinhamos 1,940 kilometros de linha telegraphica e actualmente sua extensão alcança já a 2,200 kilometros, estando em construc-

ção outros ramaes. Na capital temos estabelecido já o serviço telephonico e extendido-o até Ibarra.

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"Os trabalhos no caminho de Pelileo á Região Oriental, teem continuado, não obstante as enormes difficuldades que tem sido necessario obviar. As contribuições destinadas para essa obra, só teem produzido $34,862.53, dos quaes se teem empregado já mais de $25,000. É, pois, necessario considerar os meios de duplicar a renda assignalada para essa nova via de communicação, cuja importancia é tão transcendental para o Equador.

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"Tenho autorisado que se contrate com o Sr. Martin Reimberg, a construcção de um molhe fiscal em Guayaquil, obra cuja urgente necessidade ninguem poderá pôr em duvida. As condições daquelle contrato as vereis no respectivo documento. * * *

"A Companhia da Estrada de Ferro Transandina, denominada officialmente "The Guayaquil and Quito Railway Company," depositou em casa de Roberts Lubbock e Co., agentes financeiros do Equador em Londres, a quantia de £295,000 em apolices da divida externa que, ao typo de 35 por cento, equivalem á somma de meio milhão de dollares ouro americano, valor offerecido pelos constructores da estrada de ferro como garantia do cumprimento de suas obrigações.

"Em mensagem especial vos darei conta detalhada dos trabalhos da linha ferrea, os quaes, apezar dos inconvenientes peculiares a toda empreza de igual magnitude, marcham adiante com passo firme. Sómente vos direi por agora, que abrigo a mais inteira confiança na respeitabilidade da companhia constructora, e que, pelo mesmo, de modo algum ficarão fallidas as esperanças de ver realizada aquella obra que nos abrirá de par em par as portas de um porvir prospero e feliz."

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ESTADOS UNIDOS.

EXPORTAÇÃO DE ALGODÃO.

O algodão occupa outra vez o primeiro lugar na lista dos productos exportados dos Estados Unidos. Em 1898, devido ao facto de que se vendia o trigo a $1 por bushel, o valor da exportação deste producto excedeu ao do algodão. Durante os sete mezes findos em Julho de 1900, as exportações de algodão montaram a $142,576,097, ao passo que as exportações de cereaes para o mesmo periodo montaram a $138,304,509. Segundo dados organizados pela Secção de Estatisticas

da Secretaria da Fazenda e que comprehendem cerca de 98 por cento da exportação total de algodão, o valor do algodão em rama exportado no anno findo em Agosto de 1900, foi maior que em qualquer anno anterior desde 1892, e que o preço médio por libra foi maior que em qualquer época desde 1893, com excepção do anno de 1896.

O preço médio do algodão exportado em Agosto de 1900, foi de 9.7 centavos a libra, contra 5.6 centavos a libra no anno de 1899 e 5.8 centavos em 1896, e foi maior que o preço médio em qualquer anno desde o de 1891. O seguinte quadro demonstra a quantidade, o valor e preço médio por libra do algodão exportado durante os annos de 1887 a 1900:

Anno.	Quantidade.	Valor.	Preço por libra.
	Libras.	*Dollares.*	*Centavos.*
1887	2,150,780,791	204,740,804	9.51
1888	2,259,626,754	222,805,494	9.86
1889	2,365,095,768	235,898,233	9.97
1890	2,464,460,578	250,571,334	10.16
1891	2,925,109,652	291,499,029	9.93
1892	2,948,400,103	258,628,371	8.74
1893	2,242,625,388	190,837,234	8.84
1894	2,653,122,567	208,117,277	7.88
1895	3,477,300,269	201,536,926	5.79
1896	2,380,629,953	193,987,848	8.15
1897	3,059,915,757	227,728,459	7.44
1898	3,897,200,752	232,325,992	5.96
1899	3,798,486,844	211,278,139	5.56
1900	3,081,571,252	245,485,209	7.96

O "American Cotton Reporter," referindo-se á condição do algodão em 1° de Setembro de 1900, diz que a existencia deste producto no principio do anno, tanto no estrangeiro, como no paiz, foi a menor que jamais se tem conhecido. A colheita de algodão promettia ser muito maior este anno que em 1899, mas como resultado da recente tempestade, grande parte da zona algodoeira de Texas ficou assolada. Os manufactureiros estrangeiros teem uma pequena existencia de algodão. A colheita da India não será grande, e a do Egypto sómente mediana. Por conseguinte, se espera que o algodão se venda a 12 centavos, ou a um preço ainda maior, antes do fim de Agosto proximo. A existencia total do mundo é sómente de 682,998 fardos, comparados com 2,171,515 fardos em 1899 e 1,579,207 fardos em 1898. Os fiandeiros inglezes ver-se-hão obrigados a comprar algodão, quer seja alto quer baixo o preço d'elle, a menos que fecham suas fabricas.

No entretanto as fazendas de algodão não podem ser fabricadas aos preços actuaes sem uma diminuição no custo de manufactura. O algodão cóntido em um corte de panno custa cerca de 80 centavos, ao passo que o corte aos preços actuaes vale $1.32. O custo de manufactura e o lucro por conseguinte, teem de ser obtidos dos 52 centavos.

UM ANNO DE GRANDE PROSPERIDADE PARA PENNSYLVANIA.

O relatorio da Repartição de Estatistica Industrial correspondente ao anno de 1899, que está para publicar-se, conterá dados muito

notaveis. Houve no anno passado 16,437 empregados nas industrias mais que em 1898. O total do que se pagou como salarios montou a $78,179,333 contra $62,676,615 em 1898.

O valor total da producção durante o anno passado foi de $377,934,411, o qual é um augmento sobre o anno precedente de mais do 42 por cento.

O Estado de Pennsylvania produziu no anno passado 6,542,998 toneladas de ferro em linguados. A producção total dos Estados Unidos foi de 13,620,703 toneladas, o qual representa um excesso de mais de 46 por cento sobre a producção da Grã Bretanha. Estes algarismos não podem menos de chamar a attenção quandó se pensa que ha apenas cinco annos a Grã Bretanha produzia 12 por cento mais de aço em linguados que os Estados Unidos. A producção deste artigo em Pennsylvania em 1899 excedeu á do anno precedente em 1,175,019 toneladas. O valor total da producção de ferro em linguados em Pennsylvania durante o anno passado subiu a cerca de $100,000,000.

Em 1899 Pennsylvania produziu 6,446,159 toneladas de aço, o qual representa um augmento de 22 por cento sobre o anno precedente. A producção total de aço nos Estados Unidos em 1899, foi de 10,639,857 toneladas, e a da Grã Bretanha de 5,000,000 de toneladas, approximadamente. O Estado de Pennsylvania produziu 60 por cento da producção total dos Estados Unidos e como o 30 por cento mais que a Grã Bretanha. Nos ultimos cinco annos a producção de aço nos Estados Unidos tem augmentado 141 por cento, emquanto que na Grã Bretanha o augmento tem sido só de 55 por cento. A producção total de ferro e aço em Pennsylvania durante o anno passado montou a 7,093,485 toneladas, com um valor de $233,377,126.

A industria de folha de Flandres tem feito muito progresso em Pennsylvania, e no anno passado produziu 331,082,734 libras.

EXPORTAÇÕES AO CANADÁ.

A tarifa aduaneira do Canadá, calculada para favorecer a Grã Bretanha, não tem produzido o effeito que se esperava em quanto a reduzir as exportações dos Estados Unidos áquella colonia ingleza. O periodico "Canadian Manufacturer" chama a attenção para o facto de que a importação no Canadá de effectos dos Estados Unidos gravados com direitos aduaneiros representou durante o anno economico de 1899 a somma de $44,000,000, emquanto que a da Grã Bretanha não ascendeu a $28,000,000. Os Estados Unidos enviam ao Canadá maior numero de manufacturas de ferro e aço que o Reino Unido.

Eis aqui como se exprime o citado periodico:

"A maior parte do commercio do Canadá é com os Estados Unidos e apezar das vantagens que a tarifa aduaneira de Canadá offerece aos fabricantes inglezes, são os industriaes americanos os que tomam a melhor parte daquelle commercio. Parece impossivel que as fabricas inglezas não possam fazer concurrencia com as americanas no mercado canadense."

Convem recordar que em 1897 a tarifa aduaneira do Canadá foi arranjada de tal maneira que as mercadorias que da Inglaterra entraram no Canadá pagaram desde o mez de Abril daquelle anno 12½ por cento menos que as procedentes de outros paizes. Em Julho de 1898 se fez outra reducção em favor da Grã Bretanha, mediante a qual os direitos aduaneiros sobre effectos inglezes deviam ser 25 por cento menos que sobre os de outros paizes.

Não ha muito se annunciou que a partir do 1° de Julho deste anno se rebaixariam mais os direitos sobre artigos inglezes, mas não é possivel dizer todavia que resultado tem produzido isto. É preciso comparar as importações no Canadá de manufacturas da Grã Bretanha e dos Estados Unidos durante os annos de 1898–99 e 1900 afim de decidir si os industriaes inglezes teem alcançado sobre os dos americanos algumas vantagens durante os ditos annos.

Os quadros que se verão em seguida mostram a importação no Canadá de vinte das principaes manufacturas que foram da Grã Bretanha nos annos que terminaram o 30 de Junho de 1898, 1899 e 1900, comparada com o mesmo numero de artigos dos Estados Unidos em igual periodo. Esses quadros demonstram que o augmento na importação no Canadá destes effectos da Grã Bretanha durante o anno economico que terminou o 30 de Junho de 1900 sobre o anterior foi de 32 por cento, emquanto que a importação dos mesmos artigos dos Estados Unidos no mesmo periodo augmentou 37 por cento.

Merece menção o facto de que a exportação total dos Estados Unidos á America ingleza no anno economico que terminou o 30 de Junho de 1900 foi a mais grande de que ha recordo, pois teve um valor de $97,041,722, contra $89,570,458 em 1899 e $84,889,819 em 1898.

Quadro das vinte principaes manufacturas importadas no Canadá da Grã Bretanha.

Artigos.	1898.	1899.	1900.
Tecidos de estambre	$2,855,054	$2,741,042	$2,824,788
Tecidos de lã	1,103,673	1,527,624	1,811,928
Folha de flandres em chapas e laminas	1,017,528	856,434	1,520,203
Filaças de algodão	1,112,709	1,282,388	1,520,088
Effectos de uso pessoal	1,573,461	1,304,456	1,274,056
Aço sem forjar	293,561	253,904	1,167,642
Tapetes	764,107	879,232	1,150,945
Generos de algodão estampados em peças	805,675	897,850	987,201
Bebidas espirituosas	708,978	791,996	922,956
Generos de linho em peças	634,552	762,936	890,777
Ferro para estradas de ferro	196,223	168,599	830,360
Artigos de armarinho e effectos de modas	677,382	697,607	765,565
Louça de barro e de porcelana	814,060	752,927	627,016
Ferro para arcos, laminado e para caldeiras	349,769	423,899	501,983
Azeites de sementes	179,920	351,885	464,807
Generos de algodão branqueados	189,432	320,889	445,550
Ferro fundido e forjado	173,310	174,653	370,783
Ferro galvanizado em laminas	304,769	351,388	314,238
Generos de seda	113,082	186,582	296,060
Cutelaria	32,220	285,411	270,208

Quadro das vinte principaes manufacturas importadas no Canadá dos Estados Unidos.

Artigos.	1898.	1899.	1900.
Trilhos de aço	$1,555,405	$1,720,503	$2,882,667
Generos de algodão	2,465,630	2,759,164	2,668,906
Instrumentos de agricultura	781,415	1,521,054	2,006,943
Livros, mappas e gravados	722,049	844,410	1,012,986
Azeites para illuminação	737,389	762,624	1,012,441
Couro	878,054	821,530	952,846
Ferragens para constructores	719,326	906,047	818,917
Carruagens	183,233	582,094	544,465
Relogios de parede, de bolso, etc	349,198	410,237	433,645
Calçado	285,054	427,023	413,487
Moveis	523,424	439,536	394,328
Bicyclettas	614,003	582,500	387,767
Terebenthina	207,600	230,758	332,069
Apparelhos para telephono, telegrapho e instrumentos scientificos	305,016	429,734	276,777
Cobre e suas manufacturas	155,215	146,635	228,356
Machinas de coser	141,172	163,095	193,920
Adubos	93,470	131,587	155,230
Resina, alcatrão, etc	111,482	132,190	141,637
Azeite de semente de algodão	115,648	111,517	126,010
Tabaco manufacturado	62,139	82,841	117,280

PRODUCÇÃO DE ASSUCAR EM HAWAII.

O relatorio do Departmento de Agricultura dos Estados Unidos sobre a producção do assucar em Hawaii foi o resultado de estudos feitos por agentes especiaes que visitaram as ilhas com o fim de investigar as condições e as necessidades desta industria. As investigações comprehendem o augmento provavel na producção de assucar, a maxima colheita, o custo de producção e a condição do trabalho sob o ponto de vista social e industrial. Em 1897 a area dedicada a este cultivo foi de 53,825 geiras, com uma producção de 251,126 toneladas de 2,000 libras de assucar cada uma. A producção por geira foi de 9,331 libras, e o preço médio por tonelada foi de $80. O valor total da producção foi, em numeros redondos, de $20,000,000.

Para realizar uma colheita de assucar em Hawaii, se exigem em geral dous annos, ao passo que no Estado de Luisiana é necessario só um anno. A area total consagrada ao cultivo da canna de assucar em Hawaii é approximadamente de 125,000 geiras. A producção durante os proximos tres annos é calculada como se segue: 310,000 toneladas em 1900, 336,000 toneladas em 1901 e 360,000 toneladas em 1902. No anno passado houve um augmento na area consagrada ao cultivo da canna de assucar e foram organizadas varias novas companhias. Este augmento se deve, em parte, ao estimulo dado por sua annexação aos Estados Unidos e em parte, á introducção de machinas agricolas de melhor classe e a um melhor systema de fabricação. A maxima producção das ilhas de Hawaii é calculada em cerca de 500,000 toneladas.

Em geral, a plantação e o engenho em Hawaii estão sob a identica direcção e empregam-se trilhos portateis que tornam facil o transporte do assucar para a proxima estação de estrada de ferro. Calcula-se que para collocar o assucar no porto de San Francisco custará de $10 a $12 por tonelada. Nos ultimos annos uma quantidade consideravel de

assucar tem sido enviada directamente á Nova York por via de Cabo Horn. Uma companhia de Nova York vai empregar neste serviço quatro vapores de grandes dimensões que farão escalas em San Francisco e Seattle em viagem para Honolulu. Crê-se que a viagem de Honolulu a Nova York far-se-há em sessenta e cinco dias.

Com relação ao custo de producção e os lucros, se diz que uma só plantação produziu 20,000 toneladas de assucar ao custo de $22.50 por tonelada. Nesta plantação se iniciou o cultivo do assucar com um capital de $1,000,000, mas os lucros foram tantos que este capital foi augmentado a $5,000,000. Sendo $69 por tonelada o preço de venda do assucar e $22.50 o custo de producção, fica um lucro de 9 por cento sobre o capital empregado.

Os braços empregados nas plantações são portuguezes, japonezes, chinezes e nacionaes, mas a maior parte delles são japonezes. De conformidade com as leis dos Estados Unidos que começaram a vigorar no dia 14 de Junho de 1900, fica prohibida a immigração chineza em Hawaii.

IMPORTAÇÕES DE PRODUCTOS AGRICOLAS EM CINCO ANNOS.

O Senhor Frank H. Hitchcock, chefe da Secção de Mercados Estrangeiros do Departamento de Agricultura em Washington, tem escripto um folheto mostrando o caracter e o valor das importações de productos agricolas feitas pelos Estados Unidos durante os annos comprehendidos entre 1895 e 1899. Por esta publicação se vê que o valor médio annual das importações citadas no periodo mencionado foi de $366,964,708. A maior quantidade de productos agricolas foi importada dos paizes tropicaes.

O Brazil, fonte principal de onde os Estados Unidos se supprem de café, enviou 15 por cento do total das importações que se fizeram no paiz; logo seguio a Grã Bretanha com o 9.5 por cento; Cuba occupou o terceiro lugar, havendo enviado em assucar sómente o 7.5 por cento do total importado de dito producto. O Japão e a China enviaram um 5 e 6 por cento, respectivamente, do total das importações; ás Philippinas corresponde o 1.2 por cento.

A média annual das importações do Brazil nos Estados Unidos foi de $54,116,397. Desta quantia, sómente $48,700,000 correspondiam ao café. Da Grã Bretanha se receberam, por termo médio, uns $34,131,835 em productos agricolas; de lá sómente se importaram uns $12,975,000 como termo médio.

As importações de productos agricolas procedentes de Cuba foram, no periodo em referencia, de $27,407,708 ao anno, como termo médio; do Hawaii, uns $13,616,189, em igual periodo; e dos paizes restantes, o Canadá foi o unico que enviou mais de dez milhões de dollares ao anno, como termo médio, correspondendo-lhe uns $10,149,241.

A ELECTRICIDADE NA PREPARAÇÃO DE PELLES.

Na cidade de Boston, Massachusetts, ha uma fabrica de cortir que faz grande consumo de corrente electrica, não só para accelerar o processo chimico do cortimento, mas tambem para tirar o pello aos couros e extrahir o tannino das cortiças e demais corpos que a contem.

Pelo processo ordinario a operação de preparar o couro para que separe o pello leva não menos de dous ou tres semanas, emquanto que com o emprego da electricidade, ou seja o tratamento electrolytico da cal e arsenico, isto se consegue no breve espaço de duas horas.

Depois de quitar-lhes o pello, os couros se levam a outra tina que contem a solução de tannino, cuja força varia de 2 a 18 por cento, e se lhes applica uma corrente electrica que varia tambem de 6 a 220 voltas entre os terminaes, segundo a classe de que seja o couro. A applicação da corrente dura uns quinze minutos, e seu effeito é, segundo parece, abrir os poros e facilitar a penetração do tannino, de sorte que o processo se accelera muito. O tempo que se exige em cortir deste modo é de uns doze dias para os couros de boi ou de vacca; de um e meio a tres dias para os couros de bezerro, e um dia para os de carneiro.

O extracto de cortiças e demais substancias que se usam para cortir, se preparam lançando a cortiça triturada e posta em sacco, em um tanque cerrado, no qual fervem durante uns trinta minutos com o calor que produz a corrente electrica applicada ao liquido. Pelo systema ordinario esta operação dura cerca de tres semanas.

IMPORTAÇÃO DA BORRACHA

As importações de borracha nos Estados Unidos durante os ultimos quatro annos teem sido no valor de mais de $100,000,000. A importação annual deste producto, ha dez annos, foi no valor de só $15,000,000, ao passo que hoje excede de $30,000,000 e vai crescendo. Quasi toda a borracha que se importa vem em estado crú para o uso dos fabricantes mas uma porção consideravel da borracha que entra nos Estados Unidos procedente da Europa vem em parta refinada.

Brazil do Norte, Mexico do Sul, America Central, as Antilhas, Africa Central, as colonias dos Estreitos e as Indias Hollandezas supprem a borracha, que occupa um lugar muito importante no commercio de importação dos Estados Unidos. Talvez nenhum outro producto tem tido um desenvolvimento tão rapido como este nos ultimos annos. Por consequencia, está-se dando muita attenção hoje ao cultivo systematico das varias plantas e arvores de que se obtem a borracha. Experiencias no cultivo destas arvores já foram feitas nas colonias britannicas, especialmente as da Africa Central e do Sul. Tambem, o Departamento da Agricultura dos Estados Unidos tem feito investigações a respeito do cultivo destas plantas em suas novas possessões.

Como se tem observado frequentemente no BOLETIM MENSAL, a borracha não é o producto de uma só especie da arvore, mas, pelo contrario, se produz de uma variedade de arvores e plantas. Algumas arvores dão-se bem sómente em solo e clima humidos, emquanto que outras crescem em solo pedregoso com a condição de que recebem abundantes chuvas. Em todo caso, porém, o que é necessario é um clima tropico ou semi-tropico. A mór parte da borracha da America Central e do Sul e da India, é obtida de arvores, mas nas ilhas do Archipelago Indio se obtem a borracha principalmente de uma gigantesca planta rasteira que, dentro de cinco annos, attinge 200 pés de comprimento e de 20 a 30 pollegadas de circumferencia, e dá annualmente de 50 a 60 libras de borracha. Java, Sumatra, Penang, Singapore e Indo-China franceza já produzem a borracha em grandes quantidades e sua producção nas Antilhas tem sido sufficiente para dar a esperar que essa industria terá exito em Cuba e Porto Rico.

O valor das importações de borracha desde 1890 tem sido como se segue:

1891	$18,020,804	1897	$17,558,163
1892	19,833,090	1898	25,545,391
1893	17,964,667	1899	31,875,207
1894	15,162,333	1900	31,555,483
1895	18,475,382		
1896	16,781,533	Total	212,772,053

A quantidade de borracha importada nos Estados Unidos em 1900 montou a 49,377,138 libras, contra 51,063,066 libras em 1899. O preço médio por libra em 1900 foi de 63.1 centavos, contra 62.1 centavos em 1899. O seguinte quadro dá as procedencias da borracha importada em 1900, assim como seu valor total e preço médio por libra.

Paizes.	Quantidade.	Valor.	Preço médio.
	Libras.	*Dollares.*	*Centavos.*
Brazil	28,175,787	17,954,490	63.7
Demais paizes da America do Sul	1,642,191	876,584	53.4
America Central	1,428,224	792,250	55.5
Mexico	420,612	201,326	47.8
As Antilhas	12,291	4,639	37.7
Grã Bretanha	8,611,061	5,562,580	64.8
Allemanha	1,750,498	892,346	50.9
Outros paizes da Europa	6,626,648	4,776,989	72.1
As Indias Orientaes	643,793	284,141	44.1
Outros paizes	66,033	31,522	47.7
Total	49,377,138	31,376,867	63.1

FABRICAÇÃO DE RELOGIOS DE PAREDE E DE BOLSO.

Os relogios de parede e de bolso que se fabricam nos Estados Unidos são exportados a todas as partes do mundo. São geralmente feitos com machina, e os fabricantes estrangeiros não podem competir com esta classe de trabalho. Calcula um dos principaes fabricantes destes artigos que nos Estados Unidos se fazem diariamente cerca de 10 milhões de relogios de parede. A exportação no anno passado foi a

maior de que se tem recordo, e as fabricas não puderam satisfazer todos os pedidos. A quantidade exportada teve um valor de cerca de $1,800,000, e os relogios de parede foram enviados a todos os paizes, incluindo a Suissa que é tão famosa pelas machinas desta classe de effectos.

Diz o periodico "Manufacturing Jeweler" que ha em Connecticut um estabelecimento que fabrica 2 relogios de parede por minuto, ou sejam 1,200 por dia e 400,000 ao anno, e que outra fabrica faz 8 relogios de parede e de bolso, estes ultimos da classe barata, por minuto, ou sejam 5 milhões por dia, o qual dá durante o anno um total de 1,500,000 de relogios.

Durante dez mezes no anno de 1898, se exportaram relogios de parede e de bolso á China por valor de $11,000, e ao Japão por valor de $170,000. Os japonezes, sem embargo, estão aprendendo a arte de fazer relogios, e assim é que em dez mezes do anno passado sómente se exportáram áquelle paiz dos Estados Unidos, relogios por valor de $50,000. Por outra parte a exportação á China tem vindo em augmento. Ao Brazil se exportaram durante dez mezes do anno passado relogios de parede por valor de $30,000. Despertadores feitos de nickel são enviados ás regiões mineiras de Alaska e de Hudson Bay, ao norte de Africa e a outras partes.

O MERCADO DE COBRE.

O mercado de cobre se apresenta sob condições favoraveis, e apezar de que a producção deste metal tem augmentado em todo o mundo, a procura delle tem augmentado ainda mais. A exportação total de cobre dos Estados Unidos desde o 1° de Janeiro ao 1° de Setembro de 1900 foi em numeros redondos de £259,000,000, contra £166,000,000, no mesmo periodo de 1899. A producção do paiz durante o primeiro periodo mencionado foi por termo médio de £50,428,000 cada mez, contra £46,662,000 mensaes no segundo periodo.

APICULTURA.

O Professor Leland O. Howard do Departamento da Agricultura dos Estados Unidos, calcula em mais de 100,000 o numero de pessoas na republica que se dedicam á cultura das abelhas. Espera-se que o recenseamento ultimamente tomado mostrará um desenvolvimento assombroso nessa cultura. Ha no paiz 110 sociedades de apicultura; oito periodicos com uma grande circulação que se dedicam a essa industria e quinze grandes fabricas movidas por vapor e grande numero de pequenas fabricas que se occupam na fabricação de effectos usados na cultura das abelhas, na conservação do mel e na preparação da cera. O Professor Howard crê que o recenseamento verificará que o valor annual dos productos das abelhas excede de $20,000,000. O Sr. Benton, do Departamento da Agricultura que é bem versado nessa industria, diz que a industria poderia ser explorada no paiz de modo a

produzir dez vezes esta somma ou $200,000,000 annualmente e dar emprego a 3,000,000 pessoas.

A MÃO DE OBRA E O TRABALHO MECHANICO.

A comparação dos resultados obtidos empregando industrialmente o trabalho do homem e o das machinas nos Estados Unidos, diz o "American Exporter," tem sido já assumpto de numerosos estudos e ensaios por parte de pessoas habeis na materia. A Direcção do Trabalho nos Estados Unidos tem consagrado seu ultimo relatorio annual a este interessante topico, que é ainda objecto de controversia, e a conclusão a que chega é inteiramente favoravel ao emprego, cada vez mais geral das machinas, desde o triple ponto de vista do melhoramento de salario dos operarios, da baixa dos preços de custo dos productos manufacturados, do argumento das utilidades e, por conseguinte, do maior valor dos interesses a distribuir aos capitaes empregados.

A indagação norte-americana comprehende 678 especies de productos ou de trabalhos, e dá para cada especie pelo menos dous exemplos, um, para o trabalho á mão, e o outro, para o trabalho á machina, e cada exemplo está minuciosamente analyzado, operação por operação, desde os quatro pontos de vista do numero das operações, do numero de horas de trabalho, e do custo da mão de obra.

Eis alguns dos resultados obtidos:

1°. Fabricação de 10 arados; á mão, 2 trabalhadores fazendo 11 operações distinctas e trabalhando em total 1,180 horas pagos $54.46; á machina, 52 operarios fazendo 97 operacões e trabalhando em total 37 horas 28 minutos, pagos $7.90.

"2°. Cultivo e colheita de uma geira de trigo produzindo 20 bushels; com o arado ordinario e ferramentas de 8 trabalhadores, 5 operações, 61 horas, 5 minutos, $3.55; com machinas 5 operarios, 60 operações, 3 horas 19 minutos, $0.66.

"3°. Fabricação de 400 eixos de carruagens: á mão, 2 obreiros, 60 operações, 466 horas 40 minutos, $56.93; á machina, 33 obreiros, 24 operações, 48 horas 25 minutos, $88.20.

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"5°. Fabricação de 20,000 cravos: á mão, 3 obreiros, 3 operações, 236 horas, 25 minutos, $20.34; á machina, 3 obreiros, 20 operações, 1 hora, 59 minutos, $0.29.

"6°. Transporte de 100 toneladas de mineral de ferro no wagão: á mão, 1 obreiro, 1 operaçao, 200 horas, $40; á machina, 10 obreiros, 3 operações, 2 horas, 51 minutos, $0.55."

Havendo M. Levasseur, membro do Instituto de França, consultado especialistas francezes sobre exemplos analogos aos transcriptos da indagação americana, chegou a obter resultados da mesma natureza, dos quaes deduziu conclusões que podem resumir-se aqui:

"1°. O numero dos operarios e o numero das operações é maior, e

quasi sempre muito maior, no trabalho á machina que no trabalho á mão. É uma consequencia da divisão do trabalho, divisão que é uma condição essencial do emprego das machinas. No trabalho á mão, o mesmo operario fabrica ás vezes todo o objecto, passando de uma operação á outra, o que occasiona perdas de tempo. Um auctor, perito na materia, calcula que o tecedor á mão perderia em molestias diversas mais ou menos a metade de seu tempo, emquanto que o tecedor á machina só perde a decima parte. Além disto, no trabalho á mão, a diversidade das operações feitas pelo mesmo operario não o permitte geralmente fazer-se tão habil como si executasse o mesmo trabalho. No trabalho á machina, pelo contrario, o operario faz constantemente a mesma cousa com a ferramenta mais adaptada a essa cousa, e a faz assim mais prompto.

"2°. O numero total de horas necessarias para executar um trabalho é muito menor á machina que á mão, porque os operarios estão providos de uma ferramenta infinitamente mais efficaz, animada de um movimento muito mais rapido que a mão humana, ao mesmo tempo que é muito mais forte alli onde a força é necessaria, muito mais delicada alli onde a delicadeza se requer, e que dá em muitos casos melhores resultados, já seja porque estes resultados tenham mais precisão ou porque sejam mais semelhantes os uns aos outros. A economia de tempo é o resultado mais notavel da machina. Os 678 exemplos da indagação americana são demasiado distinctos pelo genero das industrias e pela quantidade e o valor dos productos para que as cifras que arrojam podem ser comparadas entre si para deduzir d'ellas um verdadeiro termo médio. Sem embargo, si se forma o total de horas para os 678 casos citados, se encontra 730,000 horas em numeros redondos para o trabalho á mão e 56,600 para o trabalho á machina, o que correspondia a treze vezes menos horas, mais ou menos, no segundo caso que no primeiro; é este um dado approximativo do tempo economizado.

"3°. Como consequencia da reducção do numero total de horas, o gasto total em mão de obra se encontra muito reduzido; a economia de dinheiro é, pois, muito importante. Sem embargo, a diminuição do custo da mão de obra é, para certos casos, proporcionalmente menor que a do tempo empregado; de onde resulta, em tal caso, que o termo médio da hora tem sido pago mais caro."

Não obstante, este augmento do salario não se produz necessariamente sempre, e na indagação americana se chega a ver que a quantia paga por mão de obra sendo hoje quinze vezes e meio menor que o era á mão, o gasto de dinheiro é quinze e meia vezes menor; de onde resulta que havendo soffrido o dinheiro uma reducção maior que o tempo, a hora tem sido ou parece haver sido paga menos em termo médio.

Quando se compara as mudanças que teem havido lugar com a introducção das machinas nos diversos paizes de grande industria se vê que

essa introducção tem sido vantajosa para o operario. M. Levasseur, que tem feito um estudo especial destas questões comprova: 1°, que o preço geral dos salarios se tem elevado, salvo algumas excepções, simultaneamente com a força mechanica; 2°, que a machina tem diminuido a fadiga physica do trabalhador e tem exigido delle um esforço mais intelligente; 3°, que si a machina substituiu o operario, augmenta o consumo pela abundancia e a novidade dos productos e occasiona assim uma maior demanda de braços, facto que se verifica cada dia; 4°, que a machina, ao procurar um salario ás mulheres e ás crianças, tem supprimido numerosas miserias; 5°, que a machina, que tem por corollario a grande industria, tem feito ás vezes mais notavel a falta de trabalho, mas não o tem aggravado e parece em muitos casos haver reduzido sua duração.

CONSERVAÇÃO DA FARINHA.

Em sua edição correspondente ao mez de Agosto "La America Científica é Industrial" publica um artigo instructivo com o titulo acima, do qual se tomam os seguintes paragraphos:

"Si os grãos são susceptiveis de avariar-se, dada sua composição organica, se comprehende que suas farinhas hão de correr maior perigo em tal sentido, considerando que os componentes daquelles, uma vez disgregados, se acham em contacto com o ar sem a resistente casca protectora que os envolve no grão, e portanto, expostos a todas as influencias de humidade, calor atmospherico e, particularmente, do oxygenio do ar, que é o destruidor por excellencia de que dispõe a natureza para verificar com a ajuda de ditos agentes, a decomposição de toda materia organica que se acha em seu contacto.

"Por outra parte, abandonada a si mesma uma farinha, ainda em circumstancias normaes, seus proprios principios constitutivos, obrando uns sobre outros espontaneamente, produzem sem cessar em sua substancia propria profundas alterações, o mesmo que occorre nos grãos, pois contem aquelles principios, de modo que já a materia glutinosa e saccharina ou bem o gluten, ou melhor dito, a farinha mesma, perderá suas qualidades de doce e inodora, que são substituidas por um sabor acre e odor saponaceo caracteristico, que se vai accentuando cada vez mais até fazer que percam as farinhas sua condição essencial para produzir o pão, pois com a fermentação sobrevem a acidez e o mofo, causas do mal odor. Mais tarde se manifesta a agglomeração em varios pontos de sua massa e não ha mais remedio que vasar os saccos immediatamente, apalear o contéudo e volver a penetrar, para evitar a perda total da farinha, cujo gluten, decompondo-se mais prompto que nenhum outro de seus principios, produz um pão menos esponjoso, indigesto, pouco nutritivo e de mal côr.

"Nos armazens de farinha deve evitar-se, em primeiro lugar, a elevação de temperatura, pois si chega a 14° centigrado sobre zero já é

perigosa. Assim mesmo deve cuidarse de que não exerçam influencia os vapores pestilentes de fabricas vizinhas. Quando chove, ou o ar esteja humido, devem cerrar-se as janellas do armazem, e quando esteja secco abril-as nas horas de sol durante o inverno e nas manhãs do verão, para a renovação do ar, sobretudo quando a farinha procede de grãos humidos, e naquelles climas em que a atmosphera está muito carregada de humidade.

"A limpeza mais exquisita de armazens amplos, com altas janellas provistas de venezianas que evitem a acção directa do sol, de vidraças para que não entre o ar que não convenha e de bons assoalhados, são condições indispensaveis para um bom deposito de farinha.

"Desde logo se cuidará tambem de destinar ao consumo immediato a farinha produzida por grãos humidos, pois a dos grãos seccos é mais a proposito para conserval-a ou transportal-a a grandes distancias, sobretudo si o transporte se ha de verificar pela via maritima, porque nos porões dos barcos, especialmente quando atravessam os tropicos, o grande calor e a humidade em taes paragens alteram com frequencia a condição das melhores farinhas. Para conserval-as se tem proposto comprimil-as fortemente, de modo que se expulse de entre ellas o ar, constituindo uma especie de pasta enduriceda que depois, para consumil-a, se desfaz e se peneira novamente; mas o costume seguido neste caso consiste, geralmente, em collocar a farinha por capas, empurradas dentro de barris, e assim se transporta em boas condições.

"Outro dos riscos a que se acha exposta esta mercadoria é a facilidade com que se desenvolvem nella varios insectos e ainda vegetaes que a alteram profundamente.

"Os saccos devem armazenar-se em posição vertical e separados uns de outros, para que circule o ar entre elles. Por ultimo, não só a limpeza mais escrupulosa dos armazens, mas tambem a dos envases é a melhor garantia para a boa conservação da farinha."

PRODUCÇÃO DE AÇO.

A producção de aço nos Estados Unidos durante o anno de 1899 foi de cerca de 10,750,000 toneladas, o que vem a ser como 4,500,000 toneladas mais que a cifra alcançada por Allemanha e 6,000,000 que a correspondente á Grã Bretanha. Vê-se pois que a producção de aço dos Estados Unidos é quasi igual á de Allemanha e a Grã Bretanha juntas.

Tudo parece indicar que a industria de aço seguirá fazendo progresso e que não está longe o dia em que os cidadãos americanos farão construir todos os barcos de ferro e aço que necessitem em estaleiros americanos. A industria de construcções navaes se desenvolve neste paiz com incrivel rapidez, e a supremacia que já tem como productor de ferro e aço lhe offerece vantagens especiaes ao tratar-se de ditas construcções.

Crê-se já geralmente que ao passo que os Estados Unidos avançam, prompto volverá a occupar sua marinha mercante o lugar proeminente que outr'ora occupou.

CARROS DE AÇO COMPRIMIDO.

Como a maior parte das invenções, a dos carros de aço comprimido tem soffrido uma verdadeira revolução, e ainda que não tem sido senão durante os ultimos annos que tem chamado a attenção geral, não pode dizer-se que seja uma invenção inteiramente nova. Ha cerca de trinta annos que se construiu em França o primeiro carro de aço para ferrocarril, e esse wagão se encontra ainda em muito bom estado. Em quanto aos carros de madeira se sabe que sua existencia não passa de 15 annos. Os modernos carros de aço comprimido se usam já em quasi todas as estradas de ferro. Em 1897, não havia mais que uns poucos centenares neste paiz, mas hoje a Companhia de Baltimore & Ohio possue mais de 6,000; a de Pennsylvania, como 4,500; a de Bessemer & Lake Erie, 2,000; e outras companhias como mil cada uma.

O desapparecimento dos carros de madeira é simplesmente uma questão de tempo. Quasi todas as estradas de ferro del este e do oeste teem dado ordens para a construcção deste classe de carros, e muitas companhias mineiras os empregam com preferencia a quaesquer outros. Os carros de madeira do typo ordinario, com uma capacidade de trinta toneladas, custam como 725 dollares cada um, o qual é mais que o custo dos carros de aço dos ultimos modelos. Os citados carros de madeira pesam 30,000 libras, emquanto que os carros de aço comprimido, capazes de levar 50 toneladas de cargo, pesam sómente 34 mil libras. As vantagens que offerece ao trafico o carro de aço comprimido sobre o de madeira, fazem que este ultimo esteja já condemnado a desapparecer irremediavelmente. As melhoras que sem duvida alguma vão a introduzir-se na construcção de carros de aço vão a produzir novas revoluções no trafico via-ferreo dos Estados Unidos.

MADEIRAS DAS PHILIPPINAS.

As madeiras das Philippinas estão chamando a attenção como fonte possivel de um trafico lucrativo. Existem naquellas ilhas immensas quantidades de madeiras de tinturaria e de marcenaria. Um correspondente do "New York Sun" assegura que as ditas madeiras não teem rival no mundo, e que ha mais de cincoenta variedades entre ellas, todas susceptiveis de ser polidas com o lustre do aço. A chamada *acle* é, segundo se diz, mais formosa que o mogno ou que o páo de rosa. Ha tambem ebano e outra arvore a que se dá o nome de *alintato*. Encontram-se quantidades immensas de madeiras suaves ou de mediana dureza e segundo o correspondente já citado, ha naquellas ilhas a melhor madeira que se conhece para a construcção de navios.

OPPORTUNIDADES PARA OS CULTIVADORES DE CHÁ.

A actual perturbação do commercio com China offerece aos cultivadores de chá nos Estados Unidos uma occasião de submettter a uma prova pratica seus esforços para o cultivo desta planta. Na Carolina do Sul existe uma plantação de chá na qual se produz um artigo de superior qualidade, que se vende nos mercados dos Estados Unidos a $1 a libra, que é um preço maior que o que se paga pela maior parte das classes de chá que se importam da China. Necessita-se especial cuidado e attenção para obter bom exito nos Estados Unidos, e, além disto, muita experiencia na preparação da folha. É devido a isto que se teem feito tão poucas tentativas para cultivar a planta naquellas partes do Sul onde o terreno é favoravel.

CONDIÇÃO DA AGRICULTURA.

Segundo o relatorio mensal da Secção de Estatistica do Departamento de Agricultura, a condição das colheitas para o 1° de Outubro de 1900, comparada com a correspondente a igual data do anno anterior, foi como segue:

Milho, 78.3, contra 82.7 em 1899 e uma média de 81 nos ultimos dez annos. Segundo este relatorio, a colheita total do milho deste anno attingirá a 1,957,550,000 alqueires, contra 2,078,143,933 alqueires em 1899.

A producção de aveia por geira é calculada em 29.6 alqueires, comparada com 30.7 alqueires em 1899, e 26.2 alqueires, a producção média nos ultimos dez annos. Segundo este calculo, a colheita total attingirá a 810,122,000 alqueires, contra 769,177,713 alqueires em 1899.

A producção por geira de cevada é calculada em 20.4 alqueires, contra 25.5 alqueires em 1899, e 23.5, o promédio durante dez annos. A producção de cevada para 1900 é inferior á de qualquer anno desde 1887.

A producção por geira de centeio é calculada em 15.1 alqueires, contra 14.4 alqueires em 1899, e 14 alqueires, a média durante os ultimos dez annos. A condição da colheita está representada por 92, contra 90 no 1° de Outubro de 1899; trigo mourisco, 72.8, contra 70.2 no dia 1° de Outubro de 1899, e 82.2, a média nos ultimos dez annos.

Notou-se uma baixa geral na condição do arroz, mas em Luisiana, que é o principal Estado de producção, a condição é ainda muito alta, sendo 100, ou 13 pontos mais que a média.

A condição da canna de assucar em Luisiana é a mesma que a de Setembro, 101. Em todos os outros Estados productores de canna notou-se uma pequena baixa.

A condição do algodão no dia 1° de Outubro de 1900 foi 67, contra 62.4 do anno anterior, e 71.6, a condição média pelos ultimos dez annos.

Em breve tempo publicar-se-há um relatorio especial sobre os effeitos

da tempestade que ultimamente devastou o sul de Texas. Todos os condados de Texas, porém, são incluidos ao calcular a condição média das colheitas.

GUATEMALA.

DECRETO SOBRE CAMINHOS DE FERRO, CANAES, ETC.

"El Guatemalteco," diario official da Republica de Guatemala publica, em sua edição de 3 de Setembro de 1900, o seguinte importante decreto:

"ARTIGO 1°. As estradas de ferro e suas concessões, canaes e demais obras publicas do mesmo caracter são inscriptos no Registro da Propriedade Immovel como direitos reaes. Para esse effeito se levará um livro especial destinado unicamente ás inscripções desse genero.

"ARTIGO 2°. A inscripção se fará apresentando o titulo em que se tiver outorgado a concessão definitiva da obra, expedido pelo Notario do Governo, acompanhando os demais documentos que determinem os direitos concedidos ou a personalidade do concessionario.

"ARTIGO 3°. Si a inscripção se faz durante a construcção da obra publica, poderá addicionar-se ou rectificar-se ao concluir a mesma obra ou cada uma de suas secções, apresentando ao effeito certificação expedida pelo Notario do Governo em que conste que o Poder Executivo se dá por recebido da obra ou da secção que se põe ao serviço publico.

"ARTIGO 4°. A inscripção deve fazer-se no Livro do Registro do Departamento a que corresponder o ponto de partida ou cabeça de caminho ou canal, fazendo a transcripção que corresponder no Livro do Registro dos outros Departamentos cujo territorio atravessasse a obra publica.

"ARTIGO 5°. Os titulos da acquisição de terreno para a construcção do caminho ou canal serão inscriptos na forma prevenida no paragrapho VI, Titulo V, Livro III, do Codigo Civil.

"ARTIGO 6°. As estações, armazens, presas, pontes, aqueductos e demais obras que formem parte integrante do mesmo caminho ou canal, como necessarios para sua existencia e exploração, não requerem inscripção separada e especial, senão que se incluirão no geral da propria obra publica; mas as demais propriedades rusticas ou urbanas que adquirir a companhia concessionaria e que estejam separadas do caminho ou canal devem inscrever-se separadamente, com as condições e requisitos que exige a lei.

"ARTIGO 7°. Na primeira inscripção do caminho de ferro, canal ou outra obra publica, deverá exprimir-se si a companhia concessionaria está ou não autorizada para emittir obrigações hypothecarias ao portador; e em caso de estal-o as bases principaes que para isto se tenham fixado e a extensão e limites das faculdades da companhia neste ponto.

Si a dita autorisação fosse concedida depois de feita a inscripção no Registro, se fará constar nelle por nota marginal, servindo para este objecto, tambem certificação expedida pelo Notario do Governo, que contenha a disposição autorizando a emissão de taes obrigações.

"Artigo 8°. As obrigações hypothecarias ao portador com a designação especial que se lhes dê, de titulos, bonos, etc., emittidas pelas sociedades de obras publicas, não se inscreverão especial e determinadamente uma por uma; mas afim de assegurar, com prejuizo de terceiro, o direito hypothecario que pode estabelecer-se a favor das mesmas, deverá constituir-se a hypotheca em escriptura publica e inscrever-se no Registro na forma que prevem a lei.

"Artigo 9°. A escripturação de constituição de hypotheca a favor das ditas obrigações ao portador deve exprimir a autorisação obtida pela companhia concessionaria para emittil-as; o numero e valor total das emittidas a cujo favor se constituya a hypotheca; a serie ou series a que correspondam sua enumeração e o valor nominal de cada uma dellas; a data ou datas da emissão; as circumstancias que fixem e determinem a classe de titulos e valores; a cousa hypothecada, isto é, si são as obras ou os rendimentos de toda a linha ou sómente de parte della. O Notario ou Juiz em seu caso dará fé de ter á vista estes documentos e os titulos de propriedade citando o folio, tomo e numero sob o qual esteja inscripta a propriedade que se hypotheca.

"Artigo 10. As circumstancias indicadas se farão constar tambem na inscripção, o qual se verificará sómente no Livro do Registro, folio e numero que cite o Notario, que é o que terá á vista os documentos de que se tem feito merito.

"Artigo 11. Não sendo possivel fazer constar o nome e appellido da pessoa ou pessoas a cujo favor se faz a inscripção, por tratar-se de titulo ao portador, se supprirá esta circumstancia exigida pela lei, expressando-se que a hypotheca fica constituida a favor dos portadores das obrigações a que a escripturação se refera e na parte proporcional que a cada obrigação corresponda.

"Artigo 12. Para fazer uso do seu direito os portadores de taes obrigações deverão apresentar o titulo, obrigação ou cedula hypothecaria ao portador e a escripturação de constituição da hypotheca, devidamente inscripta no Registro da Propriedade, cujos documentos serão sufficientes para justificar a constituição da hypotheca a favor daquella obrigação ao portador; sempre que seja das comprehendidas na escripturação e conste sua authenticidade, mas entendendo-se todo sem prejuizo das faculdades dos Tribunaes para qualificar o valor legal de taes documentos e os direitos reclamados pelos portadores.

"Artigo 13. Quando se trate de concessões feitas a estrangeiros, não poderá proceder-se ás inscripções no Registro, sem que conste em escriptura publica o submettimento expresso dos concessionarios ás leis do paiz, para todos os effeitos do contrato, e a renuncia tambem

expressa e incondicional do direito de occorrer em nenhum caso á via diplomatica, no concepto de que esse será requisito indispensavel e necessario.

"ARTIGO 14. Para verificar as inscripções a que se refere esta lei se observarão as disposições que sobre a materia contem o Codigo Civil.

"ARTIGO 15. As concessões de que trata o presente Decreto não poderão transferir-se a governos estrangeiros nem a companhias que não tenham seu domicilio legal na Republica.

"ARTIGO 16. Os direitos inscriptos conforme a esta lei começarão a surtir seus effeitos hypothecarios desde o dia em que estiver concluida a obra. Os ditos direitos caducarão ao concluir o prazo da concessão.

"ARTIGO 17. Deste Decreto se dará conta á Assemblea Nacional Legislativa em suas proximas sessões.

"Dado no Palacio do Poder Executivo, em Guatemala, a vinte e oito de Agosto de mil novecentos."

MEXICO.

MENSAGEM DO PRESIDENTE DA REPUBLICA.

Da mensagem que com data de 16 de Setembro de 1900 dirigio o Senhor Presidente da Republica ao abrir-se o primeiro periodo de sessões do vigesimo Congresso da União, se teem tomado os paragraphos seguintes:

"SENHORES DEPUTADOS E SENADORES: Obedecendo com gosto um preceito da Constituição, venho neste dia de gloriosas recordações para a Patria a informar-vos do estado que guardam os negocios e interesses que o Executivo tem a seu cargo.

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"Aceita pelos Representantes das Republicas americanas a proposição do Governo dos Estados Unidos semelhante á que se effectuou em 1889, já não na capital daquelle paiz, mas em outra das cidades do Novo Mundo, os ditos representantes tomaram em conta a indicação privada do Secretario de Estado em Washington e resolveram que a proxima Conferencia se reunisse nesta Capital, deixando á nossa eleição a data em que devesse inaugurar-se.

"Então, considerando qual é a situação desta cidade pelas obras que nella se executam e as condições provaveis de Veracruz durante o verão, o Governo propoz que a reunião se verificasse em Outubro do anno proximo, epocha em que essas obras estarão muito adiantadas e o clima do mencionado porto é mais salubre. Approvada que foi nossa proposta, a Secretaria de Relações Exteriores dirigio o convite correspondente (que se publicou no "Diario Official") a todos os Governos das

Republicas de America para que enviassem seus delegados á dita Conferencia, assegurando-lhes que suas respectivas delegações receberão no Mexico o mais cordial acolhimento.

"Ainda prescindindo da importancia pratica que tivessem os accordos dessa assemblea internacional, uma vez que obtenha a approvação dos governos nella representados, o facto só de reunir-se em nossa capital os delegados de todas as Republicas deste Continente é um acontecimento que offerece vivo interesse ao povo mexicano, apresentando occasião favoravel para cultivar a sympathia que nos une com Governos e povos regidos por instituições politicas que nos são tão caras. Por outra parte, a eleição de nossa capital como sitio a proposito para a conferencia, si bem não foi uma honra solicitada, tem de ser devidamente apreciada por quantos estimem o bom nome de Mexico.

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"Coincidindo com nosso convite para a Conferencia Pan-americana de 1901, se nos tem notificado officialmente o projecto approvado pelo Governo hespanhol para a celebração em Madrid, o proximo mez de Novembro, de um Congresso hispano-americano de caracter economico e social. Desde logo temos manifestado nossa boa disposição para concorrer a esse Congresso, cujas tendencias, apoiadas na communidade de linguas e na origem de nossa actual civilização, são para nos muito sympathicas em tanto que possam conciliar-se (como o cremos possivel) com as miras da Conferencia a que temos convidado todas as nações de America.

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"Mexico tem sido dignamente representado na Terceira Conferencia Internacional de Londres para a formação de um catalogo de litteratura scientifica. Tambem será representado no medico pan-americano que proximamente se reunirá na Havana para o qual tem-se recebido e aceito o convite respectivo.

"A industria mineira segue em constante desenvolvimento. O numero de titulos expedidos no ultimo anno fiscal ascendeu a dous mil cento oitenta e quatro, amparando trinta e tres mil oitocentas noventa e nove pertenencias de um hectar, havendo resultado um augmento de quatro centos oitenta e nove titulos respeito do anno fiscal anterior. Os Estados em que ha agora maior numero de propriedades mineiras são, por sua ordem, Durango, Sonora e Chihuahua.

"É notavel o augmento que vai tendo a exploração do cobre na Republica, pois, pelos dados de exportação apparece no ultimo anno fiscal com um valor quasi dobre do que obteve o anno anterior, e chega a pouco menos de dez milhões de pesos. O desenvolvimento das industrias tem feito tambem que se activem as explorações em busca de carvão de pedra, e que se estabeleçam novas emprezas nas jazidas já encontradas, como a de Las Esperanzas em Coahuila, que tem

emprehendido trabalhos de importancia para começar a exploração de suas minas em grande escala.

"No anno fiscal que terminou o 30 de Junho ultimo se reduziram á propriedade particular e se legitimaram quinhentos setenta e cinco mil hectares de terrenos da Nação por adjudicações em virtude de denuncios, por vendas a particulares e a colonos, por fraccionamento de terras municipaes e por cessão gratuita. Os terrenos que não foram alienados gratuitamente produziram para o Thesouro federal a amortização de tres centos oitenta e dous mil pesos em titulos da divida publica.

"A exportação dos productos agricolas augmentou de um modo notavel no ultimo anno fiscal, pois o valor dos productos vegetaes e animaes exportados ascendeu a sessenta e um e meio milhões de pesos, mostrando um augmento de doze milhões sobre o valor do anno precedente.

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"Opportunamente installados no edificio construido para este fim nos terrenos da Exposição de Pariz, os objectos que enviou a Republica foram examinados e qualificados por tres jurados distinctos que respectivamente lhes correspondiam. * * * Os premios obtidos compensam certamente o empenho dos expositores e os esforços do Governo para concorrer dignamente a esse grande certamen.

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"Em Agosto se deu principio aos trabalhos do recenseamento. Contando com o empenho das autoridades e a boa vontade do povo é de esperar-se que a operação definitiva tenha as condições de simultaneidade e exactidão requeridas.

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"O desague do Valle de Mexico segue funccionando com inteira regularidade; no tunnel de Tequisquiac se continúa a construcção da façada sul e as obras de conservação.

"De Abril á data teem augmentado em 859 kilometros as vias ferreas da Republica, sendo as emprezas que mais teem contribuido a este augmento, a da Estrada de Ferro Internacional, com 62 kilometros; a da Central, com 82 em suas linhas de Guadalajara ao Manzanillo, Yurécuaro a Ario, e da Vega a San Marcos, e com 37 kilometros de San Marcos a Tecolutla, formando o resto as demais emprezas. A rede via-ferrea, em seu conjuncto, somma 14,573 kilometros.

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"Em quanto ao ramo de Fazenda me dá prazer dizer-vos que a total arrecadação de rendas federaes no anno economico que acaba de findar ascendeu a mais de 63,500,000 de pesos, ou a 3,500,000 de pesos mais que á do exercicio fiscal anterior. Os gastos da Federação, ainda que todavia não depurados e apezar das diversas e muito importantes

ampliações de parcellas que foram decretadas pela Camara no curso do exercicio fiscal, não alcançaram á cifra das receitas; de sorte que os orçamentos do anno economico de 1899 a 1900 se saldaram, como os anteriores, deixando nos cofres do Thesouro um saldo de consideração.

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"Senhores Deputados e Senadores, tenho concluido esta breve exposição que, como em annos anteriores, revela não sómente os adiantamentos administrativos que alcança o Governo mercé a seus constantes esforços por melhorar o serviço publico, mas tambem o continuo desenvolvimento dos elementos de riqueza que abundam no paiz e só esperavam a fecundação do trabalho para dar-se á luz em meio dos resplandores da paz reinante em Mexico desde ha um quarto de seculo e felizmente já assegurada. Natural é, em occasião como a presente, congratular-nos por situação tão propicia, e pagar o tributo que corresponde ao povo Mexicano e a seus dignos legisladores, que tão efficazmente teem contribuido a creal-a e mantel-a."

IMPORTAÇÕES E EXPORTAÇÕES.

Segundo o periodico "The Two Republics," que se publica na capital de Mexico, os dados estatisticos officiaes correspondentes ao anno economico que terminou o 30 de Junho de 1900 demonstram que tem havido um augmento extraordinario no trafico entre aquella republica e os Estados Unidos, especialmente nas exportações de Mexico para estes.

Em 1899 a exportação total da dita republica ascendeu a $138,478,137, contra $149,992,920 em 1900. Mais das tres quartas partes de ambas quantias foram enviadas aos Estados Unidos, é dizer, $103,553,486, no anno economico que terminou em Junho de 1899, e $116,098,456 no subsequente.

No que diz respeito ao que se importa no Mexico, os dados estatisticos mencionados deixam ver que mais da metade de toda a importação foi dos Estados Unidos durante o ultimo anno fiscal.

NOVA ESTRADA DE FERRO.

O periodico intitulado "El Reproductor," que se publica no Estado de Veracruz, dá em seu numero 36 um decreto da Legislatura do dito estado que diz:

"Approva-se o contrato que o Executivo do estado celebrou o 17 do corrente com o engenheiro, cidadão JUAN A. NAVARRO, cessionario dos cidadãos LUIS GRAJALES e ANGEL DE CASO, para a construcção de uma estrada de ferro entre as cidades de Cordoba de Hernández e Hernández Huatusco, concedendo ao expressado cidadão NAVARRO, ou á Companhia ou Companhia que organizar, uma subvenção de $108,000, dos quaes se entregarão $27,000 ao ser recebida e aberta ao trafico a via e o resto em prestações annuaes do mesmo valor, a contar da data da inauguração."

COMMUNICAÇÕES DIPLOMATICAS REFERENTES AO CONGRESSO SOCIAL E ECONOMICO HISPANO-AMERICANO.

O "Diario Oficial," de Mexico, tem publicado as communicações que se cruzaram entre o Ministro de Hespanha naquella Republica e o Senhor Don Ignacio Mariscal, Ministro de Relações Exteriores do Governo mexicano. A primeira é o convite que Hespanha faz a Mexico para que concorra ao dito congresso. A esse convite o Senhor Mariscal respondeu da maneira seguinte:

"Senhor Ministro: Com vivo interesse tenho lido a nota que V. Ex. se serviu dirigir-me o 13 do mez actual, do seu contéudo tenho dado conta ao Sr. Presidente, e com seu accordo tenho a honra de respondel-a. Por ella e seus importantes annexos estou informado de que a Sociedade Ibero Americana, cujos meritos me são conhecidos, iniciou a celebração em Madrid de um Congresso Social Economico Hispano-Americano para o proximo mez de Novembro, e que pelo Governo de V. Ex. se tem expedido um Real Decreto creando uma Junta Suprema de Patronato, cuja primeira attribuição é convidar aos Estados que tenham de concorrer ao Congresso, e uma commissão organizadora que, segundo o prevem o decreto, tem formado já o Regulamento da projectada Assemblea.

"V. Ex., ao communicar-me tão plausiveis noticias, me chama a attenção para o caracter economico que terá o dito Congresso, como uma de suas linhas mais salientes. Desde logo se lhe dá um aspecto interessante e serio, reclamando para seus trabalhos todo o espirito pratico que caracteriza a civilização moderna.

"Por outro lado, V. Ex. observa que a união intellectual entre Hespanha e os Estados de America, que fallam uma mesma lingua, terá que impôr-se no futuro Congresso, o qual offerecerá por essa circumstancia um interesse particular. Observação é esta de uma verdade indiscutivel; e considerado sob esta luz, não cabe duvida que o projecto ha de alcançar felizes resultados para as bellas lettras e ainda varios dos conhecimentos scientificos cultivados nos povos de raça hespanhola. Alem disto, o fomento da natural sympathia que entre elles desperta a communidade de idioma e em parte de raça e costumes é um fim importante e digno de procurar-se com empenho, já que todo esforço para lograr uma intelligencia harmonica entre os povos, sobretudo os que entre si teem pontos de contacto, vem a ser um passo encaminhado á harmonia universal entre as nações, ideal tão opposto ás rivalidades que hoje, por desgraça, costumam dividil-as.

"Certo é que a sympathia, por profunda que seja e por muito que se desenvolve, não será uma razão sufficiente para sacrificar interesses positivos ou materiaes na ordem economica ou na politica, olvidando as circumstancias especiaes de um Estado, como são as que guarda o Mexico; mas servirá ao menos de poderoso estimulo para buscar a conciliação desses interesses com as inspirações do sentimento, e deve

esperar-se que em alguns pontos se encontre a maneira de concilial-os. Assim é como, ao meu juizo, cabem perfeitamente as aspirações que representa o Congresso projectado para Madrid, ao lado das que se revelam na convocatoria que acaba de expedir o Governo mexicano para outro Congresso, ideado desde ha algum tempo e onde por segunda vez hão de figurar todas as nações de America.

"Para os que lealmente se proponham servir os interesses dos povos, o campo é amplissimo e pode conter todos seus mais ferventes anhelos, sempre que não abriguem tendencias de excluvismo por razão de raça, religião ou outro motivo estranho ao concepto liberal da humanidade e seus innegaveis progressos.

"O Governo de Mexico, inspirado por estas ideas e sympathisando com o projecto a que se contrahe a nota que me honro em responder, aceita desde agora o convite de Hespanha a que V. Ex. se refere e autorizará a seus funccionarios diplomaticos e consulares para aceital-o por sua parte, si se estendesse a elles conforme ao provisto no Regulamento; propondo-se expedir opportunamente todas as disposições necessarias á conveniente representação desta Republica no Congresso de Madrid.

"Aproveito esta opportunidade para reiterar a V. Ex. as protestas de minha mais distincta consideração.

"IGNACIO MARISCAL."

Assim mesmo publica o "Diario Oficial" o real decreto de 16 de Abril de 1900, dictando regras para a celebração do mencionado Congresso.

Os themas sobre o qual este ha de tratar são os seguintes:

"1. Meios creadores de uma grande corrente de opinião que induza aos Governos de Hespanha, Portugal e povos ibero-americanos a realizar intima alliança que permitta resolver as questões que possam suscitar-se entre as indicadas nações, por Tribunaes arbitraes.

"2. Maneira e procedimento de dar uma direcção fixa e determinada ao direito publico e privado, para harmonizar as diversas leis civis, penaes e administrativas em Hespanha, Portugal e America latina, de tal sorte, que sendo uns mesmos os principios geraes e bases que informem os Codigos, possa chegar-se a unifical-os em quanto as circumstancias especiaes de cada nação o consentam.

"3. Estudo do problema da emigração em geral.

"4. Meios mais adequados para que em Hespanha, Portugal e Republicas ibero-americanas tenham as obras e descobrimentos scientificos de ditos Estados facil e rapido desenvolvimento, garantindo os interesses de autores e inventores efficazmente e das marcas de fabrica e de commercio, afim de que os progressos e adiantamentos destes povos se utilizem preferentemente por elles mesmos, segundo demandam os vinculos de raça.

"5. Procedimentos para conservar integro e puro o idioma hespanhol em todas as nações hispano-americanas; meios de evitar que as edições de livros em castellano se façam fora dos territorios onde se falle este

idioma; forma de dar maior esplendor ás Bellas Artes ibero-americanas e maneira de assegurar o reconhecimento dos direitos da propriedade litteraria e artistica em todas as ordens.

"6. Unificação dos planos de ensino; reciproca validade dos titulos professionaes em Hespanha, Portugal e Estados americo-latinos, e creação de Muséos pedagogicos internacionaes de Sciencias, Lettras, Artes e Officios.

"7. Modificações nas leis dos respectivos paizes para que os tratados internacionaes respondam ás necessidades communs, ampliando as relações do commercio, industria e navegação entre a Hespanha, Portugal e as Nações ibero-americanas.

"8. Unificação de tarifas postaes e telegraphicas que permittam maior impulso, facilidade e economia no cambio da correspondencia privada, noticias, impressos, amostras, valores e ordens telegraphicas ou cabographicas, fretes e regularização dos meios internacionaes de transporte.

"9. Estabelecimento em Hespanha, Portugal e Nações ibero-americanas de Exposições permanentes internacionaes de obras scientificas, litterarias, artisticas, catalogos e amostras de productos agricolas e industriaes, para evidenciar os adiantamentos e elementos de riqueza de cada paiz e dar maior amplitude ao commercio, fazendo mais intimo e proveitoso o contacto entre productores e consumidores.

"10. Creação de Bancos geraes Ibero-Americanos, com succursaes e delegações em Portugal e Estados americano-latinos, que facilitem os giros e transacções mercantis; questão monetaria; meios adequados para que os valores publicos e industriaes de cada Nação se cotisem nas Bolsas de todas as demais.

"11. Procedimentos para facilitar e dar mais amplitude ao cambio mutuo de periodicos hespanhóes, portuguezes e americanos, e estreitar as relações entre os periodistas de Hespanha, Portugal e America latina."

As commissões que se encarregaram do estudo destes themas se denominarão assim:

1. De Arbitramento.
2. De Jurisprudencia.
3. De Economia Publica.
4. De Sciencias.
5. De Lettras e Artes.
6. De Instrucção.
7. De Relações Commerciaes.
8. De Transportes, Correios e Telegraphos.
9. De Exposições permanentes.
10. De Relações Bancarias.
11. De Imprensa.

A estas commissões corresponderão respectivamente, e pela ordem apontada, os themas propostos no artigo anterior.

CONTRATO PARA IRRIGAÇÃO.

O "Diario Oficial," de Mexico, publica um contrato que foi celebrado entre o Ministro de Fomento daquella Republica e o Sr. MANUEL CUESTA GALLARDO para o aproveitamento para irrigação das aguas do lago de Chapala e do rio de Santiago do Estado de Jalisco.

O contrato autorisa ao Senhor CUESTA GALLARDO para que por si ou por meio da companhia que ao effeito organisar, possa executar as obras hydraulicas necessarias para utilizar como irrigação as aguas alludidas.

O concessionario fica obrigado a apresentar na Secretaria de Fomento o projecto das obras hydraulicas, assim como uma memoria descriptiva e os planos e perfis necessarios para a maior claridade dos detalhes.

Os reconhecimentos do terreno para a localização das obras hydraulicas deverá começal-os o concessionario dentro de dez mezes contados desde a data da promulgação do presente contrato, e dentro do prazo de trinta e seis mezes contados desde a mesma data apresentará na Secretaria de Fomento os planos e perfis relativos ás ditas obras por duplicado e á escala metrica decimal apropriada.

Dentro do prazo de dez mezes, contados desde a data da aprovação dos planos pela Secretaria de Fomento, o concessionario dará principio á construcçáo das obras, as quaes deverão estar terminados, a mais tardar, dentro dos dez annos contados desde a mesma data.

Uma vez concluidas as obras hydraulicas, approvadas pela Secretaria de Fomento, e feita por esta a declaração correspondente, se expedirá ao concessionario o titulo que lhe assegure o direito ao uso e aproveitamento das aguas objecto deste contrato.

O concessionario poderá construir sobre os canaes que estabelecer as pontes que julgar necessarias para o trafico particular, apresentando previamente os planos na Secretaria de Fomento para sua devida approvação, e ficará obrigado a construir tambem por sua conta as pontes que exija o trafico local ou geral, sempre que atravessasse com seus canaes algum caminho, calçada ou via de uso publico.

Para a execução dos trabalhos de reconhecimento e de traçado e para os de construcção das obras hydraulicas, a Secretaria de Fomento nomeará um engenheiro inspector.

Os terrenos de propriedade nacional que occupar o concessionario e os que necessitar para os receptaculos e depositos de agua, armazens e outros edificios, os tomará gratuitamente.

O concessionario poderá tomar conforme ás leis de expropriação, por causa de utilidade publica, os terrenos de propriedade particular necessarios para o estabelecimento de seus aqueductos e dependencias, depositos, estações e demais accessorios.

Em caso de que não haja ajuste entre o concessionario e os proprietarios dos terrenos, se nomeará um perito avaliador por cada uma das partes e ambos apresentarão ás mesmas suas avaliações dentro do prazo

de otio dias, contados desde sua nomeação. Si as avaliações são discordantes, se submetterá o negocio a conhecimento do Juiz de Districto do Estado de Jalisco, para que nomeie um perito terceiro em discordia que emitta seu dictame dentro do peremptorio termo de oito dias, contados desde sua nomeação, sobre o que seja de justiça dar por indemnização ao dono dos terrenos que devam ser occupados.

Fica autorisado o concessionario para construir todas as linhas telegraphicas e telephonicas que forem necessarias. Poderá importar livres de direitos aduaneiros, por uma só vez, todas as machinas, instrumentos scientificos e apparelhos que forem necessarios para o trafico, construcção e exploração das mesmas obras.

Durante cinco annos, contados desde a promulgação do contrato, os capitaes empregados pelo concessionario no traçado, construcção e reparação das obras a que se refere este contrato gozarão de isenção de todo imposto federal, á excepção dos que se pagam na forma da estampilha.

Fica o concessionario em liberdade para celebrar com os particulares e corporações publicas e privadas os contratos e convenios que julgar necessarios para aproveitamento da agua que se lhe concede.

O concessionario perderá o direito ao uso das aguas no caso de que deixar de utilizal-as por um periodo de dez annos consecutivos.

O concessionario poderá traspassar todas ou parte das concessões, previa permissão da Secretaria de Fomento, assim como hypothecal-as a individuos ou corporações particulares, sendo indispensavel no primeiro caso que aquellas e estas aceitem respectivamente, todas e cada uma das obrigações impostas ao concessionario pelo presente contrato. Mas em nenhum caso poderá transferir ou hypothecar as concessões feitas pelo contrato a nenhum Governo nem Estado estrangeiro, nem admittil-o como socio.

O concessionario deve garantir o cumprimento das obrigações que lhe impõe este contrato, constituindo no Banco Nacional do Mexico um deposito de $5,000 em apolices da divida publica consolidada dentro de oito dias da promulgação do contrato, deposito que lhe será devolto quando tenha terminado as obras hydraulicas em referencia.

O contrato caducará pelas causas seguintes:

1. Por não constituir o deposito dentro do prazo mencionado.

2. Por não começar os trabalhos de reconhecimento e de construcção das obras e por não concluil-os nos prazos fixados.

3. Por não fazer uso das aguas em um prazo de dez annos consecutivos.

4. Por traspassar o contrato a um particular ou companhia sem previa permissão da Secretaria de Fomento.

5. Por traspassar ou hypothecar o contrato e as concessões que delle se derivam a um Governo ou Estado estrangeiro, ou por admittil-o como socio.

COMMERCIO DE TABACO.

Diz o periodico "Las Novedades" que ha tempo iniciou-se o commercio de tabaco entre o Mexico e Allemanha, e que a propaganda assume na actualidade grandes proporções que promettem muito para os cultivadores mexicanos. Nas ultimas noticias recebidas se annuncia que as entradas de tabaco mexicano nas alfandegas allemãs nos mezes de Abril e Maio foram superiores em mais de um 30 por cento ás havidas em Fevereiro e Março do corrente anno. Tem augmentado muito a exportação de tabaco em rama e a de cigarros fabricados especialmente para o gosto dos fumadores allemães.

CONCESSÃO DE PATENTES DE PRIVILEGIO DE INVENÇÃO.

O Governo tem concedido á "Goodson Graphotype Company" uma patente de privilegio por vinte annos por melhoras introduzidas em machinas para compor, fundir e parar typo, invenção do Sr. GEORGE ARTHUR GOODSON, quem a cedeu á expressada companhia. Esta terá o exclusivo direito de usar em toda a Republica pelo periodo mencionado as expressadas melhoras. Tambem concedeu o Governo patente de privilegio por vinte annos aos Senhores JOSEF FRANZ BACHMAN e ADOLF VOGT por um novo systema de "resistencias electricas de pedra artificial, que servem tanto como apparelhos electricos de aquecimento como para regular as correntes electricas."

NICARAGUA.

MENSAGEM DO PRESIDENTE ZELAYA.

"El Comercio," de Managua, tem publicado alguns paragraphos da notavel mensagem que o Presidente de Nicaragua dirigio ao Congresso ao inaugurar suas sessões ordinarias correspondentes a 1900.

Ao referir-se ao traçado da linha divisoria entre Nicaragua e Costa Rica, o Presidente ZELAYA exprime-se da maneira seguinte:

"Inspirado no mais acendrado patriotismo, e não querendo terminar meu periodo presidencial sem cortar de raiz todo genero de discordia entre povos irmãos, ligados por communs interesses, por vinculos estreitos e chamados a identico destino, puz especial empenho na continuação dos trabalhos de demarcação de limites entre Nicaragua e a vizinha republica de Costa Rica, que principiarão em Maio de 1897 de conformidade com o tratado Matus-Pacheco; porque, em minha opinião nenhum serviço melhor pode fazer-se á patria, depois da reintegração de seu territorio, que o de demarcar suas fronteiras, para afastar a causa primordial, na maior parte das vezes, das desintelligencias entre paizes limitrophes.

"No dia 25 do mez que acaba de findar se subscreveu neste mesmo local, pelos Senhores Commissarios de Nicaragua e Costa Rica e o Arbitro, General ALEXANDER, a acta em que se dá por terminada a demarcação de limites e por dissolvidas as commissões.

"No arduo e importantissimo labor de demarcar nossa fronteira do Sul tem collaborado com patriotismo e desinteresse dignos de mencionar-se, o Senhor Engenheiro, General P. A. ALEXANDER, arbitro designado bondadosamente pelo Excellentissimo Sr. ex-Presidente dos Estados Unidos, Mr. G. CLEVELAND, de conformidade com o disposto no tratado Matus-Pacheco; e aproveitei a solemne occasião em que se firmava o importante documento de que acabo de fallar-vos, para dar publico testimonio de agradecimento ao Governo da Grande Republica e a tão distinctos personagens em nome do povo e Governo nicaraguenses, pelos eminentes serviços prestados á patria.

"Nenhum regozijo maior, senhores deputados, que o de presenciar exemplos de civilidade como o que nesta vez teem dado os Governos de Nicaragua e Costa Rica, dirimindo sua discordia de limites que poz em perigo em repetidas occasiões a tranquilidade e bemestar de ambos povos, pelo meio harmonioso do arbitramento, que si bem é o aconselhado pela razão e o direito e o mais humano e de resultados mais proveitosos, desgraçadamente não é o mais escolhido nem ainda entre os paizes mais adiantados do um e outro Continente; e abrigo a esperança de que removido o antigo viveiro de dissenções entre estes pedaços da antiga patria centro-americana, começará um periodo de verdadeira paz, concordia e fraternidade para ambos os povos."

Quando trata da situação interior do paiz, o Senhor ZELAYA a apresenta desta maneira:

"Teem desapparecido as nuvens que ameaçavam envolver a Republica nos horrores da anarchia, e restabelecido o principio de autoridade, afogado o germen revolucionario, não se vê no horizonte da patria uma só nuvem que pudesse escurecer o ceo da paz e a tranquillidade.

"Assim tem tido a satisfacção de apalpal-o o Executivo, com especialidade em occidente durante sua visita levado a effeito em Junho ultimo, com o fim de attender de cerca ás ingentes necessidades daquelles departamentos, de remedial-as no possivel e de procurar seu melhoramento intellectual e material; havendo sido objecto de esplendidas e repetidas ovações por parte dos vizinhos, sem distincção de côres politicas, sobretudo na heroica cidade de Léon, onde fizeram grande enthusiasmo as differentes classes sociaes."

Em quanto á questão do Canal Interoceanico, eis aqui as palavras que lhe dedica o Senhor Presidente:

"Pouco tenho que accrescentar ao que vos manifestei o anno proximo passado sobre o assumpto do Canal, e bem conhecidos são os ardentes desejos do povo e Governo nicaraguenses por esta importantissima obra que fará deste pedaço privilegiado do Continente um

verdadeiro emporio de riqueza, para que tenha necessidade de extender-me agora sobre o particular. Basta saber que jamais lhe poremos obstaculos e que, pelo contrario, empregaremos todas nossas influencias, todas nossas actividades na realização de tão bello pensamento."

Com referencia á instrucção publica, o Senhor ZELAYA diz o que segue:

"As escolas graduadas superiores de ambos os sexos, que tão bons resultados teem dado nos differentes departamentos, teem sido melhoradas notavelmente e seu numero augmentado; e as elementaes se continúam levando até as mais apartadas povoações com verdadeiro proveito."

Ao ocupar-se do importante ramo de Fazenda, a mensagem faz as observações que a continuação se lerão:

"A força de economias de todo genero, diminuindo os empregos aos individuos indispensaveis para a boa marcha administrativa, e reduzindo as differentes guarnições ao numero estrictamente necessario; á força de ser estricto na eleição dos encarregados de manejar os fundos nacionaes, de perseguir os contrabandistas, e de uma consagração especialissima ao Thesouro Publico, tem logrado o Executivo cobrir a lista militar e civil com a maior regularidade; não omittir as fortes distribuições que tem demandado a instrucção popular com o augmento de escolas e a reforma implantada; levar a cabo reparações e melhoras nos edificios nacionaes; pagar a subvenção accordada aos constructores da estrada de ferro do Silico; attendir aos gastos extraordinarios do ramo de Guerra; fazer augmentar as rendas; estender arames telegraphicos em differentes povoações que permaneciam isolodas do resto da Republica, e que hoje podem augmentar suas transacções e contribuir com ellas ao engrandecimento do paiz; promover outras obras de progresso, e, emfim, pagar cumpridamente e até com antecipação os *coupons* da divida ingleza e prover a seus corresponsaes estrangeiros dos fundos necessarios para satisfazer seus pedidos."

SALVADOR.

DECRETO RELATIVO AO SERVIÇO CONSULAR.

O "Diario Oficial" correspondente a 3 de Agosto do anno corrente publica o seguinte decreto que foi emittido em data de 16 de Julho proximo passado:

"O Presidente Constitucional da Republica do Salvador, considerando:

"Que varios de nossos agentes consulares no estrangeiro teem-se dirigido á Secretaria de Relações Exteriores, consultando algumas duvidas que se apresentam na applicação do decreto de 3 de Abril do

corrente anno, sobre certificação de facturas consulares, e que é conveniente dictar um regulamento que as aclare e que facilite o cumprimento da dita lei, portanto decreta:

"ARTIGO 1°. Conforme ao disposto no Artigo 3° da citada lei, os pacotes contidos em cada factura poderão levar a marca ou marcas com que se queira marcal-os, com tal de que todos elles tenham o numero de ordem que a cada um corresponde, ficando prohibida a repetição de um mesmo numero em dous ou mais pacotes dos manifestados em cada factura.

"ARTIGO 2°. Esta prohibição não obsta para que o numero de ordem que corresponda a cada volume dos consignados em uma mesma factura possa repetir-se no mesmo volume, em suas adherencias ou envoltorios que resguardam a mercadoria contida em dito volume, como no ferro em qualquer forma sem empacotamento, a madeira em bruto para construcções, as machinas e demais objectos que venham descobertos.

"Mas fica terminantemente prohibido consignar em uma mesma factura mercadorias pertencentes a duas ou mais pessoas.

"ARTIGO 3°. Os consules certificarão as facturas firmadas pelos commerciantes, fabricantes ou por seus representantes, quando lhes conste que essas firmas são authenticas; e no caso de que por primeira vez as ditas pessoas subscrevam uma factura consular qualquer, deverão fazel-a perante o consul que ha de certifical-a, para que este funccionario tome nota da dita firma e possa comparal-a e reconhecel-a no successivo.

"Mas os consules se absterão de certificar uma factura ás pessoas a que se refere a segunda parte do artigo 5° da citada lei.

"ARTIGO 4°. Os consules não poderão certificar facturas que não tenham sido despachadas na praça ou districto consular de sua jurisdicção, sob pena de nullidade do certificado.

"ARTIGO 5°. Quando as pessoas enumeradas no artigo 5° deste decreto não quizerem dar a conhecer ao consul local o movimento de seus embarques, poderão recorrer ao Consul geral respectivo, para fazer a declaração jurada a que se refere o artigo 5° da lei, na forma que estabelece o artigo 3° deste decreto, e então o Consul geral certificará a factura.

"ARTIGO 6°. Cada tres mezes os consules estão na obrigação de dar conta detalhada dos fundos que manejem na forma que prevem o artigo 119 do regulamento do serviço consular vigente, remettendo-a á Secretaria de Relações Exteriores, quem a sua vez deverá dirigil-a á Contadoria Maior da Republica.

"ARTIGO 7°. Esta repartição revisará as ditas contas nos termos que estabelecem as leis de Fazenda para os reparos que procedam, os quaes communicará immediatamente ao Ministerio de Relações Exteriores, quem os fará saber ao consul respectivo; e com as explicações que este der, a Contadoria Maior dictará a resolução correspondente."

BIBLIOGRAPHIA.

Nesta secção do Boletim Mensal se tratará dos livros e folhetos enviados á Secretaria das Republicas Americanas que se referem a assumptos de interesse aos paizes da União Internacional das Republicas Americanas.

Em connexão com a exhibição mexicana na Exposição de Pariz, M. Gostkowski, redactor em chefe da "Le Nouveau Monde," Pariz, publicou uma obra intitulada "Mexique," que é um manual geral da Republica do Mexico e um compendio de informações valiosas. O livro contem retratos do Presidente Díaz, dos membros do seu gabinete e da commissão mexicana á Exposição. Tambem contem um mappa geral da Republica e dous mappas de vias ferreas.

O volume 46 de "Petermanns Mitteilungen" contem um artigo na lingua allemã pelo Dr. W. Sievers, sobre o relatorio da "Intercontinental Railway Commission" que se reuniu em Washington em 1898. O escriptor diz que sem duvida alguma a grande obra da construcção de uma estrada de ferro intercontinental será realizada em epoca não remota. O Boletim Mensal já fez menção do relatorio da Commissão.

"Limites com a Republica Argentina," por R. M. Serrano, Santiago, Chile, 1898, é o titulo de uma collecção de artigos relativos ás fronteiras do Chile e da Argentina. Sr. Serrano é considerado muito competente para tratar deste assumpto, pois o tem estudado durante muitos annos e tem feito varias viagens de exploração. O livro é naturalmente escripto sob o ponto de vista chileno.

Em 1888 a Secção de Entomologia do Departamento de Agricultura dos Estados Unidos publicou um folheto intitulado "An Enumeration of the Published Synopses, Catalogues, and Lists of North American Insects, etc." (Enumeração dos Synopses, Catalogos e Listas dos Insectos da America do Norte, etc.). Este folheto tem sido enviado aos que teem pedido informações relativas ás obras mais uteis em determinar os insectos nativos dos Estados Unidos e ás obras geraes de consulta. O grande numero de estudos e investigações em entomologia realizados desde a publicação deste folheto fizeram necessaria a revisão desta obra, e por conseguinte, o Departamento acaba de publicar um novo folheto, Boletim No. 24, intitulado "A List of Works on North American Entomology" (Lista de Obras sobre a Entomologia da America do Norte).

"Revista de Tucuman" é o titulo de uma nova revista illustrada publicada na cidade de Tucuman. O objecto desta publicação é fazer conhecer ao povo da Republica e ao das Republicas irmãs os recursos do paiz e sua situação economica. Uma parte da revista é dedicada a assumptos litterarios. É seu redactor principal o Sr. N. Perez.

BULLETIN MENSUEL

DU

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RÉPUBLIQUE ARGENTINE.

LA PROVISION DE LAINE.

Un article publié dans le journal "Textile World" du 19 septembre 1900, sur la provision de laine qui existe dans le monde, "World's Wool Supply," dit que pendant un nombre d'années la République Argentine a été la plus grande acheteuse de moutons pedigree. Pendant la session du Congrès Commercial International qui eut lieu à Philadelphie en 1899, Mr. HERBERT GIBSON, qui représentait cette République, lut un rapport faisant remarquer l'importance croissante que les éleveurs de mouton de l'Argentine attachaient au stock pedigree importé, dont le résultat était l'amiélioration de leurs produits. Il dit qu'il regrettait que les Etats-Unis ne connussent, en fait de laine de l'Argentine, que celle produite par la vieille race créole qui disparaît au fur et à mesure des progrès rapides faits par les éleveurs intelligents. La substance du rapport de Mr. GIBSON fut publiée dans le BULLETIN MENSUEL du mois de novembre 1899, page 585 (partie anglaise).

Tout en confirmant le fait précédent, l'auteur de l'article du "Textile World" dit, que pendant les cinq dernières années, la République Argentine a acheté 80 pour cent de la valeur totale des moutons exportés par la Grande-Bretagne. De 1894 à 1898, la Grande-Bretagne a exporté 42,909 moutons, évalués à $2,285,000, et la République Argentine seule est comprise dans ces chiffres pour 26,640 animaux, évalués à $1,182,000. Pendant les vingt-cinq années passées, cette même République a fait, en France et en Allemagne, de grands achats de mérinos. Les Etats-Unis ont envoyé à l'Argentine leurs mérinos de Vermont et la Nouvelle-Zélande lui a expédié ses meilleurs Lincolns.

L'auteur continue en disant que l'excellence de la qualité des troupeaux de l'Argentine n'est connue généralement que de ceux qui ont visité la Plata pendant ces dernières années. Le sol et le climat de la République Argentine sont particulièrement favorables à l'élevage de ces troupeaux dont la laine a une souplesse et un lustre que l'on ne peut pas parvenir à obtenir en Europe. A ces conditions naturelles, on doit ajouter que les éleveurs ont acquis aujourd'hui les connaissances et l'expérience nécessaires pour élever leurs troupeaux; que l'extension des voies ferrées qui a été suivie par la formation de sociétés agricoles, d'expositions et de foires dans toutes les sections du pays, leur ont permis de connaître les traits caractéristiques de chaque race spéciale, tout en leur ouvrant des marchés où ils peuvent facilement acheter les béliers nécessaires pour la procréation et l'amélioration de leurs troupeaux.

Pendant les dix années passées, la production de la laine de mérinos du monde a diminué de 340,000,000 livres, de sorte qu'il y a une moins grande quantité de ces étoffes. Cet état de choses est dû à une augmentation de 200,000,000 livres de laine provenant du croisement de moutons de races différentes et à une diminution de 140,000,000 livres produites par la sécheresse et les mauvaises saisons en Australie. Depuis 1894, le stock des mérinos d'Australie a été réduit, pour les causes ci-dessus, à plus de 30,000,000 de têtes. L'auteur de l'article en question ajoute que la République Argentine sera le pays qui pourra satisfaire le mieux aux demandes de mérinos. On dit que pendant l'automne passé, les ventes de mérinos dans toutes les foires qui ont eu lieu, ont été extraordinaires. Pendant le mois de juillet le prix moyen auquel s'est vendu le mérinos allemand à Buenos-Ayres s'est monté à $510, ce qui démontre que le producteur argentin ayant remarqué la rareté de cette variété de laine sur le marché, se prépare à combler la différence. Etant donnée l'augmentation annuelle de sa production de laine, la République Argentine regarde le développement de l'industrie manufacturière de laine aux Etats-Unis comme un marché pour ses produits. C'est le moment opportun aujourd'hui pour les manufacturiers de l'Amérique du Nord d'étendre leurs opérations sur les marchés de laine de Buenos-Ayres.

COMMERCE EXÉTRIEUR PENDANT LE 1er SEMESTRE 1900.

D'après les statistiques publiées par la Direction Générale de la Statistique à Buenos-Ayres, voici quel aurait été le commerce extérieur de l'Argentine pendant les six premiers mois de 1900.

L'importation s'élève à $56,526,692, or; elle est inférieure de $925,249 au total de la période correspondante de 1899; l'exportation se chiffre par $94,099,151, or, en augmentation de $5,048,389 sur le premier semestre de l'an passé.

La part qui revient aux principaux clients de l'Argentine est représentée par les chiffres suivants en piastres, or:

Importation.—Angleterre, 19,307,951, diminution de 1,986,545; Allemagne, 8,019,795, augmentation de 1,011,670; Italie, 7,838,252, augmentation de 572,760; France, 5,838,197, augmentation de 412,781; Etats-Unis, 5,653,894, diminution de 928,355; Belgique, 4,695,464, diminution de 213,901.

Exportation.—Allemagne, 13,703,887, diminution de 954,461; Belgique, 13,063,352, augmentation de 1,286,223; France, 12,550,390, diminution de 5,730,956; Angleterre, 11,963,596, augmentation de 1,040,594; Etats-Unis, 3,626,480, augmentation de 325,310.

LICENCES POUR LES VOYAGEURS DE COMMERCE ÉTRANGERS.

Le Vice-Consul d'Angleterre à Buenos-Ayres fait remarquer, dans un rapport récent, que les voyageurs de commerce étrangers visitant la République Argentine doivent commencer par se munir d'une licence. Le coût de cette dernière varie suivant le genre d'articles que représente le voyageur, mais, en général, on peut dire qu'il atteint de 50 à 250 dollars papier par an. Dans certains cas, cependant, le prix d'une licence permanente atteint un chiffre beaucoup plus élevé. Les licences ne sont délivrées que pour une période minimum d'une année et, en cas d'infraction, le voyageur est passible d'une amende s'élevant à 50 pour cent du montant de la taxe exigée. Pour obtenir une licence, les voyageurs doivent en faire personnellement la demande aux autorités locales.

BRÉSIL.

COMMERCE AVEC LES ETATS-UNIS.

Le journal de commerce de New York, "The New-York Journal of Commerce," dit que le bateau à vapeur *Maranhense* est parti du port de New-York le 8 septembre pour le nord du Brésil, avec la plus grande cargaison de marchandises manufacturées qui ait été exportée de New-York pour ce pays depuis longtemps. En dehors d'une grande quantité de machines, la cargaison comprend du matériel d'exploitation pour les chemins de fer et les usines électriques ainsi que du fer manufacturé. Si on ajoute à cela une grande quantité de marchandises à destination de Pará et Manaos, on voit que le commerce du Brésil avec les Etats-Unis commence à reprendre.

ENREGISTREMENT DE SOCIÉTÉS COMMERCIALES.

Le Consul Général anglais, par intérim, à Rio de Janeiro, informe qu'aucune maison de commerce, qu'elle soit étrangère ou non, ne pourra être officiellement enregistrée au Brésil (mesure qui est néces-

saire pour obtenir la protection et les privilèges accordés par le code de commerce) que si elle prouve que les noms des associés sont bien réellement ceux de la raison sociale; en un mot, aucun nom fictif ne peut être légalement enregistré.

EXPORTATIONS DE COTON.

Du 1er janvier au 1er septembre 1900, le Brésil a exporté à la Grande Bretagne 23,338,200 livres de coton, évaluées à 578,255 livres sterling. Pendant la même période de 1899, seulement 528,700 livres évaluées à 9,356 livres sterling furent exportées à la grande Bretagne. Pendant les 8 premiers mois de 1898, les exportations se sont montées à 5,323,400 livres, évaluées à 96,949 livres sterling.

DÉLÉGUÉ AU CONGRÈS PAN-AMERICAN.

Le journal l'Amérique du Sud, "South American Journal," rapporte que le Gouvernement Brésilien a décidé que Mr. le Dr. Carlos de Carvalho, ancien Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, serait nommé délégué de cette République au Congrès Pan-American qui se réunira au Mexique en 1901.

DÉBOUCHÉ POUR LES ARTICLES EN PORCELAINE.

D'après un rapport commercial anglais, les articles en porcelaine se vendent très bien au Brésil, où ils sont fort en vogue. La Belgique et l'Allemagne sont les fournisseurs les plus importants. Il y aurait là pour les fabricants des Etats-Unis un débouché pour les produits de ce genre.

NOUVELLE LIGNE DE VAPEURS.

Une nouvelle ligne de bateaux à vapeur a été inaugurée le 19 août 1900 entre l'Allemagne et la ville de Manaos, par l'arrivée de Hambourg du bateau à vapeur le "Canada."

CHILI.

ÉTAT INDUSTRIEL DU CHILI.

Dans un rapport à son Gouvernement sur l'état industriel du Chili, publié dans le "Moniteur Officiel du Commerce" du 27 septembre, M. Crouzet, Gérant du Consulat de France à Valparaiso, dit que le Chili, pays autrefois voué au commerce, prend de plus en plus d'importance au point de vue industriel. Si l'on considère le temps relativement court qu'a eu ce pays pour se développer, et surtout si l'on tient compte de sa situation géographique peu propice, on reste étonné des résultats acquis. Il est juste de déclarer tout d'abord que ce n'est pas au peule

chilien seul que l'on doit le développement industriel, mais bien a l'élément étranger qui lui a fait faire les premiers pas.

Pissis, Domeyko, Philippi et Nogués, ingénieurs et savants européens, ont décrit la formation géologique des Cordillères et ont mis en lumière les inépuisables richesses qu'elles contiennent. Les études zoologiques et botaniques du savant Gay ont servi de bases aux exploitations agricoles. L'Anglais Weelright est le premier qui soit venu au Chili sur des navires à vapeur et qui ait ouvert les marchés du vieux continent aux produits chiliens; c'est encore un Anglais Meiggs qui, par l'introduction de chemins de fer, a transformé la partie centrale du Chili en un vaste champ d'activité industrielle.

Ses premières industries qui se détachent sont les industries agricoles et minières. On peut même dire que dès le début de son existence, le Chili a été agriculteur et minier.

Les terres épuisées de la vieille Europe et les grandes fabriques de produits chimiques ont consommé pour près de deux milliards de salpêtre et d'iode venant du Chili. L'argent, le cuivre et l'or ont également apporté leurs concours. Une seule mine, celle de Chanareillo, a fourni 138,000,000 de piastres. Et ce n'est pas là un point maximum atteint par l'industrie minière. Le jour où les voies de communication se seront multipliées, et où les procédés d'extraction se seront améliorées, on peut prévoir une augmentation au moins du triple.

Malheureusement pour le Chili, les mines de salpêtre sont, paraît-il, appelées à diminuer d'importance, non pas que la matière manque, mais bien à cause de la concurrence que font aux produits naturels les engrais et produits azotés artificiels. C'est là un gros point noir à l'horizon industriel qui ne cesse de préoccuper le pays.

En ce qui concerne l'industrie agricole, la situation est moins brillante.

C'est surtout la viticulture qui a attiré l'attention des agriculteurs et c'est cependant cette branche qui a fourni les moins bons résultats à l'exportation. Plus de 60,000,000 de piastres, soit environ 120,000,000 de francs, ont été dépensés en plantations de vignes. On est arrivé à obtenir ainsi une production considérable et de très bonne qualité qui, cependant, n'est pas encore arrivée à combler la différence existant en faveur de l'importation.

Une autre industrie en voie de prospérité est celle du sucre. Dès 1871, une raffinerie avait été fondée à Viña del Mar près de Valparaiso. Cette usine n'a cessé de prospérer et travaille aujourd'hui avec un capital de 6,000,000 de francs. Depuis, d'autres usines se sont installées et enfin l'usine de Penco a été montée pour obtenir du sucre de betterave. De grandes plantations de cette dernière plante ont éte faites et il y a tout lieu de croire qu'elles seront prospères.

Des huileries se sont aussi élevées et indépendemment des olives du pays, on y traite des cocos venant de Samoa et de Tahïti. Pour un seul produit, l'importation a été presque complètement supprimée,

c'est la bière. Cette fabrication, entreprise par la colonie allemande, a réalisé des progrès réellement enviables. Elle est arrivée à un tel point qu'aujourd'hui les fabricants en exportent environ pour 10,000,000 de francs dans l'Amérique Centrale, dans l'Equateur, au Pérou et dans la Bolivie. La presque totalité des fabriques est allemande.

On compte aussi dans le pays de nombreuses fabriques de conserves et de chocolat, toutes montées avec les derniers perfectionnements.

En ce qui concerne la fabrication des tissus de coton, de laine et de laine et coton, la situation est moins brillante; néanmoins, grâce à la loi protectionniste du 12 février 1896, qui déclare libre de droits à l'entrée les fils de coton, et grève, au contraire, les tissus, de sérieux efforts ont été tentés. Ce sont les Anglais qui essayent en ce moment d'établir les tissages. Etant donné la grande consommation faite, on est en droit d'espérer un développement considérable de cette industrie.

La presse spéciale à l'industrie s'élève en ce moment-ci contre le peu de protection accordée aux industries mécaniques. A son avis, le corps législatif, lorsqu'il a voté la loi du 23 décembre 1897, révisant le tarif douanier, n'a pas assez tenu compte des progrès réalisés. Depuis environ un demi-siècle, la métallurgie et la mécanique sont établies au Chili. La place qu'elles occupent est importante, les pays voisins n'hésitent pas à adresser leurs commandes au Chili. Ces établissements qui fournissent les chaudières, des tubes, des cylindres, des machines agricoles, des locomotives et des pièces pour les chemins de fer et la marine, les outillages pour les mines, etc., ont su s'attirer la clientèle sud-américaine et sont montés sur un pied qui leur permet de rivaliser avec les établissements européens similaires. A ces industries, on peut ajouter celle de la fabrication, sur une grande échelle, des ciments qui autrefois venaient de l'Allemagne, de l'Angleterre et de la Belgique.

En terminant son rapport, Mr. Crouzet dit que le Chili est un champ d'activité industrielle de premier ordre et on ne saurait trop engager le placement de capitaux dans ce pays. Les Allemands l'ont compris les premiers et à l'heure actuelle on ne voit dans ce pays que machines allemandes et capitaux allemands. De nombreuses affaires minières qui s'annoncent comme très brillantes sont arrêtées par le manque de capitaux et il en est de même des entreprises agricoles.

PROTECTION DES MARQUES DE FABRIQUE.

D'après une communication récente du Consul Général d'Angleterre à Valparaiso, les autorités chiliennes viennent de modifier la loi sur les marques de fabrique, afin d'assurer une plus grande protection aux marques déposées. L'ancien règlement était complètement inefficace et ne permettait pas de réprimer les nombreuses fraudes qui se commettaient constamment. On sait, en effet, que pour pouvoir intenter avec succès une action judiciaire aux imitateurs, il fallait que la marque incriminée fût une imitation exacte de l'original, la plus légère

altération étant suffisante pour rendre les poursuites inutiles. La nouvelle loi remédie à cet état de choses, en ce sens qu'elle stipule que les juges auront désormais le pouvoir de décider s'il y a eu intention évidente de tromper le public en imitant une marque déposée.

D'autres modifications dans le même sens sont, paraît-il, à l'étude et seront promulguées prochainement.

COLOMBIE.

ADJUDICATION PUBLIQUE.

Le 2 décembre 1900, à 4 heures, aura lieu au Ministère des Finances (Hacienda) à Santa-Fé de Bogota, la mise en location, pour une période de 15 années, des mines d'émeraudes de Muzo et de Cosquez. Cautionnement, 100,000 piastres à verser à la trésorerie de l'Etat, ou 40,000 piastres, or, à un des ministres ou consuls généraux de la République à l'étranger. Le concessionnaire doit s'engager à payer au Gouvernement une prime qui ne peut pas être inférieure à 200,000 piastres, or, et une annuité à indiquer par l'intéressé dans sa soumission.

CUBA.

VENTE D'INSTRUMENTS ARATOIRES.

"L'American Trade" dit que jamais à Cuba on n'a importé autant d'outils agricoles qu'à présent.

Les planteurs sont disposés à tous les sacrifices pour améliorer la culture de leur sol. Déjà les agents de quelques-unes des principales manufactures de machines agricoles aux Etats-Unis ont parcouru l'île tout entière, et y ont fait naître un intérêt considérable pour les outils agricoles de tout genre.

C'est la charrue à double soc qui fait à présent l'objet de la plus forte demande.

C'est elle qui convient le mieux, d'ailleurs, au sol très argileux de Cuba. Cette charrue est munie d'une roue tranchante, qui, dans son mouvement de rotation, ouvre un sillon dans la terre. Un racloir la débarasse de l'argile qu'elle entraîne. Cette charrue a été essayée avec grand succès.

Les constructeurs qui avaient des charrues en vente à la Havane, disent que l'écoulement de ces machines, pendant le mois de juin, a été presque merveilleux. Les ordres reçus provenaient de l'île tout entière, et non pas d'une seule province.

On recherche beaucoup les charrues dites "cultivators." Elles conviennent au sol argileux de Cuba et possèdent un accessoire qui permet d'enlever la terre gluante qui s'y colle.

PROSPÉRITÉ AGRICOLE.

D'après une dépêche de Havana, datée du 6 octobre 1900, une grande prospérité agricole règne dans toute cette partie de l'Ile de Cuba qui s'étend entre les villes de Havana et de Cienfuegos. Le renouvellement des plantations de cannes à sucre et la reconstruction des usines centrales avancent activement; la confiance commerciale dans les entreprises agricoles renaît graduellemennt et est démontrée par l'importation des Etats-Unis d'une grande quantité de machines agricoles et de machines pour le raffinage du sucre.

Les industries sucrières et du tabac produisent beaucoup et continuellement et on estime qu'elles rapportent plus de $6,000,000. On est en train de construire dans l'île de nouvelles raffineries.

Pendant la première semaine du mois d'octobre, 1,860 immigrants venant des Iles Canaries et de Barcelone, Espagne, ont débarqué à la Havane, en route pour les districts de l'intérieur où ils peuvent immédiatement se procurer du travail. Cette affluence d'étrangers résout, en partie, la question du travail, car un grand nombre de plantations chômaient faute de mains-d'œuvre. Señor PERFECTO LACOSTE, le Ministre de l'Agriculture, offre aux bons immigrants toutes les facilités possibles.

EXPORTATIONS DE TABAC.

Pendant les premiers sept mois de l'année 1900, on a exporté de l'Ile de Cuba, pour $5,973,557 de tabac en feuilles, dont une valeur montant à $5,046,778 fut prise par les Etats-Unis. Les exportations de cigarettes se sont montées à $192,505, les Etats-Unis en ayant pris pour une valeur de $21,239. Les exportations de tous les autres tabacs, pendant la période susnommée, se sont élevées à $56.450; dans ce dernier total les Etats-Unis sont compris pour $5,773.

ÉQUATEUR.

FABRIQUE DE CHAPEAUX DE PANAMA.

Dans un rapport que le Consul Général DE LÉON, à Guayaquil, a adressé à son Gouvernement, ce fonctionnaire fait un récit très intéressant de la manière dont on fabrique les chapeaux de Panama dans l'Équateur. Le BULLETIN MENSUEL du mois de Mai 1900 (pages 779–780) contient un article relatif à ces chapeaux, généralement dénommés "jipijapa" et qui sont fabriqués, dit le Consul Belge, avec la feuille d'une plante nommée "*Carludovica palmata.*" Le Consul des Etats-Unis prétend au contraire qu'ils sont faits avec une plante du pays qui ressemble beaucoup à la "saw palmetto" des Etats-Unis. Voici

comment on procède pour faire ces chapeaux: quand la plante a atteint la hauteur désirée, on la coupe juste avant qu'elle devienne mûre, on la fait bouillir dans de l'eau très claire et on la fait ensuite sécher. Quand elle est complètement sèche, on l'assortit et elle est alors prête à être employée. On choisit premièrement la paille avec soin; on l'expose à l'humidité pour la rendre flexible et on la fend alors, en lui donnant la longueur nécessaire, au moyen de l'ongle du petit doigt ou du pouce.

On commence alors le tressage au sommet de la forme du chapeau et on le continue circulairement jusqu'à ce que le chapeau soit achevé. Le travail a lieu quand l'atmosphère est humide, entre minuit et 7 heures du matin. Il est nécessaire de travailler trois heures par jour pendant près de trois à cinq mois pour faire un de ces beaux chapeaux, véritables merveilles de finesse. Cette industrie, dans son plus grand développement est réellement une œuvre d'art qui réclame une grande patience, de bons yeux et un talent spécial. Le tressage achevé, on lave le chapeau dans de l'eau froide très claire, on le couvre d'une solution de gomme et on le lustre avec du soufre réduit en poudre. Les plus beaux chapeaux sont si souples qu'ils peuvent se rouler et se mettre dans la poche sans s'abîmer; ils peuvent durer des années et se nettoyer maintes fois. Les naturels des deux sexes et de tous les âges travaillent à la fabrication de ce genre de chapeaux. Les prix de vente en gros varient de $7.92 à $100 la douzaine.

Pendant les trois années qui viennent de s'écouler, les exportations des chapeaux de Panama de l'Équateur ont diminué graduellement, mais en revanche celles du matériel avec lequel ils sont fabriqués ont augmenté. Ceci indiquerait que les autres nations sont engagées dans cette industrie.

ETATS-UNIS.

COMMERCE EXTÉRIEUR DES ETATS-UNIS PENDANT LE MOIS D'AOÛT 1900.

Pendant le mois d'août 1900, la valeur des marchandises importées par les Etats-Unis s'est montée à $61,692,758 contre $66,643,810 durant le même mois de 1899. La valeur des importations de marchandises sujettes aux droits de douane s'élevait à $39,120,392, ou 63.41 pour cent en août 1900, contre $38,978,632, ou 58.49 pour cent pendant le mois correspondant de 1899. Les droits de douane perçus pendant le mois d'août 1900 se sont montés à $21,384,495, contre $20,546,697 en 1899.

Ci-après un tableau comparatif des importations des mois d'août 1899 et 1900:

Importations sujettes aux droits de douane et exemptes de ces droits.

Articles.	1900.	1899.
Denrées alimentaires et animaux	$16,157,038	$16,747,093
Articles bruts entrant dans les différents procédés de l'industrie du pays.	19,141,141	22,101,068
Articles entièrement ou partiellement manufacturés, destinés comme matériaux dans les manufactures et les arts mécaniques	4,550,935	5,925,227
Articles manufacturés pour la consommation	12,392,029	12,033,318
Articles de luxe	9,451,615	9,837,104
Totaux	61,692,758	66,643,810

Le total de la valeur des exportations du pays, pendant le mois d'août 1900, se montait à $101,500,323 contre $102,875,489 pour le mois correspondant de l'année 1899. Les marchandises étrangères réexportées pendant les deux périodes en comparaison, se montaient respectivement à $1,930,407 et $1,770,531.

Les exportations du pays étaient classées comme suit:

Exportations du pays.

	1900.	1899.
Produits agricoles	$56,182,654	$59,653,924
Produits des manufactures	35,783,039	34,158,777
Produits des mines	3,678,218	3,360,882
Produits des forêts	5,434,356	5,268,629
Produits des pêches	317,465	355,526
Produits divers	104,591	77,751
Totaux	101,500,323	102,875,489

CONDITION DE L'AGRICULTURE AU 1ER OCTOBRE 1900.

D'après le rapport du statisticien du Ministère de l'Agriculture des Etats-Unis, voici quelle était, au 1er Octobre 1900, la condition moyenne des différentes récoltes en comparaison de celles, à la même date, des années précédentes, ainsi que la moyenne des moyennes au 1er octobre pendant 10 années.

Pour le maïs, la condition moyenne était 78.3 contre 82.7 l'année précédente et 81 pendant 10 ans. D'après ce rapport, on a calculé que le nombre total de boisseaux de maïs sera de 1,957,550,000. Le total pour l'année 1899 s'élevait à 2,078,143,933 boisseaux.

L'estimation du rendement de l'avoine par acre est 29.6 boisseaux contre 30.7 boisseaux en 1899 et une moyenne de 26.2 boisseaux pendant dix ans; ce qui indiquerait une récolte totale de 810,122,000 boisseaux contre 769,177,713 boisseaux en 1899.

Le rendement, par acre, de l'orge est estimé à 20.4 boisseaux contre 25.5 boisseaux en 1899 et 23.5 boisseaux la moyenne de 10 années, qui est le plus petit rendement indiqué à part une exception depuis 1887.

Le rendement du seigle, par acre, est estimé à 15.1 boisseaux contre 14.4 boisseaux en 1899 et 14 boisseaux la moyenne de 10 années. La moyenne, pour la qualité, est 92 contre 90 en 1899.

La condition moyenne du blé sarrasin était 72.8 contre 70.2 le 1er octobre 1899 et 82.2 la moyenne de 10 ans.

Une diminution dans la condition du riz est rapporté de tous les Etats qui produisent cette céréale, mais dans la Louisiane, où ells est produite en plus grande abondance, la condition est encore exceptionnellement élevée, étant 100 ou 13 points au dessus de la moyenne.

La récolte de la canne à sucre dans la Louisiane maintient sa condition du mois de septembre, c'est-à-dire 101. Dans tous les autres Etats où ce roseau est cultivé, il y a eu une légère diminution dans la condition.

Ce rapport indique que la condition moyenne du coton au 1er octobre 1900 était 67 contre 62.4 le 1er octobre 1899, et 71.6 la moyenne des moyennes du mois d'octobre pendant les dix dernières années.

Aucun autre rapport sur le blé ne sera publié jusqu'à la réception des rapports annuels et individuels des producteurs et ceux finals des agents spéciaux du ministère.

On publiera aussi bientôt un rapport spécial sur les effets de la dernière tempête sur l'agriculture dans la partie méridionale du Texas. Dans ce rapport seront comprises les conditions moyennes des récoltes de toutes les provinces du Texas.

LE COMMERCE EXTÉRIEUR EN 1899–1900.

Le numéro de juin du "Monthly Summary of Commerce and Finance," dit le "Bulletin Commercial" (Bruxelles) du 15 septembre, renferme des indications (chiffres provisoires) sur le montant du commerce extérieur des Etats-Unis pendant l'année fiscale se terminant le 30 juin 1900. Les importations se sont élevées à $849,714,670, soit $152,556,181 de plus que l'année précédente; les exportations ont atteint $1,394,186,371, soit $167,163,069 de plus qu'en 1898–99.

Quatre grands faits, écrit la Légation de Belgique, caractérisent ce mouvement d'échange: 1° son total dépasse de $317,729,250 celui de l'année précédente, et pour la première fois dans l'histoire des Etats-Unis dépasse le chiffre de deux milliards de dollars; 2° les exportations dépassent celles de toute année antérieure et sont plus uniformément distribuées que précédemment; 3° les matières premières nécessaires aux manufactures ont été plus abondamment importées et forment une fraction plus forte des importations totales qu'auparavant; 4° les articles manufacturés ont été plus abondamment exportés qu'antérieurement et forment une fraction beaucoup plus grande des exportations totales que précédemment.

La balance du commerce de 1790 au 30 juin 1897, soit durant 108 ans, donne, en faveur des Etats-Unis, un total de $356,809,012 seulement, parce qu'il y a lieu de déduire la somme des balances passives de celle des balances actives, tandis que les balances additionnées des années 1898, 1899 et 1900 atteignent la somme énorme de $1,689,778,790 comme excédent des exportations sur les importations.

IMPORTATIONS DE CAOUTCHOUC.

Pendant les quatre années terminées le 30 juin 1900, les Etats-Unis ont importé plus de $100,000,000 de caoutchouc. Il y a une décade, les importations de cet article par les Etats-Unis se montaient annuellement à $15,000,000 environ; actuellement, elles excèdent $30,000,000 et augmentent continuellement. Presque tout le caoutchouc est importé à l'état brut et employé dans les manufactures qui l'appliquent constamment à de nombreuses et nouvelles industries. Cependant, presque tout le caoutchouc que les pays européens exportent aux Etats-Unis est raffiné. Le Nord du Brésil, le Sud du Mexique, l'Amérique Centrale, les Antilles, l'Afrique Centrale, l'Indo-Chine Anglaise et les Indes Néerlandaises fournissent cet article important du commerce d'importation des Etats-Unis. Depuis quelques années, aucun article n'a probablement été employé dans les manufactures et le commerce en aussi grande quantité que le caoutchouc; c'est pourquoi une attention toute particulière est donnée à la culture des différentes plantes qui peuvent produire cette substance.

L'exposé ci-dessus est suggéré par la lecture d'une publication sur les efforts systématiques qui ont été faits dans la culture des arbres et plantes à caoutchouc dans les Colonies Anglaises, spécialement ceux de l'Afrique Centrale et de l'Afrique du Sud. Cette question devient encore plus intéressante depuis que le Ministère de l'Agriculture des Etats-Unis a commencé des expériences et fait faire des investigations à ce sujet dans les nouvelles possessions conquises récemment.

Le Sud du Mexique et l'Amérique Centrale étant, d'une part, les grands producteurs naturels du caoutchouc et, d'autre part, cette substance étant produite et exportée constamment des îles et autres territoires adjacents des Philippines, un bel avenir est réservé à cette industrie, non seulement dans ces possessions, mais encore à Hawaï et à Porto-Rico.

Comme le Bulletin Mensuel l'a déjà fait si souvent remarquer, le caoutchouc n'est pas seulement le produit d'une seule espèce d'arbre, mais au contraire celui d'une variété d'arbres et de plantes. Quelques-uns poussent seulement dans un sol et une atmosphère humides, tandis que d'autres viennent bien dans un sol pierreux pourvu que ce dernier soit arrosé de temps en temps. Il faut, en tous cas, à ces plantes, un climat tropical ou sous-tropical. Presque tout le caoutchouc de l'Amérique du Sud, de l'Amérique Centrale et de l'Inde est extrait

d'arbres, mais dans les Iles de l'Archipel Indien l'approvisionnement vient principalement d'une plante rampante gigantesque qui, dans l'espace de cinq ans, atteint une longueur de 200 pieds, a une circonférence de 20 à 30 pouces et dont le rendement annuel est de 50 à 60 livres de caoutchouc. Java, Sumatra, Penang, Singapore et l'Indo-Chine Française sont déjà de grands producteurs de caoutchouc; quant à la quantité produite aux Antilles, elle est suffisante pour indiquer qu'on pourrait cultiver avec succès cette plante à Cuba et à Porto-Rico et donner à cette industrie un plus grand développement.

Voici quelle été la valeur des importations de caoutchouc brut depuis 1890:

1891	$18,020,804	1897	$17,558,163
1892	19,833,090	1898	25,545,391
1893	17,964,667	1899	31,875,207
1894	15,162,333	1900	31,555,483
1895	18,475,382		
1896	16,781,533	Total	212,772,053

Pendant l'année 1900 les Etats-Unis ont importé 49,377,138 livres de caoutchouc contre 51,063,066 livres en 1899. Le prix moyen par livre en 1900 était 63.1 cents contre 62.1 en 1899. Les importations de caoutchouc en 1900 provenaient des pays suivants, l'évaluation, la quantité et le prix par livre, en cents, étant aussi donnés dans le tableau ci-après:

Pays.	Livres.	Valeur.	Prix moyen.
Brésil	28,175,787	$17,954,490	63.7
Autres pays de l'Amérique du Sud	1,642,191	876,584	53.4
Amérique Centrale	1,428,224	792,250	55.5
Mexique	420,612	201,326	47.8
Antilles	12,291	4,639	37.7
Grande-Bretagne	8,611,061	5,562,580	64.8
Allemagne	1,750,498	892,346	50.9
Autres pays d'Europe	6,626,648	4,776,989	72.1
Indes Orientales	643,793	284,141	44.1
Autres pays	66,033	31,522	47.7
Total	49,377,138	31,376,867	63.1

EXPORTATIONS DE COTON.

La vieille expression américaine, "cotton is king," "le coton est roi," est de nouveau employée par les personnes intéressées dans les exportations des Etats-Unis. En 1898 le blé se vendait un dollar le boisseau ("dollar wheat"), les exportations de farine dépassaient alors de beaucoup en valeur celles de coton, mais le prix de la livre de ce dernier qui n'est en 1900 que de 10 cents donne de nouveau à cet article la première place dans les exportations des produits agricoles. Pendant les sept premiers mois de l'année 1900, les exportations de coton se sont montées à $142,576,097, tandis que la valeur totale des farines exportées pendant la même période était $138,304,509.

Les manufactures et les exportations de coton sont généralement évaluées à la fin de "l'année cotonnière" qui finit avec le mois d'août.

Le Bureau des Statistiques du Ministère des Finances a reçu les rapports du mois d'août 1900 concernant les exportations de coton et a pu ainsi les comparer avec ceux de l'année dernière. Ces rapports qui sont préliminaires, comprennent 98 pour cent environ des exportations de coton, mais comme la comparaison pour l'année présente est faite avec les rapports semblables de l'année dernière, les résultats comparatifs sont assez exacts.

D'après ces chiffres, un examen des exportations de coton montrera que celles du coton brut pendant l'année finissant le 31 août 1900 avaient une valeur bien plus grande que celles de n'importe quelle période précédente depuis 1892, et que le prix moyen par livre était plus élevé qu'à n'importe quelle époque depuis l'année 1893 à l'exception toutefois de l'année 1896.

Le prix moyen d'exportation de coton en août 1900, était 9.7 cents par livre contre une moyenne de 5.6 cents par livre pendant l'année 1898 et 5.8 cents en 1896 et était plus élevé que la moyenne de n'importe quelle année depuis 1891. Le tableau suivant montre la quantité, la valeur et le prix moyen, par livre, du coton exporté pendant chaque "année cotonnière" depuis 1887 jusqu'à 1900:

Années.	Quantités en livres.	Valeur en dollars.	Prix par livre.
1887	2,150,780,791	204,740,804	9.51
1888	2,259,626,754	222,805,494	9.86
1889	2,365,095,768	235,898,233	9.97
1890	2,464,460,578	250,571,334	10.16
1891	2,295,109,652	291,499,029	9.93
1892	2,948,400,103	258,628,371	8.74
1893	2,242,625,388	190,837,234	8.84
1894	2,653,122,567	208,117,277	7.88
1895	3,477,300,269	201,536,926	5.79
1896	2,380,629,953	193,987,848	8.15
1897	3,059,915,757	227,728,459	7.44
1898	3,897,200,752	232,325,922	5.96
1899	3,798,486,844	211,278,139	5.56
1900	3,081,571,252	245,485,209	7.96

En ce qui concerne la situation du coton au 1er septembre 1900, "the American Cotton Reporter" dit qu'au commencement de l'année il n'y avait, dans le pays et l'étranger, qu'un très petit stock de coton. La tempête qui a ravagé la meilleure partie des districts cotonniers du Texas, semble avoir enlevé la possibilité d'un plus grand rendement que celui de 1899. L'approvisionnement des filateurs étrangers n'est pas très grand, la récolte indienne ne sera pas abondante et celle égyptienne sera seulement bonne. Il y a cependant des raisons qui permettent de prédire que le coton, pourra se vendre à 12 cents ou même à un prix plus élevé à la fin du mois d'août prochain. Le total du stock existant dans le monde n'est seulement que de 682,999 balles environ contre 2,171,515 balles il y a un an, et 1,579,207 balles il y a deux ans. Les filateurs anglais seront obligés d'acheter le coton, que le prix soit élevé ou bas, à moins de fermer leurs filatures.

La décision de Manchester de ne pas employer le coton americain

pendant un mois, n'a pas empêché le prix d'augmenter. En attendant, les cotonnades ne peuvent pas être fabriquées avec profit, étant donnés les prix courants du coton brut et des cotonnades, à moins d'une diminution dans le prix de manufacture. Le coton contenu dans une pièce d'étoffe coûte environ 80 cents, tandis que le prix d'une pièce d'étoffe vaut aujourd'hui $1.32. C'est pourquoi le prix de manufacture et le gain doivent être compris dans les 52 cents par pièce. Les tisserands gagnaient 19 cents par pièce quand le bénéfice se montait à plus de 78 cents; et actuellement ils reçoivent 19.8 cents sur un bénéfice de 52 cents. Il faut donc, ou diminuer les prix du coton, augmenter ceux des cotonnades, réduire les salaires ou fermer les filatures.

EXPORTATIONS DE CHAUSSURES.

D'après les statistiques officielles du commerce extérieur en ce qui concerne les chaussures manufacturées aux Etats-Unis, ce commerce a augmenté de $1,688,649 en 1897 à $3,668,435 en 1899. Le Consul des Etats-Unis à Leipsic, dans un rapport qu'il fit très récemment au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères, appelle l'attention du Gouvernement sur les demandes croissantes des Allemands pour les chaussures américaines. Dans son rapport, il dit que les chaussures bon marché se vendent en grande quantité en Allemagne et que l'on recommande d'établir des entrepôts à Hambourg ou Brême et des magasins à Berlin, Dresde, Hambourg, Leipsick et Munich. L'Allemagne n'est pas comprise dans les pays qui ont contribué jusqu'ici au développement du commerce des chaussures des Etats-Unis, ses importations de chaussures américaines pendant l'année dernière étant évaluées seulement à $100,000, c'est à dire, moins d'un tiers de la valeur des exportations au Mexique. Actuellement c'est l'Australie qui est le meilleur marché des Etats-Unis, ces derniers ayant expédié en un an dans ce pays pour $750,000 de chaussures.

L'Angleterre vient après avec des achats montant, en 1899, à $700,000, arrivent ensuite les Antilles, avec $600,000, le Canada avec $400,000 et le Mexique, avec $300,000. Il est un fait qui a été généralement remarqué, c'est qu'avec les machines que l'on a substituées au travail manuel, les nouveaux procédés économiques de tannage, l'introduction de moyens mécaniques plus perfectionnés, le prix de vente des chaussures a bien diminué et aucun pays ne peut aujourd'hui faire concurrence aux Etats Unis sur ce chapitre là, pourvu que l'on puisse obtenir immédiatement un marché.

Jusqu'à présent, les chaussures manufacturées aux Etats-Unis se sont toujours vendues presque exclusivement dans les pays où l'on parle la langue anglaise ou bien dans ceux où les affaires commerciales sont conduites en anglais. Dans les autres pays, les progrès ont été lents, particulièrement en France qui n'a acheté aux Etats-Unis que pour $40,000 de chaussures et dans les pays de l'Amérique du Sud qui,

quoiqu'ils soient de grands acheteurs de denrées alimentaires et autres marchandises, n'ont pris seulement que pour $77,000 de chaussures.

L'année pasée, les bottes et les souliers fabriqués aux Etats-Unis qui se sont vendus en Asie, principalement dans les ports qui sont sous le contrôle de l'administration anglaise, se sont montés à $200,000, et les ventes en Afrique se sont élevées à $150,000.

Un fait certain, c'est qu'à l'étranger les chaussures américaines sont si en vogue qu'une fois qu'elles ont été acceptées sur un marché, ce dernier leur appartient toujours.

VALEUR DES TERRAINS APPARTENANT AU GOUVERNEMENT.

D'après un rapport du Bureau de l'Enregistrement et des Domaines à Washington, le total de la surface du territoire des Etats-Unis est de 2,270,567,440 acres, dont 929,308,068 acres appartiennent encore au Gouvernement, soit plus d'un tiers de la surface du pays; mais les terres non concédées sont presque toutes situées dans l'Alaska et estimées à 359,492,760 acres environ. Aux Etats-Unis proprement dits, les terrains publics sont situés dans 22 Etats et 3 Territoires, variant de 285,730 acres dans l'Etat du Mississippi, à 69,073,491 acres dans l'Etat de Montana. Quand les nouvelles acquisitions seront ouvertes à la colonisation, il y aura probablement quelques terrains de valeur qui pourront être accordés à des particuliers pour les cultiver et les posséder d'après la loi "Homestead." Une portion relativement petite des terrains publics inoccupés, en dehors de cette portion dont les Indiens possèdent les titres, peut être cultivée sans avoir besoin d'être irriguée. Voici, d'après le service de l'Enregistrement et des Domaines quelles sont les étendues des nouvelles possessions des Etats-Unis: Iles Philippines, 91,250,900 acres; Iles Sandwich, 4,313,600 acres; Porto-Rico, 2,304,000 acres; Guam, 32,000 acres, soit un total général de 97,900,500 acres.

VALEUR DES MONNAIES LATINES AMÉRICAINES.

Conformément à la section 25 de la loi du 28 août 1894, le Directeur de la Monnaie des Etats-Unis a préparé une table, approuvée par le Ministre des Finances, donnant la valeur du titre des monnaies des nations du monde, en or des Etats-Unis. D'après l'estimation du Directeur, les monnaies des pays qui ont l'étalon d'argent sont évaluées par la quantité d'argent pur qu'elles contiennent au prix moyen de ce métal sur le marché pendant les trois mois antérieurs au 1er octobre 1900.

D'après cette estimation, la valeur du "*boliviano*" de la Bolivie, le "*peso*" de Guatemala, de Honduras, de Nicaragua, de Salvador et de la Colombie, et le "*sucre*" de l'Equateur a augmenté depuis le 1er juillet 1900 de 43.8 à 45.1 cents; et le dollar d'argent du Mexique est actuellement évalué à 49 cents au lieu de 47.6 cents. Le Pérou occupe

aujourd'hui une place parmi les pays qui ont l'étaton d'or, avec son unité monétaire, le "*sol*," dont la valeur est 48.7 cents, pendant que la nouvelle monnaie d'or, la "*libra*," est reconnue et évaluée à $4.8665. Le système monétaire du Brésil, de Costa-Rica, du Chili, de Cuba, d'Haïti et de l'Uruguay, qui adhèrent à l'étalon d'or, n'a pas varié; il en est de même de celui de Vénézuéla qui a l'étalon d'or et d'argent.

FABRIQUE DE MONTRES ET DE PENDULES.

On expédie aujourd'hui dans tous les pays du globe des montres et des pendules des Etats-Unis. Elles sont faites à la machine et défient toute concurrence étrangère. Un des principaux horlogers de ce pays estime que l'on fabrique journellement aux Etats-Unis près de 10,000 pendules. Pendant l'année dernière il y a eu une si grande quantité de demandes pour l'exportation que les manufacturiers n'ont pu y faire face. Près de $1,800,000 de pendules ont été expédiées dans tous les pays, même en Suisse, qui est cependant renommée pour son horlogerie. Le journal "Manufacturing Jeweler" dit qu'il y a dans le Connecticut un établissement qui fabrique une pendule dans une minute, ou 1,200 par jour, ou 400,000 par an, et qu'une autre compagnie peut manufacturer huit pendules et montres bon marché en une minute, soit 5,000 par jour, ou un total par an de plus de 1,500,000.

En 1898 la valeur des montres et pendules exportées en Chine et au Japon, dans l'espace de dix mois, s'est montée respectivement à $11,000 et $170,000. Les Japonais cependant se sont initiés à l'art de faire des horloges et des montres, car, pendant les dix mois correspondants de l'année dernière, la valeur des pendules et des montres importées des Etats-Unis ne s'est montée seulement qu'à $50,000. D'un autre côté, les demandes de la Chine ont augmenté et, un fait curieux, c'est que les marchands chinois n'achètent que des horloges dont les cadrans sont ronds ou octogones. Les Espagnols, au contraire, désirent les mêmes horloges qui se vendaient il y a quarante ans et qui étaient si populaires; elles ont une forme gothique, une caisse en bois plaqué, un pendule pour en régler le mouvement, et peuvent se placer sur un dessus de cheminée.

Presque toutes les horloges expédiées au Brésil pendant les dix mois de l'année dernière, et dont la valeur se montait à $30,000, avaient la même forme que celles envoyées en Espagne, mais les caisses étaient faites de façon à pouvoir être accrochées à la muraille. Les réveilles-matin en nickel sont envoyés dans les colonies minières d'Alaska, de la baie d'Hudson, de l'Afrique du Nord et de l'Arabie.

IMPORTATIONS AGRICOLES PENDANT CINQ ANS.

Mr. Frank H. Hitchcock, chef de la section des marchés étrangers au Ministère de l'Agriculture à Washington, a préparé récemment un bulletin montrant la valeur et le caractère des importations des pro-

duits agricoles par les Etats-Unis pendant les années fiscales de 1895 à 1899. Cette publication démontre que la valeur moyenne annuelle des importations agricoles pour la période mentionnée a été de $366,964.708, dont plus de la moitié provient des pays tropicaux.

Le Brésil, qui est la source principale de l'approvisionnement de café aux Etats-Unis, expédie 15 pour cent du total des importations agricoles du pays; le Royaume-Uni vient après avec 9.3 pour cent; Cuba étant le troisième pays, la quantité de sucre importée de cette île par les Etats-Unis augmentant son percentage à 7.5 du total des importations agricoles. Le Japon et la Chine ont fourni 5 et 6 pour cent respectivement, pendant que les Iles Philippines ont envoyé 1.2 pour cent.

Les exportations des produits brésiliens aux Etat-Unis se sont élevées, chaque annéc, à $54,116,397, le café seul se montant à $48,700,000. Le Royaume-Uni exporte annuellement pour $34,131,835 de produits agricoles, la laine étant l'article principal avec une moyenne annuelle de $12,975,000. Cuba est représenté pendant la période nommée comme exportant annuellement aux Etats-Unis $27,407,708 de produits agricoles, pendant que les chiffres d'Hawaï dans la liste sont annuellement $13,616,189. Le Canada était le seul pays exportant plus de $10,000,000 annuellement, la moyenne pour les cinq ans nommés étant $10,149,241.

EXPORTATIONS D'ARTICLES EN BOIS.

On fabrique aux Etats-Unis beaucoup plus d'articles en bois que dans n'importe quel pays civilisé du monde et ces marchandises sont aujourd'hui exportées en plus grande quantité que jadis. Les Etats-Unis ont, en plus grande abondance, tout ce qui se trouve ailleurs, le matériel avec lequel les articles en bois sont fabriqués, et ses inventeurs ont développé et perfectionné constamment les machines ingénieuses avec lesquelles ils sont manufacturés à peu de frais. Le Canada possède le bois, fabrique et exporte quelques uns de ces articles, mais il n'a ni les machines ni les facilités commerciales qui lui permette de soutenir la concurrence avec les Etats-Unis.

Les Etats-Unis exportent ces articles en bois en Angleterre, en Allemagne et dans d'autres pays continentaux, en Russie qui est un nouveau marché, aux Antilles, dans l'Amérique du Sud, en Chine, en Australie, dans la Nouvelle-Zélande, dans l'Inde, dans l'Afrique du Sud, en somme, dans presque tous les pays civilisés. Les exportations comprennent une grande quantité d'articles simples, de ménage, pour l'usage commun, tels que les chevilles qui sont exportées dans toutes les parties du monde, les seaux en bois de toutes dimensions et d'espèces différentes, les tranchoirs, les sébiles, les pliants, les échelles, les pâtissoires et les planches à repasser qui sont tous des articles importants d'exportation.

La plupart des réfrigérants, des pliants et des échelles sont fabriqués de telle façon qu'ils peuvent se démonter et en diminuer ainsi le volume tout en économisant le prix du fret. Les ardoises dont on se sert dans les écoles sont exportées en grande quantité, quoique, cependant, elles ne puissent pas être classées précisément parmi les articles en bois, les cadres seulement étant faits avec ce matériel. Elles se vendent partout et font la concurrence à celles allemandes. On peut aussi comprendre dans cette liste les congélateurs à cause des seaux en bois dans lesquels ils sont placés et qui sont expédiés avec eux dans presque tous les pays d'Europe; à Calcutta, Inde Anglaise et à Melbourne, Australie. Les baquets sont principalement exportés dans la République Argentine et dans tout l'ouest de l'Amérique du Sud et de l'Amérique Centrale. Les planches à savonner sont aussi exportées dans ces pays aussi bien qu'en Europe. Les balais fabriqués aux Etats Unis sont exportés dans les différents pays européens, pendant que la plupart des manches à balai sont expédiés en Australie. Toutes sortes de barattes sont vendues partout où elles sont demandées.

LE TUNNEL DU GRAND CHEMIN DE FER DU NORD.

Après un travail constant de près de quatre années, les ouvriers employés à la construction du tunnel du Grand Chemin de Fer du Nord, "Great Northern Railway," qui traverse les montagnes Cascade, Etat de Washington, et qui travaillaient aux deux extrémités en se dirigeant vers le centre, se sont rencontrés le 26 septembre 1900. Ce tunnel a une longueur de deux milles et demi en ligne droite d'une ouverture à l'autre, avec une pente de 90 pieds au mille. L'entrée qui se trouve à l'est, est à 3,375 pieds au dessus du niveau de la mer et celle qui se trouve à l'ouest est à 250 pieds plus bas. Les travaux de construction furent commencés au mois de janvier 1897 et depuis cette époque 800 hommes y ont continuellement été employés. Presque tout le travail s'est fait au moyen de machines et la moyenne des excavations a été de 40 tonnes de rochers par heure. Ce tunnel est couvert d'une couche de béton de 4 pieds, a 23 pieds de hauteur et 16 pieds de largeur. Il est éclairé à l'électricité qui sera aussi employée comme force motrice pour mettre en mouvement le train à travers le tunnel. La voûte de granit qui se trouve au centre du tunnel a une épaisseur de 5,350 pieds. Le percement de ce tunnel a coûté $5,000,000 mais il sera une grande économie de temps et d'argent pour la compagnie. La construction de ce tunnel est considérée comme un des plus grands tours de force du génie de ce siècle.

L'EXPORTATION DU PAPIER AMÉRICAIN.

"Aux Etats-Unis," dit le "Bulletin Mensuel de la Chambre de Commerce Française de New-York", "les journaux se servent d'un papier de beaucoup supérieur à celui employé en Europe. Ce papier est

fabriqué avec la pulpe de pin et son prix de revient est très bas, quoique la qualité ne laisse rien à désirer. Son exportation augmente graduellement. Pendant la semaine se terminant la 3 août, il a été expédié pour $168,049 de ce papier contre $92,536 dans la semaine se terminant le 11 mai et 87,553 pour celle se terminant le 22 juin. Ces expéditions se sont faites sur huit ports européens, quatre de l'Amérique du Sud, deux de l'Australie et d'autres pour les Antilles anglaises, le Mexique, l'Amérique du Sud et d'autres pays.

"Pendant le mois de juin, il a été exporté $666,877 de papier et durant l'année fiscale qui vient de finir, $6,215,559; c'est le chiffre le plus élevé depuis que les Etats-Unis exportent ce produit. Ce qu'il y a de plus remarquable, c'est que ces expéditions ne portent pas exclusivement sur certains pays, mais se répartissent sur le monde entier."

DÉPÔTS DANS LES BANQUES NATIONALES.

Le journal "le New York Financier" a compilé une table donnant la situation des banques nationales aux Etats Unis ayant en dépôt, le 5 septembre 1900, plus de $5,000,000. D'après cette compilation, il y a actuellement aux Etats-Unis 113 banques qui ont en dépôt plus que le minimum ci-dessus mentionné, soit 3 banques de plus depuis le 1er juillet 1900.

De ces banques, 32 sont situées à New York, 12 à Chicago, 10 à Philadelphie et 10 à Boston. L'augmention des sommes déposées dans ces 113 banques, depuis le mois d'octobre 1896, est d'environ $1,000,000,000. La Banque Nationale de l'Etat de New York est à la tête de la liste, les fonds qui y sont déposés s'élevant au total énorme de $159,000,000, soit un excédent depuis le mois d'octobre 1896 de plus de $127,000,000 ou un gain dans le percentage d'environ 400. Dix banques rapportent que les sommes déposées dans chacune d'elles, pendant la période susnommée ont excédé $20,000,000.

L'INDUSTRIE HUÎTRIÈRE.

En connexion avec l'ouverture de la saison des huîtres aux Etats-Unis, qui a eu lieu le 1er septembre, il est intéressant de jeter les yeux sur quelques chiffres concernant l'industrie huîtrière. D'après le dernier rapport de la Commission de Pisciculture des Etats-Unis, ce pays consomme annuellement 23,000,000 boisseaux de ce bivalve. La baie Chesapeake seule fournit deux fois autant d'huîtres que tous les autres pays réunis. Pendant le siècle dernier, on a pêché dans cette baie 400,000,000 boisseaux d'huîtres qui se sont vendus $250,000,000. Cette somme est quatre fois plus grande que la valeur entière des propriétés soumises à l'impôt dans l'Etat de Maryland, où on poursuit en justice les personnes qui pêcheut les huîtres. En dehors de la ville de Baltimore, il y a 225,000 personnes employées dans cette industrie.

La Commission de Pisciculture estime que dans le Chesapeake il y a

environ 1,000 milles carrés couverts de bancs d'huîtres, et que s'ils étaient proprement cultivés ils rapporteraient annuellement environ 100 dollars par acre. Le détroit de Long Island, "Long Island Sound," fournit aussi un champ excellent pour l'élevage de ces mollusques à double coquille, car le tiers de l'étendue du lit de ce détroit est occupé par des bancs d'huîtres. Près de 80,000 bancs sont en culture, quelques-uns étant à plus de 8 milles du rivage et à une profondeur de plus de 12 toises. La Commission estime que les astéries, échinodermes, appelés vulgairement étoiles de mer, attaquent les bancs en grands nombres et détuissent annuellement, rien que dans "Long Island Sound," pour $1,000,000 d'huîtres.

AUGMENTATION DU COMMERCE AVEC LES PHILIPPINES.

D'après un rapport publié par le Ministère de la Guerre en date du 6 octobre 1900, et qui donne le montant des revenus de l'Etat pour les sept premiers mois de 1900, comparé avec celui des recettes des mois correspondants de 1899, on verra que le commerce avec les Philippines a pris une très grande extension depuis que cette archipelle est sous la domination des Etats-Unis. En effet, pendant cette période, il y a eu un excédent de recettes de plus de 2,000,000 de dollars, ces dernières ayant augmenté de $3,626,745 pour les 7 mois finissant le 31 juillet 1899, à 5,782,030 pour les premiers sept mois de 1900.

Presque tout l'excédent provient des recettes douanières qui augmentent rapidement et dont la moyenne est d'environ $300,000 de plus par mois que l'année dernière.

POPULATION DE NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Le 6 octobre le Bureau de Recensement a annoncé que la population de l'Etat de New Hampshire était, le 1er juin 1900, de 411,588 habitants contre 376,530 en 1890, soit une augmentation de 35,058 âmes, ou 9.3 pour cent en 10 ans. La population de cet Etat a augmenté dans les mêmes proportions pendant les 3 décades successives finissant avec 1900, étant 8.5 pour cent de 1880 à 1890 et 9 pour cent de 1870 à 1880. La superficie de l'Etat est de 9,005 milles carrés et le nombre moyen des habitants par mille carré est 45.7. Manchester est la plus grande ville de l'Etat, ayant une population de 56,987 âmes. Aucune autre ville n'a une population atteignant 25,000 habitants. Concord, la capitale, contient 19,632 habitants.

EXPORTATIONS DE RAILS D'ACIER.

Pour la première fois en 1900 les Etats-Unis ont surpassé la Grande-Bretagne en ce qui concerne les exportations de rails d'acier. Pendant les huit premiers mois de l'année courante, les Etats-Unis en ont exporté 256,276 tonnes. Pendant la même période les exportations de rails d'acier de la Grande-Bretagne se montaient à 247,504 tonnes.

Pendant le mois d'août 1900, les exportations étaient de 33,968 tonnes pour les Etats-Unis et de 33,989 tonnes pour la Grande-Bretagne. Les exportations des rails d'acier des Etats-Unis ont décidément augmenté, étant respectivement pour les huit premiers mois de 1900, 1899 et 1898, 256,276; 158,937 et 196,128 tonnes.

IMPORTATIONS DE CAFÉ À LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS.

La ville de la Nouvelle-Orléans semble regagner son ancien prestige comme un des ports des Etats-Unis qui importe la plus grande quantité de café. On dit que pendant le mois d'octobre il est arrivé dans ce port 141,000 sacs de café venant de Rio de Janeiro et de Santos.

LA POPULATION DE L'ETAT DE ARKANSAS.

D'après le dernier recensement, l'Etat de Arkansas avait, au 1er juin 1900, une population de 1,311,564 habitants contre 1,128,109 en 1890, soit une augmentation de 183,385, ou 16.25 pour cent. Les populations des 45 Etats qui restent seront annoncées séparément et par ordre alphabétique avant le commencement de l'année 1901.

MONNAYAGE DANS LES HÔTELS DE LA MONNAIE.

Pendant le mois de septembre 1900 il a été frappé dans les Hôtels de la Monnaie des Etats-Unis 14,023,648 pièces, représentant une valeur totale de $6,440,938. Si on compare ces chiffres avec ceux du même mois de l'année dernière, on constatera une augmentation de 2,000,000 dans le nombre de pièces de un cent, et de 2,500,000 dans celui des dollars en argent. Le nombre des pièces de un cent frappées se montait à 5,430,300 et celui des pièces de 5 cents à 3,222,300. On a monnayé pendant le mois 3,500,000 pièces d'argent de 1 dollar. La plupart de la monnaie d'or frappée se composait de pièces de 5 dollars au lieu de 20 dollars, comme cela a été le cas au mois de septembre 1899.

LA CIRCULATION DE LA MONNAIE PER CAPITA.

Le 1er juillet 1900 le total de la monnaie en circulation aux Etats-Unis se montait à $2,062,425,496 ou $26.50 per capita, soit $129,941,257 ou $1.12 per capita de plus que le 1er juillet 1899 et $552,700,296 ou $5.35 per capita de plus qu'an 1er juillet 1896.

CHARBON POUR LA MARINE ANGLAISE.

Une dépêche de Halifax chef-lieu de la Nouvelle-Ecosse, datée du 24 septembre 1900, dit que le charbon en Angleterre et au Canada est si rare que l'amirauté anglaise a fait une commande de charbon à vapeur aux Etats-Unis. Elle en a commandé plusieurs milliers de tonnes qui seront expédiées à Halifax et emmagasinées dans l'arsenal de la marine de cette ville. À la même époque, un vapeur partait de Norfolk

avec un chargement de 1,750 tonnes de charbon, le premier qui ait jamais été expédié d'Halifax pour le service de la marine anglaise.

SUBSTITUT POUR LE CAFÉ.

Un rapport du Texas estime que le "mesquite" promet de devenir d'une très grande importance à cause de son grain qui ressemble si exactement à celui du café qu'il est très difficile de les distinguer l'un de l'autre une fois brûlés. Les prairies situées dans les régions occidentales de l'Etat du Texas sont convertes de ces arbustes qu'il serait plus approprié d'appeler arbre, car ils atteignent quelquefois une hauteur de 25 pieds et ont un tronc qui a souvent 6 ou 10 pouces de diamètre. Cette plante est très appréciée des éleveurs de bestiaux, car pendant une grande sécheresse, quand les prairies sont totalement dépourvues d'herbe, le bétail vit pendant des mois entiers de sa feuille. Les Mexicains de "Rio Grande" sur la frontière du Texas et ceux qui résident an Nouveau-Mexique ont depuis longtemps substitué le "mesquite" au café. Il y a quelques années l'attention d'une grande maison en gros de Saint-Louis fut attirée sur la valeur commerciale possible du grain du mesquite; cette maison envoya un de ses représentants dans l'ouest du Texas pour faire une investigation sur ce produit.

Plusieurs expériences furent faites et le grain du mesquite fut trouvé être un substitut parfait du café. On construisit alors un grand établissement à Saint-Antoine (San Antonio) et beaucoup de Mexicains furent employés à cueillir la graine. Plusieurs milliers de livres furent brûlées et expédiées à Saint-Louis et on prétend que cette industrie était alors vraiment profitable. Cependant, la saison suivante la récolte fut si mauvaise que les brûloirs de l'usine restèrent inactifs, et quand la saison qui suivit la récolte manqua complètement, cette industrie fut abandonnée et l'établissement fermé. Aujourd'huí il n'y a que les habitants du Texas et ceux qui habitent la frontière septentrionale du Mexique en deçà et delà de Rio Grande qui font usage des grains du mesquite. La récolte est aujourd'hui plus abondante que jamais, mais comme toutes les récoltes, elle peut être bonne ou mauvaíse.

AUGMENTATION DU COMMERCE DE PORTO RICO.

Depuis quatre mois que la loi sur le tarif pour Porto-Rico a été passée par le Congrès des Etats-Unis, ce pays a expédié aux Etats-Unis pour $3,250,000 de marchandises contre $1,984,000 pendant les mois correspondants de l'année 1899. Pendant ces quatre mois de 1900, Porto-Rico a acheté aux Etats-Unis pour $2,525,000 de marchandises contre $1,132,000 pendant les mois correspondants de 1899. Depuis que la nouvelle loi a été promulguée, on a constaté chaque mois, une augmentation remarquable sur le mois correspondant de

l'année antérieure, pendant que le total des importations de l'île pendant les quatre mois de l'année 1900, indique une augmentation de 63 pour cent sur l'année 1899. Les exportations des Etats-Unis dans cette île ont augmenté de 123 pour cent. Le percentage de l'augmentation comparé avec celui de 1897 est 174 pour les importations et 301 pour les exportations.

L'ÉLECTRICITÉ Á PORTO RICO.

On fait de nombreux projets à Porto-Rico pour l'installation de tramways électriques allant de la chaîne de montagnes centrale à la côte. Les cours d'eau que l'on trouve partout dans ces montagnes qui traversent l'île d'un bout à l'autre seront utilisés comme force motrice. Si les projets et autres travaux électriques se réalisent, comme on l'espère, on aura besoin à Porto-Rico d'une grande quantité de machines et de matériaux. La seule voie ferrée qui existe dans l'île est celle qui relie la capitale à Rio Padres et qui a une longueur de neuf milles.

LES PÊCHES DU PHOQUE OU VEAU-MARIN.

Pendant la saison de 1900 on a attrappé dans l'Océan glacial arctique plus de phoques que pendant aucune des trois années précédentes. Le Ministère des Finances des Etats-Unis vient de recevoir par le télégraphe, un rapport d'un de ses agents qui se trouve actuellement dans le district où se fait le commerce des fourrures, l'informant qu'on avait pris, pendant la saison finissant le 31 août 1900, 21,944 phoques. En 1899 le total des phoques pris se montait à 16,812 contre 18,047 en 1898. Le Gouvernement a limité à 30,000 le nombre de phoques que l'on pouvait capturer dans une année, mais les chasseurs de ces animaux ont été incapables de déterminer le nombre pris dans n'importe quelle année depuis que cette règle fut appliquée.

Les agents du Ministère des Finances sont en train d'examiner avec soin les endroits où se trouvent ces animaux afin d'obtenir des données dignes de foi sur lesquelles ils pourront se baser pour faire leurs estimations.

UNE INVENTION IMPORTANTE.

Un inventeur qui habite l'Etat du Texas vient d'obtenir un brevet aux Etats-Unis pour une invention connue sous le nom de "cactus burner" (brûleur de cactus). Cette invention est destinée à détruire toutes les épines du cactus ou "prickly pear" (figuier de l'Inde), de façon à ce qu'il puisse être donné en pâture aux animaux qui peuvent alors, prétend l'inventeur, manger cette plante avec avidité. On emploie dans cet appareil la gasoline ou tout autre combustible volatil, pouvant brûler et se vaporiser complètement.

L'APICULTURE AUX ETATS-UNIS.

Mr le Professeur Leland O. Howard du Ministère de l'Agriculture des Etats-Uinis, estime qu'il y a dans la République plus de 100,000 apiculteurs. On s'attend à ce que le recensement qui vient d'être fait, montrera que l'apiculture s'est développée d'une façon surprenante. Il existe dans le pays 110 sociétés qui s'occupent de l'élevage des abeilles, huit journaux, ayant une circulation considérable, qui sont dévoués à cette industrie et quinze usines à vapeur et un grand nombre de petites manufactures qui fabriquent l'outillage nécessaire à l'élevage des abeilles, la conservation du miel et la préparation de la cire. Mr. Howard pense que le recensement montrera que la valeur annuelle actuelle des produits des abeilles se monte à plus de $20,000,000. Mr. Benton, un expert du Département de l'Agriculture, croit que le pays pourrait élever, avec profit, un nombre d'abeilles dix fois plus grand que celui qui existe actuellement, ou suffisamment grand pour que cette industrie rapporte $200,000,000 par an et procure des emplois à 3,000,000 personnes.

HAÏTI.

EXPIRATION DU TRAITÉ AVEC SAINT-DOMINGUE.

Le 21 juin 1900, le Secrétaire d'Etat au Département des Finances et du Commerce de la République de Haïti a fait passer une circulaire publiée dans "Le Moniteur" du 23 juin 1900, relative au nouveau régime applicable aux importations de provenance dominicaine, dont voici un extrait:

Par suite de l'expiration du traité conclu en 1874 entre la République Dominicaine et la République de Haïti, les produits de l'industrie et du sol dominicains ne peuvent plus être affranchis des droits de douane.

En outre, les produits dominicains, dénommés dans l'article 30 de la loi du 13 juillet 1858, tombent désormais sous le coup de la prohibition édictée par cet article.

MEXIQUE.

LE MEXIQUE À L'EXPOSITION UNIVERSELLE DE PARIS.

Dans un article publié le 20 août dernier dans le "Deutsche Export-Zeitung" par Mr. H. Lemcke, commissaire spécial du Gouvernement Mexicain à l'Exposition Universelle de Paris, ce haut fonctionnaire fait une description de l'exposition du Mexique à Paris. Le bâtiment

mexicain, dit-il, situé dans la rue des Nations et mentionné dans un catalogue spécial sous le nom de "Pavillon du Mexique," est une construction magnifique, de style grec, entourée de nombreuses plantes tropicales produites dans le pays. Dans ce bel édifice mexicain il y a une grande exposition des ressources naturelles, des produits du sol, de l'industrie et de l'art de la République; par dessous tout, l'industrie minière se fait remarquer, depuis qu'il est bien connu que la terre mexicaine est la plus riche du monde en métaux précieux, et quoique l'exploitation des mines dans ce pays soit encore dans son enfance, la valeur des exportations des minerais, pendant l'année fiscale 1898–99, tels que l'or, l'argent, le plomb, le fer, le cuivre, le mercure, l'étain, l'antimoine, le sulfure, le charbon, l'onyx, les opales et le pétrole, s'est montée à 95,273,000 pesos.

Le Mexique occupe le second rang dans le monde en ce qui concerne la production de l'argent, le sixième pour celle de l'or et le septième pour celle du cuivre; mais étant donné le développement rapide de l'industrie minière, on s'attend, avant peu d'années, à de grandes surprises. Les Etats de Chihuahua, Guerrero, Zacatécas, Guanajuato, Hidalgo, Sonora, Sinaloa, etc., aussi bien que la "Commission pour l'Exploration Géographique," ont exposé de riches échantillons de toutes sortes de minerais et de cristaux. La "Campañía de Boleo" de la Vieille-Californie, une des plus grandes compagnies du monde pour l'exploitation des mines de cuivre, donne une reproduction exacte, dans toutes ses branches, de ses travaux immenses. La Compagnie de Real de Monte, "Compañía del Real del Monte," La Mine de Saint-Raphaël, "Mina de San Rafael," les mines de Sainte Gertrude et son annexe, "Minas de Santa Gertrudis y Anexa," à Pachuca, dans l'Etat de Hidalgo, la fonderie de Sinaloa, "Fundición de Sinaloa," à Mazatlán et la Compagnie Nationale Mexicaine de Cerro del Mercado, "Compañía Nacional Mexicana del Cerro del Mercado," la plus riche montagne de fer du monde, dans l'Etat de Durango, ont exposé des plans, des échantillons de minerais et expliqué au moyen d'illustrations les procédés différents employés.

Une grande collection de vases, de lampes, de colonnes, de bric-à-brac en onyx de couleurs différentes, ainsi qu'une riche collection d'écailles et de perles d'une très grande valeur que plusieurs personnes ont obtenu sur la côte Pacifique du Mexique, forment une partie des plus élégantes et des plus attractives de l'exposition. Une grande variété de bois de prix donne une idée de la richesse des forêts vierges du Mexique. Plus de 114 espèces de bois poussant dans ces forêts sont employées dans l'industrie et les arts, parmi lesquelles sont: l'ébène, l'acajou, le bois de rose, le noyer, le bois de violette, le sapotier, le "machinilla," le chêne, le cèdre, le pin, le châtaignier, le tamarinier; 12 espèces de bois de teinture, 8 espèces d'arbres à caoutchouc et 17 espèces d'arbres ou de plantes produisant de l'huile

en dehors de l'olivier, de l'amandier et du balsamier. La faune est représentée par un grand nombre d'animaux et leurs squelettes parmi lesquels on aperçoit: des jaquars, des ocelots, des ours, des cerfs, des singes, des caïmans, des tortues et une grande quantité d'oiseaux aux plumages magnifiques. La collection des papillons est considérée la plus belle et la plus grande de toutes celles qui se trouvent à l'exposition et se compose de plus de mille variétés. L'école normale de l'Etat à Jalapa, dans l'Etat de Veracruz, a exposé un herbier qui contient plusieurs espèces de fougères et de plantes de la même famille provenant des régions tropicales du Mexique et aussi une collection de plantes fibreuses, de racines et d'écorces d'une grande valeur et très importantes dans l'industrie.

L'Institut National de Médecine a exposé des extraits provenant de toutes sortes de plantes mexicaines. Il existe 60 classes différentes de ces plantes, qui jusqu'à ce jour n'ont pas été classées par la science et sont cependant du plus grand intérêt pour les pharmaciens. Sont aussi exposés le "sisal" si connu et le "hennequen," chanvre, de la péninsule de Yucatan qui sont les principaux articles d'exportation du Mexique. Les richesses immenses de ces plantes diverses sont représentées par une collection de leurs produits, parmi lesquels se font principalement remarquer: le café, le cacao, la vanille, le caoutchouc, le tabac, le coton, la canne à sucre, le blé, l'orge, les avoines, les haricots, les pois, le fourrage. La vanille, exposée par Mr. Pedro Tremari, de Papantla, Etat de Vera-Cruz, ainsi que les légumes et les fruits en cire si bien préparés par les Indiens, ont mérité les plus grands éloges. Pratiquement les établissements industriels n'existent au Mexique que depuis dix ans, mais avec l'aide du Gouvernement, ils se sont développés avec une grande rapidité, comme cela a été démontré à l'exposition.

L'extension de l'industrie textile au Mexique a causé une grande surprise. L'exposition de la Compagnie Industrielle de Orizaba, "Compañía Industrial de Orizaba," au capital de 6,500,000 pesos, donne une idée absolue des procédés employés dans son immense manufacture, depuis le filage jusqu'à l'achèvement des tissus de texture et de couleur magnifiques pour les vêtements de femme. Les produits de la grande manufacture "Santa Gertrudis," Sainte Gertrude de Orizaba, ainsi que la fabrique de lainages de Ildefonso, sont aussi on ne peut plus intéressants, consistant en étoffes pour les vêtements d'hommes et de femmes, couvertures de lit, tapis peluchés, etc. Il est nécessaire de remarquer, qu'à la fin de l'année 1899, les industries textiles au Mexique comprenaient 137 manufactures, contenant 16,335 métiers, 526,308 broches, et employant 25,761 tisseurs.

L'industrie du fer est représentée par la Compagnie Industrielle Mexicaine (Compañía de Industria Mexicana) de Chihuahua qui a exposé des fourneaux et cuisines anglaises. La papeterie Saint Raphael (San Rafael) au capital de 5,000,000 pesos est bien représentée. Ses pro-

duits sont entièrement fabriqués de pulpe de bois et un vaste champ est ouvert au Mexique pour l'établissement de fabriques produisant la meilleure qualité de papier fait de toile. Une maison allemande située au Mexique a exposé deux pianos qu'elle a fabriqués. Un vannier a aussi exposé ses produits, paniers, corbeilles, etc. On voit aussi des armes à feu, des canons, des cartouches, des selles et d'autres accessoires militaires provenant tous des manufactures mexicaines. La maison de Zölly Hermanos sucs., excelle dans sa chapellerie avec ses chapeaux brodés d'or et d'argent. La collection des selles mexicaines brodées d'or et d'argent est de toute beauté. Il y a une jolie collection d'objets en liège, de bougies de cire ou de stéarine, de savons et de parfumeries.

L'industrie du tabac est représentée par une construction ayant la forme d'un temple et dans laquelle le tabac est manufacturé en présence du public. Le Mexique produit annuellement environ 360,000,000 paquets de cigarettes et 114,000,000 cigares, mais la plupart du tabac est exporté à l'état brut. Des cuirs de toute beauté provenant des peaux de certains animaux, principalement de celle du caïman, ont été exposés par les tanneries de Aguascalientes, Puebla et San Luís Potosí. En fait de photographies, celles de la ville de Mexico, par Emilio Lange, sont remarquables; les photographies coloriées par Torres Hermanos et J. Mierra de la ville de Puebla sont aussi très belles. La lithographie de la maison Bouligny et Schmidt de la ville de Mexico peut être comparée avec avantage avec la plus artistique d'Europe. La grande fabrique de chocolat "La Manita" de la ville de Mexico a exposé les chocolats les plus fins. Il y a aussi à l'exposition, différents genres de "panela" cassonade, de sucre raffiné, de miel, etc., provenant de Morelos et d'autres Etats.

L'exposition des boissons alcooliques, faites d'agave et de canne à sucre, comme le "mezcal," la "tequilla" et le rhum ainsi que plusieurs genres de cognacs, de whiskeys, est digne d'être remarquée. En général, on ne fabrique pas au Mexique les liqueurs les plus fines mais on a la perspective que cette République deviendra dans le futur un grand pays vignoble. L'exposition de toutes sortes de bière et les méthodes différentes employées dans les brasseries de Toluca, Mexico, Orizaba, Monterrey, Chihuahua, Culiacán, Mérida, etc., sont très intéressantes. Ces brasseries appartiennent généralement à des allemans qui prennent comme employés leurs compatriotes. Quoique l'on ne brasse pas la bière depuis très longtemps au Mexique, les bières de ce pays peuvent soutenir avantageusement la concurrence avec celles américaines et allemandes.

Les produits chimiques, pharmaceutiques, aussi bien que la parfumerie sont exposés en grande quantité. Tous les ouvrages que l'on fait chez soi, au coin du feu, sont représentés par des figures en cire

et en argile, de très beaux crochets, des broderies magnifiques qui sont généralement faits par les Indiens. Sont aussi exposés deux morceaux d'étoffe sur lesquels sont brodés avec art la musique et les paroles de la Marseillaise et de l'Hymne national mexicain. Des portraits à l'huile, des peintures, des aquarelles et la sculpture d'artistes mexicains modernes lesquels, pour la plupart, sont des reproductions de l'école française, représentent les beaux arts. Les chemins de fer sont représentés par des photographies et des scènes le long des nombreuses lignes. Les expositions du Ministère de Fomento, du Ministère de la Guerre, du Ministère de l'Instruction Publique, du Ministère des Finances, du Ministère des Travaux Publics, consistent en ouvrages imprimés, cartes, plans et tableaux statistiques, montrant le grand développement du pays.

Il y a aussi une carte splendide de la République du Mexique pour l'année 1899, dressée par MANUEL FERNANDEZ LEAL sons la haute direction du Ministère de Fomento. Cette carte ainsi que toutes les cartes géographiques de ce Département, sont très bien faites. La Grande Poste donne une idée de la manière dont le service postal marche et montre une très belle collection de timbres-poste de la plus grande valeur. Plus loin, sont exposés les plans, les dessins et les photographies du nouveau port de Veracruz ainsi que ceux des autres travaux d'amélioration. L'Ecole Nationale des Beaux-Arts (La Escuela Nacional de Artes) a exposé plusieurs travaux de ses élèves qui, avec l'Hôpital de Morelos, donne la meilleure preuve de la culture des beaux-arts et de la charité du Mexique.

D'après le catalogue officiel, le nombre d'exposants mexicains se montait à plus de 3,000 et la somme dépensée par le Gouvernement pour cette exposition s'élevait à plus de 5,000,000 de francs. L'auteur conclut en disant que les personnes qui s'intéressent au développement de ce pays magnifique ne trouveront jamais une occasion aussi favorable pour l'étudier que celle qui leur est offerte dans le pavillon Mexicain de l'Exposition Universelle de Paris.

Le Ministre du Mexique en France et en Angleterre remplit les fonctions de Commissaire Général de l'Exposition Mexicaine, mais en pratique, ce sont Señor FERNANDO FERRARI PEREZ, commissaire et Señor JULES POULAT son adjoint qui en ont la direction.

L'EXPLOITATION DES PIERRES PRÉCIEUSES DANS LE GUERRERO.

Une grande compagnie vient de se former à Mexico, dans le but d'exploiter les gisements de pierres précieuses qui abondent dans la zone méridionale de l'Etat de Guerrero. Ces gisements contiennent surtout des émeraudes, dont la pureté ne le cède en rien à celles de Tejupilco, dans l'Etat de Mexico.

LA PROPRIÉTÉ LITTÉRAIRE.

Les ratifications du traité franco-mexicain, pour la protection de la propriété littéraire, ont été échangées le 14 septembre à Mexico.

LE TABAC MEXICAIN EN ARGENTINE.

Par suite des efforts faits par le Consul-Général du Mexique à Buenos-Ayres pour l'introduction du tabac Mexicain dans la République Argentine, on annonce la prochaine création à Buenos-Ayres, d'un syndicat d'importation de tabacs de ce pays. Ce syndicat traitera directement avec les producteurs.

D'après les renseignements officiels, l'Argentine importe annuellement pour un million de piastres de tabac des Etats-Unis et des Antilles. On espère que le tabac mexicain sera bientôt l'objet d'une préférence marquée, en raison de sa haute qualité et de son prix relativement inférieur à celui des autres pays.

NOUVELLE LIGNE FERRÉE.

Le contrat pour la construction du chemin de fer de Coahuila au Pacifique est définitivement signé. Les travaux sont déjà commencés. La ligne aura une étendue de trois cent cinquante kilomètres entre Torreon et Saltillo et sera terminée en 1902.

CONTRATS APPROUVÉS.

En vertu de contrats passés entre le Ministère de Fomento et M. Manuel Cuesta Gallardo, ce dernier est autorisé à utiliser comme force motrice les eaux du Rio Lerma et celles des lacs de Cajititlan et de Chapala, dans l'Etat de Jalisco. M. Cuesta Gallardo garantit, par le dépôt de quinze mille piastres, l'acomplissement des clauses de ses contrats avec le Gouvernement.

DÉCOUVERTE DE GISEMENTS DE GRAPHITE.

De vastes gisements de graphite ont été découverts, récemment, près d'une station du chemin de fer de Sonora, par un riche mineur. Il en a commencé immédiatement l'exploitation et tâche, en ce moment, d'écouler ses produits aux Etats-Unis. Un autre mineur exploite, près d'Hermosillo, des gisements de cette même substance.

PARAGUAY.

TRAVAUX PUBLICS.

Le Consul des Etats-Unis, à Assomption, signale que le Président de la République du Paraguay vient de soumettre au Parlement de ce pays un projet de loi créant un fonds spécial pour la construction de

routes et de ponts, l'approfondissement des cours d'eau navigables, l'amélioration des ports, etc.

D'après ce projet, une somme de 500,000 piastres sera affectée annuellement aux travaux dont il s'agit, dans la proportion de 30 pour cent pour les routes et les ponts et de 70 pour cent pour le dragage des fleuves et la construction de murs, de quais, etc.

On projette, notamment, d'approfondir la passe d'Angostura, qui n'est pas praticable pour les navires allant à Assomption en été.

Il est également question d'élargir d'anciennes rues et d'en établir de nouvelles à Assomption. De même, on étudie le projet de construction d'un chemin de fer à voie étroite de San Pedro au fleuve. La construction de chemins de fer à voie étroite offrirait, paraît-il, beaucoup de chances de succès et constituerait un excellent placement pour les capitaux étrangers. Il est à remarquer, d'ailleurs, que le représentant d'une usine allemande est actuellement sur les lieux pour tâcher de s'entendre à ce sujet avec les autorités locales.

Parmi les autres projets, il y a lieu de signaler la construction de ports à San Pedro, Rosario, Villetta et Paso de Patria. Les deux premières villes sont des centres importants por l'exportation du tabac, des peaux et de la yerba maté. Villetta fait un commerce considérable d'oranges et se développerait beaucoup si elle possédait un bon port. Quant à Paso de Patria, au sud de la République, c'est le débouché naturel des produits agricoles et du bétail de la zone des Missions.

A signaler également le projet d'établissement d'une distribution d'eau à Assomption.

SALVADOR.

PROJETS DE LOI IMPORTANTS.

Le "Nouveau Monde" du 15 septembre dit que le Ministre des Finances a présenté à l'assemblée nationale deux projets de loi très importants: le premier autorise le pouvoir exécutif à introduire une quantité de monnaie divisionnaire d'argent n'excédant pas cinq millions de pesos; le second autorise le Gouvernement à accorder, sans ratification législative, une concession pour l'établissement d'une banque de crédit hypothécaire jouissant de toutes les facilités, privilèges et garanties nécessaires à sa création et à son fonctionnement. Le capital de cette banque ne pourra être inférieur à £400,000, desquelles £200,000 devront être souscrites et versées avant toute opération. Quoique le siège social de cette banque puisse être établi à l'étranger, il devra avoir à San Salvador un représentant responsable.

L'émission d'obligations et cédules ne pourra excéder la valeur totale des hypothèques constituées. L'intérêt des cédules hypothécaires sera de 10 pour cent par an, sans que ce taux puisse être, en aucun cas, augmenté. Le Gouvernement aura le droit d'inspection sur les opéra-

tions de la banque et les difficultés qui pourront s'élever entre elle et le Gouvernement seront soumises à un tribunal arbitral, conformément aux lois salvadoriennes.

M. Henry C. Stuart a soumis au Gouvernement un projet pour la construction et l'exploitation d'une voie ferrée reliant San Salvador à la Ceiba de Guaramal, où elle s'embrancherait sur la ligne de Sonsouate à Santa Ana.

URUGUAY.

DÉBOUCHÉ POUR LES MACHINES ET ARTICLES EN FER.

Suivant un rapport de la Légation allemande à Montévidéo, dit le "Commercial Intelligence" de Londres, il serait possible de provoquer une demande en Uruguay pour les tuyaux en ferblanc et tôle galvanisée, en grande partie fournis par les Etats-Unis. Sauf dans les petites dimensions, ces tuyaux ont une capsule de métal pour protéger le pas de vis qui garnit une de leurs extrémités. Cette disposition est regardée comme plus avantageuse que la méthode anglaise qui consiste à protéger le pas de vis avec des cordes.

Les machines à vapeur fixes ne sont l'objet que d'une demande occasionelle. Les moteurs à gaz ne sont pas populaires à cause du prix élevé du gaz.

Les Etats-Unis ont fourni quelques locomotives, mais la majeure partie est d'origine anglaise.

La plupart des feuilles de fer-blanc viennent aussi d'Angleterre. Une des plus grandes maisons de l'Uruguay consomme actuellement de 400 à 600 caisses de feuilles de fer-blanc double largeur.

Il y a en Uruguay plusieurs petites fabriques de caisses et de boites, mais la plus grande consommation de plaques de fer-blanc est faite par l'usine Liebig, à Fray Bentos.

TARIF FRANCAIS SUR LES CAFÉS.

Le 29 août 1900, le Président de la République française a signé le décret suivant: "Vu la loi du 11 janvier 1892, portant établissement du tarif des douanes;

"Vu la loi du 24 février 1900, et notamment l'article 6 de ladite loi, ainsi conçu: 'Le Gouvernement est autorisé, pendant deux ans, à conférer provisoirement par décret le bénéfice du tarif minimum mentionné à l'article 1er aux pays actuellement soumis au tarif général. La durée de cette concession ne pourra excéder deux ans à partir de la promulgation de la présente loi;'

"Vu la loi du 17 juillet 1900, modifiant le tarif des douanes en ce qui concerne le café en fèves et pellicules, il est décrété:

"ARTICLE 1er. Les taxes inscrites au tarif minimum sont applicables, à titre provisoire et jusqu'au 31 décembre 1900, aux denrées visées à l'article 1er des lois des 24 février et 17 juillet 1900, originaires: du Portugal; des colonies, possessions et protectorats allemands, britanniques, danois, espagnols, néerlandais et portugais; des Etats-Unis de l'Amérique du Nord; des cinq républiques de l'Amérique Centrale; de Haïti, de Cuba et de Porto-Rico; de l'Equateur, du Pérou et du Chili; de Libéria et de l'Etat indépendant du Congo; d'Ethiopie; de la Corée, de la Chine et du Siam et des Philippines.

"ART. 2. Lesdites denrées originaires des pays non compris dans l'énumération ci-dessus restent admissibles aux droits du tarif minimum jusqu'au 20 septembre 1900. 'L'article 1 de la loi du 17 juillet 1900, mentionné au décret précédent, est ainsi conçu: 'Le droit minimum sur le café en fèves et pellicules est fixé à 136 francs par 100 kilos.'"

FAITS DIVERS INTÉRESSANTS.

UNE NOUVELLE GUTTA-PERCHA.

Le Consul de la Grande Bretagne par intérim à Zanzibar a informé son Gouvernement qu'on venait de découvrir une nouvelle gutta-percha laquelle est extraite d'un arbre qui pousse principalement à Dunga. Quand on incise cet arbre on obtient un fluide qui, placé dans l'eau bouillante, se coagule en une substance qui a une forte resemblance avec la gutta-percha. En refroidissant, cette substance devient extrêmement dure; mais, pendant qu'elle est molle, on peut lui donner toutes les formes que l'on désire. Le fruit de cet arbre ressemble à une pêche qui atteint la dimension d'un petit melon. Des experts ont expérimenté ce nouveau produit afin de déterminer si, en aucune façon, il possédait complètement les mêmes qualités que l'article naturel, et quoique ces expériences aient démontré qu'il ne les avait pas toutes, ils pensent néanmoins que cette nouvelle substance pourra être utilsée quelques fois, dans certains usages, à la place de la gutta-percha et pour cette raison devenir vendable sur les marchés. Ce fonctionnaire ajoute dans son rapport que cet arbre se trouve en abondance à Zanzibar et que son produit sera bien meilleur marché que la gutta-percha.

MOYENS EMPLOYÉS POUR EMPÊCHER LES ORAGES D'ÉCLATER.

Les efforts faits en France pour dissiper les orages dans les districts vinicoles en canonnant les nuages sont fortement encouragés par le

Gouvernement qui a distribué sur une étendue de 2,500 acres de vignoble, 104 canonniers et 52 canons. On attache, en France, une si grande importance à cette expérience, que le Gouvernement a approprié 2,000 francs; le Conseil Général, 1,500 francs, et que la Société Nationale Française d'Agriculture a ajouté 12,000 francs et mis encore 14 canons à la disposition des vignerons. Quant à la poudre, elle est fournie par le Ministère de la Guerre à très peu de frais.

Le système employé pour conduire les opérations est clairement défini. Un point élevé du territoire qui doit être expérimenté a été choisi comme poste central d'opération et un système complet de signaux a été adopté. Au bruit d'un coup de canon, tous les canons font feu, d'abord deux coups sont tirés chaque minute, mais ensuite plus fréquemment après les dix premiers coups. On rapporte qu'un très gros orage qui a commencé de très bonne heure dans la matinée du 6 juin 1900 fut entièrement dissipé par une cannonade des fermiers de Denice qui s'étaient tous réunis dans ce but. Les expériences ont si bien réussi que les propriétaires de vignobles sont en train de s'organiser pour attaquer les orages dans plusieurs grandes régions vinicoles de la République.

Comme la République Argentine a de grands capitaux engagés dans la culture des vignes, le renseignement ci-dessus peut être très utile aux vignerons et leur permettra de sauver leurs vignes d'une des forces les plus destructives de la nature.

EXPOSITION INTERNATIONALE D'APPAREILS ET DE MOYENS POUR COMBATTRE ET PRÉVENIR LES INCENDIES À BERLIN.

Une exposition internationale d'appareils pour combattre les incendies, ainsi que de méthodes préventives pour les empêcher de se produire, aura lieu à Berlin pendant les mois de juin et juillet 1901.

L'exposition sera divisée en six groupes, savoir:

1°. Organisation du corps de pompiers et matériel d'incendie et de sauvetage;

2°. Organisation des secours, assistance aux blessés, etc.;

3°. Arrosage et nettoyage des rues;

4°. Moyens préventifs;

5°. Organisations au bénéfice des corps de pompiers;

6°. Sujets d'instruction et ouvrages spéciaux.

Les récompenses consisteront en diplômes et médailles.

Les demandes d'admission devront être adressées à Mr. Emil Jacob, directeur gérant, 65 Holzmarktstrasse à Berlin, avant le 1er octobre 1900.

COMMERCE DU CAFÉ INDIEN.

On mande de Bombay, à la date du 3 octobre 1900, que le commerce du café Indien avec la France est menacé de cesser à cause des nou-

veaux droits que la France impose sur les denrées coloniales. D'après cette dépêche, l'Inde Anglaise exporterait annuellement en France 10,000,000 livres de café et, conformément au nouveau tarif, aurait à payer deux fois les droits qui sont prélevés sur le café Brésilien. Dans ce cas, le commerce du café Indien avec la France souffrira énormément, tandis que le trafic Brésilien se développera.

LE SYSTÈME MÉTRIQUE EN RUSSIE.

Il est probable qu'avant longtemps on adoptera le système métrique en Russie. Le projet de loi qui a été préparé à cet effet par le Ministère des Finances, a été approuvé par le Conseil d'Etat qui a donné à entendre que l'Université et les différentes sociétés scientifiques devront prêter leurs concours dans la vérification des poids et mesures employés dans le commerce. Les détails de ce projet ont été réglés et il sera présenté au Conseil dans un futur peu éloigné.

BIBLIOGRAPHIE.

Les livres et les brochures qui seront envoyés au Bureau des Républiques Américaines, et qui contiendront des sujets ou matières traitant des pays de l'Union Internationale des Républiques Américaines, seront mentionnés dans le Bulletin Mensuel sous le titre "Bibliographie."

Sous le titre "Au Mexique," Mr. le Baron Gostkowski, Directeur du Journal "le Nouveau Monde," vient de publier un volume des plus intéressants et des plus élégants, renfermant des cartes, des vues, des portaits, etc. Cet ouvrage traite non seulement de l'histoire, de la géographie, de l'organisation politique, des voies de communication, des resources agricoles, industrielles et économiques du pays, mais donne encore des indications précises sur la façon la plus commode de se rendre au Mexique. En somme, ce livre constitue certainement le guide le plus complet, le plus sûr, le plus précis, qui ait été publié jusqu'à ce jour sur ce pays, et sera de la plus grande utilité pour toutes les personnes qui se sentent attirées vers cette grande République.

Sous le titre "Une République sous les Tropiques," Mr. Eugène R. Hendrix, D. D., Evèque de l'Eglise Episcopale Méthodiste, Sud, vient de faire paraître dans un numéro du journal "le New York Indépendant" ("New York Independent") un article plein d'intérêt sur le Brésil. En dehors des statistiques qu'il donne dans cet article, Mr. le Dr. Hendrix décrit, d'une manière intéressante, l'influence que l'immigration a sur les lois et coutumes du pays, mais insiste particulièrement sur la liberté des cultes et de conscience qui est approuvée par la Constitution du Brésil et fidèlement respectée par le Gouvernement.

Une des publications commémoratives en l'honneur du 400ème anniversaire de la découverte du Brésil a pour litre: "Historia topographica e bellica da nova colonia de Sacramento de Rio de Prata," "Histoire topographique et de la guerre de la nouvelle colonie de Sacramento du Rio de la Plata." C'est un ouvrage d'un grand intérêt historique et une précieuse contribution à l'histoire primitive du Brésil et de la Plata et un récit très intéressant des luttes qui ont eu lieu entre les Portugais et les Espagnols pour la domination du territoire qui forme aujourd'hui la République de l'Uruguay.

Le "South American Journal" vient de faire paraître une brochure contenant une série d'articles parus récemment dans cette feuille périodique sous le titre "l'Amérique du Sud comme un champ ouvert aux entreprises" ("South America as a Field for Enterprises"). Dans cette collection d'articles ou trouve des renseignements au sujet des ressources et des débouchés commerciaux au Mexique et dans l'Amérique Centrale, ainsi qu'un tableau des monnaies, des poids et mesures, des statistiques postales, etc., de tous les pays de l'Amérique Latine.

"Uncle Sam Abroad" (Oncle Samuel à l'Etranger), tel est le titre d'un ouvrage préparé par Mr. J. E. Connor. Dans cette œuvre l'auteur traite, d'une manière très étendue, du Service Consulaire et Diplomatique des Etats-Unis. Cet ouvrage sera, sans aucun doute, on ne peut plus intéressant pour ceux qui désirent servir leur pays en qualité de diplomates ou de consuls. Les sujets différents de ce livre sont traités avec beaucoup d'esprit et d'originalité, et les illustrations en sont très curieuses.

Le "Canadian Manufacturer" (le Manufacturier Canadien) du 6 juillet 1900, publié à Toronto, Canada, contient les tarifs du Canada, des Etats-Unis et de la Terre-Neuve en vigueur à cette date. Ces tarifs sont reproduits avec une très grande exactitude et d'après des documents obtenus des Gouvernements respectifs; ils ont des tables de matière très complètes. Une édition de ce genre du "Manufacturer" fut publiée en 1894 et de nouveau en 1897.

Le "Montevideo Times" dit que le Président de l'Uruguay, Señor Don Lidolfo Cuestas, est en train de terminer un roman historique qui a pour titre "Une héroïne de Mendoza" (A Heroine of Mendoza) qu'il a eu le temps d'écrire dans ses moments perdus. Ce sera la première tentative littéraire du Président comme romancier, mais point du tout sa première expérience comme auteur.

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ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

FOREIGN IMMIGRATION.

A new experiment in colonizing is to be made in the Argentine Republic, the Government having granted a large concession of land in the Province of Formosa, upon which, according to the "London Times," 20,000 Japanese farmers are to be settled. The land set apart for these new colonists is in the central part of the Gran Chaco, near the northern border of the Republic, between the Bermejo and Pilcomayo rivers. In this region, which is covered with tropical undergrowth and abounding with forests, the soil is of a remarkable fertility, and the sections at present under cultivation produce large crops of maize, tobacco, and sugar cane.

The immigration movement to the Argentine Republic has been an important factor in the material development of the country, and every nation of Europe has contributed its quota to the mixture of peoples inhabiting it. It has been found that French, English, and German immigrants have for the most part selected the cities and large centers of population as places of residence, where they control many industries and have a leading share in the commerce of the country. The Italians have engaged preponderately in river navigation, while the stream of Irish who poured into the country a few decades ago supplied a great deal of agricultural labor and the service required on docks and in shipyards. Swiss, German, and French peasants founded farming colonies in Santa Fé Province, and Russians and Poles are to-day the majority of the rural population on the banks of the Parana in Entre Rios. There is a prosperous Welsh colony in the remote

region of the Chubut Valley, Patagonia; Chileans have settled in large numbers in the western Provinces, and thousands of Russian Jews have, since 1891, found an asylum in this part of the New World. Immigration receives every encouragement at the hands of the Government and all elements that will serve to develop the immense resources of the Republic are welcomed.

In the course of an article on this subject, "The Buenos Ayres Herald" urges upon intending settlers that they should have a knowledge of the Spanish language, as it is preeminently the language of the land, and also calls attention to the fact that in customs and laws, as well as in business methods, there are radical changes from those of Europe and the United States. For the benefit of the professional class, the paper adds that no foreign diploma in medicine, dentistry, architecture, or law admits to practice in the Argentine Republic, members being permitted to engage in their respective professions only after rigid examinations, conducted by expert boards in the Spanish language. Two thousand dollars is the minimum sum which, according to the paper above quoted, the intending settler should be possessed of before entering the country, for, while the lands are distributed in the most favorable terms possible, it must be borne in mind that business in the Argentine Republic is attended with the same difficulties as elsewhere, and that success depends largely upon the personal equation.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY OF BUENOS AYRES.

The "Statistical Annual" of the city of Buenos Ayres for 1899, which has recently appeared, gives some interesting details of the rapid development of the federal capital of the Argentine Republic.

According to this publication, the population of Buenos Ayres increased 29,579 in 1899, numbering the 31st of December of the said year 795,323 inhabitants. This figure places Buenos Ayres in tenth place among the great agglomerations of the Indo-European races, or immediately after Chicago and Moscow. The development of the population in the remainder of the Republic, with the exception of the city of Rosario, is far from being as rapid. While the population of the different Argentine Provinces grows slowly or remains stationary, or even decreases, as during 1868 to 1895, Buenos Ayres retains a good part of the immigration and absorbs the greater part of the vitality of the nation. It is thus that the capital of a State of about 4,500,000 inhabitants contains almost 800,000 people.

The custom-house receipts of the city of Buenos Ayres for 1899 show that the imports amounted to $101,893,784 gold, and the exports to $100,780,054 gold (French calculation). Considering that the total imports of the Argentine Republic for the same year only amounted to $116,850,671 gold, and the exports to $184,917,531, it is seen that the

foreign commerce of the city represents 87 per cent of the imports and 54 per cent of the exports of the Argentine Republic. These figures explain the extraordinary growth of the city, whose commercial development justifies the increase in population.

In regard to the exports, the entire amount of $100,780,054 gold is due to stock raising, agriculture, and forest exploitations. The products of the stock-raising industry are represented by $62,973,064, of which $4,920,258 is the value of the exports of live animals. The agricultural products figure for $35,510,017 and the forest products for $1,203,829.

The exports of live animals (oxen and sheep) are increasing yearly. In 1880 the exports of oxen amounted to 150,003, and those of sheep to 50,002, while in 1899 the exports of the former aggregated 312,150 head, and the latter numbered 543,458. In the last ten years the exports of oxen have doubled and those of sheep have increased tenfold.

The foot-and-mouth disease, which broke out this year among the cattle, causing the closing of the European markets, has momentarily checked the growth of this industry; but with the disappearance of this epidemic the Argentine Republic will become one of the principal cattle-supplying countries of the entire world.

The development of the butter industry is attracting attention. In 1890 the Argentine Republic only exported 19,215 kilograms of this product; in 1895 the exports amounted to 404,400 kilograms, and in 1899 to 1,179,496 kilograms. In Brazil, Argentine butter is beginning to compete with the French product, heretofore having a monoply.

The improvement and beautifying of the city have followed the commercial and industrial development of Buenos Ayres, whose municipal receipts arose in 1899 to $14,989,750 paper. The city is to-day lighted by 13,150 gas jets, 8,214 lamps, and 1,252 arc lights of from 1,000 to 2,000 candle power. There are 15 theaters or pleasure resorts, which gave 2,976 exhibitions and were attended by 1,595,721 spectators, the receipts from these performances amounting to $2,668,075 paper (worth 45 cents) in a single year.

The numerous lines of street and electric cars, which cross the city in every direction, carried 116,447,982 passengers during the year.

"La Prensa," of Buenos Ayres, under date of September 14, 1900, states that the sale of real estate in the capital of the Argentine Republic during the present year has been of greater importance than the sales during the same period of the previous year, notwithstanding the fact that the number of transfers were somewhat less than those of 1899.

During the first half of the present year the number of real estate transfers in the city of Buenos Ayres was 4,265, representing a property value of $27,648,346.32. In July and August, 1900, the sales

amounted to $12,119,275.77, being over $2,000,000 more than the amount of the sales during the same period of 1898, and about $1,000,000 less than the sales made during the same months of 1899.

During the years 1896 to 1899, inclusive, the number of transfers and the value of same were as follows:

Year.	Number of transfers.	Amount.
1896	9,956	$45,518,434.95
1897	11,214	77,054,613.11
1898	7,255	61,452,500.22
1899	8,916	71,372,545.50
Total	37,341	255,398,093.78

The foregoing table shows that the average number of transfers in the city of Buenos Ayres during the time mentioned was 9,335, while the annual average value of the sales was $63,849,523.44. During the past few months considerable activity has been noted in real estate circles in the metropolis of the Argentine Republic, and there is every indication that numerous and important transfers of urban property will be made during the last half of the present year.

PARALLELS OF THE ARGENTINE AND INDIAN WHEAT CROPS.

The "Crop Reporter," issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, in a recent issue draws attention to the peculiar interest which attaches to the Argentine Republic and India, both as producers and exporters of wheat. Their combined harvests take place during what is known in the other wheat-growing sections of the world, as the "dead" season, the harvest in the Argentine Republic usually beginning late in November in the northern latitudes and progressing southward until early in February, while that of India commences late in February in the south and progressing northward until early in May. Their shipments consequently come to the world's markets at a time when the stocks on hand have been considerably depleted, and therefore these late supplies have a ruling effect on prices. It is evident, therefore, that in years like the present, when the wheat crop of the world promises to be considerably less than for the last two years, exceptional interest will be concentrated upon the crops of these two countries.

Reports from the Argentine Republic are just now somewhat contradictory in tenor as to the extent of her wheat product, but it has been conservatively estimated at 70,000,000 bushels, of which about 70 per cent is regarded as available for export. One of the curious features of the Argentine wheat situation is that, while taking no place among the seven great wheat-producing countries of the world, she yet ranks second only to the United States as an exporter. In this regard

comparison with India shows a striking contrast, as the latter country ranks fourth among the producing countries of the world, while her export percentage ranges only from 2 to 14 per cent of the crop.

AREAS OF THE TERRITORIES.

The following interesting data have been taken from the last edition of the Pillado "Annual," a yearly publication of the statistics of the Argentine Republic. These figures show, in hectares, the total area of the lands of the Territories of the Republic, the quantity sold, and the amount available on June 30, 1900:

Territories.	Total area.	Sold.	Available.
	Hectares.	*Hectares.*	*Hectares.*
Misiones	2,922,900	1,340,516	1,582,383
Formosa	10,725,800	1,097,115	9,628,689
Chaco	13,663,500	1,340,237	12,323,262
La Pampa	14,590,700	11,730,733	2,859,966
Rio Negro	19,669,500	5,199,362	14,470,137
Neuquen	10,970,300	3,491,515	7,478,784
Chubut	24,203,900	2,187,538	22,016,365
Santa Cruz	28,275,000	2,391,106	25,883,893
Tierra del Fuego	2,149,900	421,479	1,728,420
Total	127,171,500	29,199,601	97,971,899

NEW RIVER PLATE STEAMER.

The "New York Journal of Commerce" of October 11, 1900, reports the arrival at the port of New York of the new steel screw steamer *Hellenes*, from Greenock. This vessel is of 2,029 tons net and 3,325 tons gross register. The principal dimensions are: Length, 362 feet; beam, 47 feet, and depth, 27 feet 6 inches. The vessel was launched at Dumbarton, Scotland, on July 13, 1900, for a Liverpool firm, and is intended for the River Plate service, having been designed to meet the special requirements of that trade. The vessel and machinery were built to Lloyd's highest class. The *Hellenes* obtained a cargo of United States goods for River Plate cities.

EXPORTS OF FROZEN ANIMALS.

During the first seven months of the present year, says the "Bulletin Mensuel de la Chambre de Commerce Française de Buénos Ayres," the exports of frozen sheep from the Argentine Republic to England rose to 1,400,000, or 300,000 more than during the same period of the preceding year.

This increase counterbalances somewhat the loss which the closing of the European ports to the introduction of live animals coming from the Argentine Republic occasioned to the stock-raising industry.

During the first six months of 1899, 565,238 cattle were exported, against only 116,643 for the corresponding period of the present year.

SHIPMENTS FROM THE UNITED STATES.

It is reported that the shipments of various kinds of finished products from the United States to the Argentine Republic have been exceptionally large of late. During one week in October the following cargoes were sent from the port of New York to that Republic:

Binder twine to the value of $123,367; agricultural machinery and implements, $100,000; steel rails, $34,000; sewing machines, $10,648; hardware, nearly $10,000, and barrel shooks, $7,000.

BOLIVIA.

NEW MINISTER TO THE UNITED STATES.

The official reception by President McKinley of Señor Don Fernando E. Guachalla as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Bolivia near the Government of the United States, took place on October 22, 1900, at the White House, Washington. On presenting his credentials to the President, Señor Guachalla said:

"Excellency: It is the aim of the Bolivian Government, in its intercourse with those of the other American Republics, to further their fraternal union under the auspices of justice and the respect of the rights of others.

"To attain this end and to strengthen the political ties already existing between Bolivia and the United States of America, and to improve in a practical and useful way their commercial and industrial interests, I am accredited near Your Excellency's Government as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary. At the same time the mission of my honorable predecessor has ceased, as is conveyed in the autograph letters I now have the honor to place in the hands of Your Excellency.

"Kindly extend to me, sir, your courteous confidence, while accepting my cordial sentiments for Your Excellency's welfare and the increasing prosperity of your country."

President McKinley replied as follows:

"Mr. Minister: In receiving from your hands the letters by which His Excellency the Constitutional President of the Republic of Bolivia notifies me of the retirement of your esteemed predecessor and accredits you to this Government as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary in his stead, it is very gratifying to hear that it will be your mission to foster the ties already existing between Bolivia and the United States of America as befits the relations of members of the family of American Republics and to improve in a practical and useful way their commercial and industrial interests. Inspired

by equal sentiments and desires, this Government will gladly work toward the same good ends.

"I trust, Mr. Minister, that your stay among us may be agreeable, and that you will find your intercourse with the officers of this Government and the people of this capital made easy for you by the pleasant sympathies your predecessor gained in official and social circles.

"I reciprocate your good wishes, and trust that peace, abundance, and successful progress may ever bless the Republic and people of Bolivia."

Señor Don Fernando E. Guachalla is one of the most notable public men of Bolivia. He is an able lawyer and a distinguished writer upon the subject of political science. Some of the text-books used in the law department of the University of La Paz were compiled by him. He served his country during the war of the Pacific as a captain in the army, and has filled the posts of Secretary of the Legations of his Government in Peru and Chile, and Charge d'Affaires to the first-named Republic. He has been a member of the National Congress, serving both as a Representative and as a Senator. He founded the Board of Trade of La Paz, and has always taken an active part in and has been a strong advocate of everything that tended to the material and intellectual progress of the people of Bolivia. At the time of his appointment as the diplomatic representative of Bolivia near the Government of the United States he occupied the position of Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bolivia.

SPECIAL MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT.

The President of the Republic of Bolivia, on the 27th of August last, delivered a special message to the National Congress upon the subject of railroads, in which he discussed at considerable length the necessity for more improved transportation facilities between the capital of the nation and Lake Titicaca and the surrounding country. The Federal Government considers the construction of the Titicaca Railway of the greatest importance, destined, as this railway is, to become one of the principal lines in that network of railroads which will ultimately cover the Republic, and which will soon unite the three departments of the nation by iron highways thus insuring rapid, easy, and convenient means of communication between the principal political divisions of the country.

Bearing these reasons in mind, the Government proposes to carry into effect the consummation of this laudable undertaking by directing, in a general way, the work of superintendence, without, however, pretending to assume the operation and direction of the proposed line, believing that the interests of the nation will be best conserved and protected by the operation of this railway by a private company which

would connect it with the Oruro Railway, thereby securing communication with the Pacific Ocean via Antofagasta and with the Atlantic Ocean by way of the Northern Central Argentine Railway.

The President proposes in his message to carry into effect the following important plans:

I. The purchase in Europe, through the intervention of a confidential agent, or through the mediation of some responsible commercial establishment, of the necessary materials for the construction of the railway, pledging a certain proportion of the import duties for the payment of the same.

II. Preparation of the roadbed and construction of the railway under the supervision of a competent and practical railway engineer familiar with this class of work, and at a cost for his services not to exceed £4,000.

III. The control of the funds destined to the work of construction by a "Society for the Promotion of the Railway," the services of which shall be without charge to the nation. This society shall be composed of a select personnel and shall have its office in the city of La Paz.

IV. The raising of the necessary funds for the completion of the road within a period of twenty months instead of three years.

The funds applicable to the expenses required for the accomplishment of this undertaking are to embrace the product of the tax on liquors collected on and after the 1st of September, 1900, and the exportation tax on crude rubber shipped from the Department of La Paz.

The President also asks that he be authorized to negotiate the construction of the Viacha and Oruro Railway (in connection with the branches from Guaqui to La Paz) and from Oruro to Cochabamba.

For sundry reasons mentioned in the report, Guaqui is recommended as the lake terminus. The using of this port would require the construction of a canal about 2 kilometers long.

The gauge of the road is fixed at 1 meter. The line is to start from the lower part of the village of Guaqui and pass through Tiahuanco, where a station will be erected. From thence it will follow the Cantuyo Valley, continuing through the Quentupata Pass to the village of Viacha, and from that place to "Alto de Potosi," where it will descend on a gradual grade to San Pedro.

It is estimated that it will take 88,500 meters of rails to complete track laying. The following is a résumé of the estimated cost of construction:

Surveying, grading, and track laying	£105,500
Stations	13,000
Bridges, culverts, etc	18,000
Rolling stock	16,500
General and unforeseen expenses	17,000
Total	170,000

The cost of 1 kilometer of the road is estimated at £2,000.

The rolling stock is to be of such a nature that there will be no necessity for the transfer of passengers or freight between Lake Titicaca and La Paz, and the railway is designed to be constructed in such a way that a connecting branch may be built into the Province of Yungas.

The President of the Republic has taken the initiative in this important undertaking, the conclusion of which will be of such inestimable advantage to the progress and welfare of the nation. The foregoing is a rough outline of the plan of railway construction proposed by the present, Government, and which commends itself to the Bolivian people on account of its practicability, the slight cost of the construction, and from the fact that it is an undertaking of a national nature and of the greatest importance to the prosperity and development of the Republic.

BRAZIL.

EXCHANGE OF POSTAL PARCELS WITH FRANCE.

From the 1st of September, 1900, says the "Revue du Commerce Extérieur," of Paris, for September 15, 1900, postal parcels, without declaration of value and not exceeding 3 kilograms in weight, can be sent to Brazil by way of Portugal. At present the only post-offices open to the postal-parcels service are Rio de Janeiro, Recife (Pernambuco), and Sao Salvator (Bahia). Parcels for Brazil can not exceed 60 centimeters nor 20 cubic decimeters in volume; however, postal parcels containing umbrellas, canes, maps, plans, or similar objects will be admitted.

The importation into Brazil of the following articles is prohibited: Inflammable materials, explosives, or corrosives, and all other articles which are in any wise dangerous to transport; letters or notes having the character of correspondence; gold and silver and other precious objects; minted silver and paper money; lottery tickets; checks or postal orders, and in general all commercial correspondence; obscene pictures, objects, or publications; live animals; plants and slips; garments; leaves and roots, and seeds of all kinds suspected of epiphyte.

However, it is permissible to insert in the postal parcels destined to Brazil invoices mentioning the contents of the parcels and indicating, besides, the price, quantity, weight, volume, dimensions, quantity produced every day, month, or year, and the amount in warehouse, the sender's name, business, trade-mark, and the date of shipment.

"This arrangement for Franco-Brazilian traffic by the intermediary of the Portuguese mails is entirely temporary, but there is reason to hope that a direct exchange of postal parcels will soon be established."

OIL-BEARING SHALES.

Prof. JOHN C. BRANNER, of Leland Stanford University, California, in a paper prepared for the American Institute of Mining Engineers, regarding the oil-bearing shales of Brazil, speaks of them as being workable. He states that shales, rich in oil, are to be found at a number of places on the Brazilian coast. These are of the Cretaceous age, hence the distribution and character of the Cretaceous rocks of the region should give some idea of their possible distribution.

According to Professor BRANNER, Cretaceous rocks skirt the northeast coast almost to the Amazon Valley. The narrow strip is occasionally cut in two by the encroachment of the sea and the underlying gneisses, granites or crystalline rocks exposed upon the beach. In one place there is a series of beds between the granites and Cretaceous rocks that appear to be Paleozoic. In other places the Cretaceous belt widens out until it is 80 kilometers or more in width. Northward from the Prado there is a line of bluffs from 15 to 90 meters high, interrupted by stream valleys, which have a conspicuous and highly colored or mottled appearance. In some places the immediate coast is covered with sand dunes, which, here and there, have been carried inland over the top of the Cretaceous beds, with the subsequent exposure by the sea of the latter, thus forming the bases of the bluffs.

In some Cretaceous rocks are marine deposits, the Sergipe basin containing an abundance of marine fossils; while the Bahia beds, on the other hand, are of fresh-water origin. The relation of these two different beds has never been studied.

Along the Alagoas coast oil-bearing shales are exposed at many places in the Cretaceous series, those on the cape just south of the Camaragibe being unusually good, especially at low tide. The English company that prospected this locality sunk six pits south of the village of Barreira, one of which was 6 meters deep. The composition was found to be as follows:

Volatile.	Nonvolatile combustible.	Ash.
Per cent.	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*
30.55	9.45	60.0
24.8	1.3	70.9
27.1	12.2	60.7
25.5	2.2	72.3
7.8	2.9	89.3

The exposures near Riacho Doce, where the same company has several pits, were found to be richer in oil, thus:

No.	Volatile.	Nonvolatile combustible.	Ash.
	Per cent.	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*
1	34.9	1.1	64.0
2	46.3	19.5	34.2
3	26.9	8.1	65.0
4	32.8	14.6	52.6
5	25.4	10.5	64.1

No. 2 contained 4.7 per cent of sulphur, and upon distillation yielded 44.73 gallons of crude oil and 19.58 gallons of ammoniacal water per ton.

The tufa beds on Rio Marahu, 115 kilometers south of the city of Bahia, were the scene of some unsuccessful preparations for the manufacture of soap, paraffin, various kinds of oil, etc. Plants and operations were started on a scale out of all proportion to the possibilities of the market. The whole business collapsed within a few months, so that much of the machinery is now rusting in the mangrove swamps, and the empty houses of the rapidly built town are being devoured by white ants. This is the only effort made to utilize the oil-bearing shales of Brazil. The failure of that company can not be regarded as sufficient reason for entirely condemning them as unworkable.

IMMIGRATION MOVEMENTS.

Mr. Hoff, of the French consulate at São Paulo, Brazil, writes that the Government of that State has become alarmed over the large number of colonists who each year, at the end of the coffee-picking season, leave the plantations where they have been employed to return to their homes, carrying with them the savings which they have amassed. It is reported that this general exodus threatens to prove detrimental to the next coffee crop, as it leaves the plantations without help for the coffee picking, and consequently affects the State budget, whose principal source of revenue is derived from the export tax levied on this product.

This year the end of the coffee season coincided with the time when exchange was at its highest, 12, 13, and 14 *pence* per 1,000 *reis*, instead of 8 *pence*, average exchange. Besides the ordinary contingent of colonists who returned home, a large number of Italian farmers and others profited by the fall in gold to convert their savings into money and leave the country. While there are no correct statistics, it is estimated that about 30,000 such persons departed for their homes this year.

In view of this situation a bill was presented by the State to Congress authorizing it to arrange with immigration companies for the

introduction of 50,000 Italian immigrants into the State of São Paulo within a year. This bill has been passed by Congress and is to be put into immediate effect, the necessary funds having been granted to the Government, which will use them as they are needed.

Mr. HOFF states that recently 150 Chinese arrived in São Paulo, and were sent to a plantation in the interior. A few years ago the question of introducing Chinese and Japanese in this State was considered, but up to the present none of the attempts made in this direction has proved successful. If this last attempt should succeed, it is certain to be the beginning of a new current of Chinese immigration which, if it takes on large proportions, might counterbalance the Italian immigration.

In 1899, 273 foreigners located in Brazil became naturalized Brazilians; of the number, 138 were Portuguese, 56 Italians, 31 Spanish, 17 Germans, 8 Turks, 6 French, 4 English, 3 Austrians, 2 Scotch, 2 Swedish, 1 Russian, 1 Greek, 1 Egyptian, 1 Syrian, and 1 Moroccoan.

Mr. ROBERT WATCHARN, Special Commissioner of Immigration, who was sent to Roumania to learn why many Hebrews were leaving that country and coming to the United States, has made a report to the Treasury Department at Washington.

According to this the Roumanian Hebrews are no longer coming to the United States, contracts having been made with the Government of Brazil whereby large numbers of them, about 35,000, are to be sent to that country.

Hebrews in Roumania, Mr. WATCHARN reports, are practically disfranchised and are treated as aliens, their children being taxed at the rate of 50 *francs* per annum each for schooling. Much that is humiliating is contained in the text-books in use in the public schools.

Hebrews are not permitted to reside anywhere except in one of seventy-one towns designated as abiding places, and they may be dismissed even from these on the representation of police officers. They are not permitted to follow the occupation of an apothecary, a lawyer, a stock broker, a member of the bourse, a peddler, or a liquor dealer.

They will be guaranteed good treatment and the protection of the Government of Brazil so long as they comply with the laws of the Republic.

GOLD MINES IN MINAS GERAES.

A foreign syndicate recently purchased, for the sum of 3,500,000 *francs*, the Tassara gold diggings, situated near Ouro Preto, in the State of Minas Geraes. This State abounds in mineral wealth, such as cyanuret of mercury, iron, manganese, and many other minerals of great value. The manganese beds are found scattered throughout the Ouro Preto region and already thousands of men are employed in the extraction of the product. Negotiations are in progress for the purchase of other gold mines in this State, and it is expected shortly that there will be great activity in this industry.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

TARIFF MODIFICATIONS.

The trade of the United States with British Honduras (Belize) in the fiscal year 1900 amounted to $818,487, against $699,005 in 1899. The exports to Belize in 1900 were valued at $620,447, against $500,802 in 1899, while the imports from Belize were worth $198,040, against $198,203 for the previous year. The United States, therefore, is directly interested in changes in the tariff rates.

Ordinance No. 1 of 1900 amends the law with regard to customs duties on goods imported into British Honduras. The ordinance went into effect on June 23, 1900, and is to remain effective until January 31, 1901. The changes have been as follows:

(1) The general rate of duty *ad valorem* has been increased from 10 to 12½ per cent.

(2) The following articles which were formerly admitted free are now subject to a general *ad valorem* rate of duty: Navy and pilot bread, bricks, roofing slates, tiles, cement, lime, church decorations and vestments, dry or wet salted fish, Indian corn, iron fencing, galvanized iron netting (including staples and railing), iron framework and girders for iron buildings, iron roofing, waterheads, brackets, guttering, ridging, screws, palings for fences, pitch, tar, rice, salt (other than table salt), school appliances, and asbestos paint, all of which were formerly exempt from duty.

(3) Beef and pork, other than wet salted, is now dutiable at the rate of 12½ per cent instead of 10 per cent of the invoiced and assessed value, including the cost of package.

CHILE.

PRODUCTION AND EXPORT OF NITRATES.

The producers of nitrate of soda in Chile, according to the "Engineering and Mining Journal" of November 3, 1900, have formed a new combination, having for its purpose the improvement of the industry. This new agreement will be based on a restricted production, and it is estimated that within the first year the output will be between 30,000,000 and 30,500,000 quintals.

The production in 1900 is estimated at 32,000,000, while in 1899 it was 30,759,775 quintals, an increase of 1,240,225 quintals, or 3.9 per cent in the present year. The world's consumption in the nine months ending September 30, 1900, is estimated at 25,079,260 quintals,

as compared with 26,140,000 quintals in the corresponding period of 1899, a decrease of 1,160,740 quintals, or 4.4 per cent, in 1900. A conservative estimate places next year's exports from Chile to all countries at 28,000,000 quintals. The present combination is reported to have the support of the Chilean Government, and in 1900 the expenses of the association for the promotion of the use of nitrate soda will amount to $187,100, toward which it is said the Chilean Government will contribute about $100,000.

The "American Fertilizer" for August, 1900, contains an interesting article on Chilean nitrates. The exports since 1895 are shown, and attention is called to the points of shipment. From this article it appears that according to reports from the British Colonial Office the total amount of nitrate exported from Chile during 1899 was 1,294,227 metric tons, valued at £7,248,771, an increase of 86,490 metric tons, as compared with 1898. It is anticipated that during 1900 the exportation will reach 1,650,000 tons.

The output of nitrate during 1899 was 1,968,012 tons, and it is estimated that the consumption of nitrate all over the world was 1,535,610 tons; in other words, the production was very nearly limited to meet the demands of consumers.

The following figures are interesting as comparing the amount of nitrate taken by the principal nations in 1895 and 1899:

Shipped to—	Quantity.	
	1895.	1899.
	Tons.	*Tons.*
United Kingdom or Continent	498,412	378,928
United Kingdom direct	334,064	870,856
Germany	451,503	416,886
Holland	61,840	70,787
Belgium	26,996	23,917
France	10,691	23,917
United States	138,476	162,677

Other nations take nitrate, but in smaller quantities. In 1895 Chile used internally 1,400 tons, and in 1899 the local consumption had only increased to 2,150 tons, whereas Honolulu (Hawaii) used, in 1895, 650 tons, and in 1899 had increased her consumption to 7,400 tons.

During 1899 the nitrate exported from the port of Tocopilla yielded in export duties nearly £400,000.

From Caleta Buena the amount of nitrate shipped was almost the same as in 1898, being 284,082 tons in 1899 as against 288,316 tons the previous year.

Forty-six thousand and ninety-two tons were shipped to the United States, 2,852 tons to Honolulu, 6,655 tons to Port Elizabeth, South Africa, and 278,886 tons to Europe.

Honolulu appears to be an increasing market, as she first became a customer in 1896, using from this port 725 tons. In 1897 she used

1,485 tons; the year following, 1,600 tons, and last year, as already seen, 2,852 tons.

About 90,546 metric tons of nitrate of soda were exported from Taltal, about one-half of this total being shipped in British vessels to the United Kingdom, 2,219 tons going to Port Elizabeth, Cape Colony, 26,953 tons were sent to Europe for orders, and 16,372 tons were taken by the United States of America. The manufacture of the nitrate of soda is the principal branch of industry in this department. The Lautauro Nitrate Company, a British enterprise, hold a very large area from which the raw material (*caliche*) is excavated and transported by their own lines of railway to reduction works, of which they have two at present in operation. Their total production for the year was 77,724 metric tons. There is only one more establishment at work, a private concern, which produces 14,000 tons during the year. With an improved price for nitrate there are several small establishments that would resume work, for although the water supply has hitherto been limited to certain localities, this difficulty can be overcome.

From Caleta Buena the British acting Vice-Consul reports that during the latter part of the year the Agua Santa Company purchased the Primitive Oficina, or works, the property of the once famous Primitiva Nitrate Company. Extensions of the railway lines have also been made to the nitrate deposits of Puntila de Huara and Santiago. Until now the produce of these deposits has been exported from Iquique, but under the new arrangement the volume of the traffic through this port will be increased during the coming year by about 75,000 tons of nitrate, with the corresponding augmentation of imports of coal, bags, and general merchandise.

The Vice-Consul at Pisagua says that the quantity of nitrate exported from that port during the year 1899 was 86,791 tons. A marked improvement took place in the nitrate industry during the past year, and increased considerably in price during 1899. This is due to the increased consumption of the article all over the world, and many nitrate establishments which, owing to unremunerative prices, were prevented from working are now preparing to reopen.

The exports of nitrate from Junin in 1899, according to the British Vice-Consul's report, were 108,200 tons as against 140,129 tons in 1897 and 133,066 tons in 1898. The falling off in the quantity exported is due to the scarcity of native laborers in the deposits or factories which produce the nitrate.

A description of the exhibit of nitrate of soda made by the Chilean Government at the Paris Exposition, published in the "Chilean Times," says that it affords a synopsis of the history of that article from the moment of its extraction from the pampas of Chile to that of its lodgment in the tissues of the plants whose nitrogenous food it supplies. The display is said to be at once scientific and practical in character

and educational in tendency. Models of the vast nitrate works of the country were shown, together with various specimens in various stages of exploitation; also large photographs and statistics explanatory of the extent of the industry were exhibited. The principal feature, however, was the pyramid of cubes representing the volume of exports of nitrate of soda in each decade since 1830. In that year they were only 800 tons, since which time the figures have advanced yearly till, in 1899, they reached the immense amount of 1,380,000 tons. An emblematic figure of the Republic surmounted the trophy, while at the four angles at the base there were typical figures of a Chilean miner, a French farmer, a gardener, and a chemist.

EDUCATIONAL STATISTICS.

An examination of the statistics of education in Chile, as set forth in the "Sinopsis Estadistica y Geográfica" of the Republic, demonstrates that on the 1st of October, 1899, the law students of the National University numbered 1,038, there being, in addition, 202 persons attending lectures. On the date above mentioned the National Institute had 1,169 students enrolled, of whom 238 were boarders and 255 half boarders. The cost of education of each student is given as $218.66, the number of professors being 57. Next in rank to the National Institute comes the Pedagogic Institute, with 187 students matriculated and an average attendance of 136. The staff of professors embraces 9 instructors, and the cost of education of each student is given as $402.36. Next in order comes the Technical Commercial Institute, with the names of 568 pupils on the books, but whose average attendance is about 63 persons monthly. The number of professors is 18, and the cost of education is $657.87.

During the year 1899 the following degrees were conferred by the university: Bachelors in humanities, 143; bachelors in mathematics, 17; bachelors in law, 95; bachelors in medicine, 14; licenciates in law, 86; licenciates in medicine, 21; surgeon-doctors, 27; engineers, 8; lawyers, 76; pharmacists, 14; state professors, 2; dentists, 21; midwives, 49.

There were 27 institutions known as Provincial Lyceums established in the various Provinces of the Republic, at which the cost of education varies from $147.60 in Valparaiso to $450.19 in Puerto Montt. Of girls' lyceums there were 8, with a roll of 1,066 students and an average monthly attendance of 896. Primary schools numbered 1,403, with a total enrollment of 115,535, as compared with 99,881 pupils in 1898.

Private schools existed to the number of 445, of which 148 were for boys, 50 for girls, and 247 for both sexes. The registered number of scholars was 26,294, 15,885 being boys and 10,409 girls.

IMPORTANT RAILWAY CONCESSION.

The "Diario Oficial" of Santiago, official organ of the Republic of Chile, in its issue of September 21, 1900, promulgates an important decree referring to the construction of a new railway, a translation of which is as follows:

"ARTICLE 1. Authority is hereby granted to Señor Don RAMÓN RABAL, or his representatives or assigns, to construct and operate a railway that commencing at a point called the "Ríos de Curanilahue," situated in the department of Lebu, terminates in the Bay of Yánez, in the department of Arauco.

"ART. 2. The concessionaire shall have the right to use the Government lands that may be necessary for the roadbed, stations, buildings, and shops, in accordance with the plans approved by the President of the Republic.

"ART. 3. The municipal or private lands that may be required for the objects enumerated in the foregoing article are subject to expropriation.

"ART. 4. The importation, free from customs duties for a period of five years, of merchandise not in excess of $300,000, as well as the machinery, rails, and other materials for use in the construction and equipment of the line, is hereby granted.

"ART. 5. The plans of the road must be approved by the President of the Republic, as must also the freight and passenger tariffs, the latter being subject to revision every three years.

"ART. 6. The approval of the plans must be requested within one year from the date of the promulgation of this decree, and the construction must be commenced within the year following the approval of said plans, and shall be concluded within two years from that date.

"ART. 7. This concession shall be forfeited should the provisions of the foregoing article not be complied with."

APPROPRIATION FOR RAILWAY EQUIPMENTS.

The "Diario Oficial" of September 12, 1900, publishes an important law, which was approved by the President, duly promulgated, and became effective on August 31 last, a translation of which is as follows:

"ARTICLE 1. The President of the Republic is hereby authorized to invest the sum of $2,500,000, national currency, in the construction in the country, and in orders abroad, for the necessary equipment to operate the State's railways, the gauges of which are respectively 1 meter and 1 meter 78 centimeters.

"The President of the Republic, in accordance with the previous report of the board of general management of said State railways, shall designate the number of passenger and freight cars that it may be necessary to purchase outside of the country.

"ART. 2. The President of the Republic is also authorized to expend sums of money not to exceed $130,000 and $75,000, respectively, in the acquisition of material for repairs and in the repair of the present rolling stock of the lines referred to.

"ART. 3. This authorization shall last for a period of eighteen months."

PATENTS GRANTED.

The "Diario Oficial" of September 22, 1900, publishes decrees granting patents for periods of nine years to the following persons: To JOSEPH YARDLEY JOHNSTON covering improvements on stamping presses or presses used in printing with raised characters; to OLUF TYBERG, RUFUS LENOIR PATTERSON, and GEORGE ARENTS on their improved machines for the manufacture of cigarettes; to HENRY MARLES for the use of his improved machinery for carving and engraving.

A patent has been granted to JOHN E. J. WOODS and WILLIAM A. BYRON for the exclusive use, for a period of nine years, of their process for the manufacture of carbide of calcium and the reduction of metal oxides.

Mr. ELIAS PETERSSON has been granted a patent covering his improved method for the treatment of sulphurous ores carrying arsenic, antimony, or tellurium. The life of the patent is for nine years.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR NEW ROADS.

The "Diario Oficial" of Santiago, in its issue of August 25, 1900, publishes an important law of the National Congress, a translation of which is as follows:

"Only Article. The President of the Republic is authorized to expend the sum of $200,000 in the opening of roads in those parts of the national domain that are appropriate for colonization, and in the acquisition of the necessary equipments for the navigation of the rivers and lakes of those regions."

COLOMBIA

AMERICAN CAPITAL TO OPEN THE MAGDALENA RIVER.

GONZALEZ & Co., of Barranquilla, Colombia, to whom the Government of Colombia has awarded the contract for the opening of the Magdalena River, have appointed Señor J. M. LAMADRID, of 19 Whitehall street, their representative in the United States, with a view to securing American capital for the work. Vessels with cargo for Barranquilla now go to Port Colombia and there trans-ship merchandise by railroad. When the mouth of the Magdalena River is cleared and widened steamers will go direct to Barranquilla.

DUTIES ON MATCHES.

Mr. Arthur M. Beaupré, Consul-General of the United States at Bogota, on October 27, 1900, notified the Department of State at Washington that, according to a decree of September 29, the import duties on wood matches will hereafter be 90 cents, Colombian money (39.4 cents gold), per kilogram gross weight; on wax matches the duty will be $1.87½ (82 cents gold).

COSTA RICA.

THE COSTA RICAN RAILWAY.

The Government of Costa Rica has authorized the Costa Rican Railway to issue preferred mortgage bonds to the amount of £200,000.

The proceeds of these bonds shall be applied to the purchase of new rolling stock; the construction of the Virilla bridge; the extension, completion, and equipment of the iron wharf now being erected at Limón; the equipment of all the rolling stock with automatic brakes; the change of ties and rails on the Guapiles branch; the erection of new stations at San José and Limón; the improvement of the stations and warehouses of the entire line; the construction and equipment of new machine shops at San José; the extension of branches into new agricultural regions, and the construction of new buildings at San José for offices and for the better administration of the road.

The company is required to commence at once the reconstruction of the Virilla bridge, the equipment of the railway with new rolling stock, and the completion of the Limón wharf. The other works and improvements referred to must be completed within a period which shall not exceed five years from this date (August 24, 1900).

The railway company is not permitted to commence the construction of branches without previously submitting plans and estimates to the Government and duly obtaining the approval of same. Not less than £60,000 shall be expended in the construction of any one branch.

ELECTRIC PLANT FOR SAN JOSÉ.

Señor Don Mendiola Boza, of San José, has contracted with the municipal government of that city for the installation of an electric-light plant for the lighting of the capital of the Republic.

The contractor agrees to purchase in the United States the engines, dynamos, regulators, line materials, and other necessary accessories, selecting the very best and most improved machinery now used for installations of the kind specified and to secure supplies of the best quality and class.

One hundred and fifty arc lamps are to be supplied, which number may be increased, at the option of the municipality, to 200. Iron posts must be used for carrying the wires.

The contract is to continue in force for five years and may be renewed for an additional period of five years by the mutual consent of the contracting parties.

The contractor agrees to complete the installation within a period of nine months. As a guaranty for the faithful fulfillment of the conditions of the contract, a deposit of 25,000 *colones* has been made with the city treasurer, which amount will be returned to the contractor on compliance with the terms of the agreement. The contractor may transfer this concession to any person, persons, or company who may be acceptable to the municipality.

The municipality agrees to pay to the contractor on the last day of each month the sum of 18 *colones* for each lamp used during the month, provided the municipality secures the free importation of the electric machinery and supplies referred to in this contract. Should the municipality be unable to do this, then the price per month per lamp shall be 18.50 *colones*.

The contracting parties agree to settle any difference that may arise in the interpretation of this contract by arbitration, with the exception of the payment per lamp already referred to, in which case the courts alone shall render a decision.

POSTAL MONEY ORDER EXCHANGE WITH FRANCE.

"La Gaceta Oficial" of September 29, 1900, publishes in full the treaty made between Costa Rica and the Republic of France with respect to the exchange of postal orders between the two countries.

According to the terms of this treaty the maximum money order issued shall not exceed 500 *francs*, but the Governments of the two countries may increase the limit to 1,000 *francs* should they so desire. The postal orders of both countries shall be expressed in *francs* and *centimes*.

The treaty went into effect on August 4, 1900, on which date it was signed in Paris, in duplicate, by the representatives of the two Governments.

DECREE FOR THE PURCHASE OF GOLD BULLION.

"In conformity with the law of the 13th of July of the present year modifying the finance law of the 24th of October, 1896, RAFAEL IGLESIAS, Constitutional President of the Republic of Costa Rica, decrees:

"ARTICLE 1. The Mint shall proceed to the redemption of the ancient national gold coin, and the purchase of bullion of the same metal that

may be offered it, at the rate of 1 *colon* for each 778 milligrams of gold 0.900 fine.

"ART. 2. The exchange shall be made in quantities of not less than 100 grams in weight, regardless of the fineness of the metal.

"ART. 3. The exchange shall be made in the manner prescribed in Chapter III, Article XV, of the Fiscal Code.

"ART. 4. Until the personnel of the Mint is completed the gold bullion exchanged, after it has been melted and stamped with its respective fineness and weight, shall be subject to the orders of the Treasury Department in so far as concerns its exportation for account of the nation.

"ART. 5. The Director of the Mint, on drawing a draft in favor of the interested party in payment for gold bullion presented for exchange, shall advise the Treasury Department of the result of the operation, specifying the weight and fineness of the metal, the name of the interested party, and the date, value, and number of the draft issued in payment.

"ART. 6. The exportation of bullion duly melted and stamped shall be accompanied by an assay of same verifying its exchange and showing its equivalent in grams in gold 0.900 fine."

The foregoing decree became operative on September 1, 1900, the date of its promulgation.

FOREIGN TRADE IN 1899.

According to the "Nouveau Monde" the exports of Costa Rica in 1899 were valued at $4,929,954.58 (gold) and the imports at $4,136,706.57 (gold), leaving a balance in favor of the former of $793,247.91.

The coffee production and exports were smaller in quantity, but superior in value to those of 1898.

GUATEMALA.

INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS.

This year, says the "Nouveau Monde," of Paris, in its issue for September 29, 1900, the exportations of Guatemala will exceed the importations, but this has arisen in consequence of an exceptional diminution of the latter as compared with previous years. The cause of this decline was restricted consumption, owing to high prices and the substitution, whenever possible, of home products. The difference in value between the paper currency of the Republic and gold has, on the other hand, rendered exportable many products of the country which hitherto have been neglected, such, for instance, as quinine, sarsaparilla, ipecacuanha, and other medicinal plants and roots growing in Guatemala in a wild state. The cabinet woods and dyewoods, which are found in great abundance in the virgin forests of the Republic,

especially in the vast territory of Petén, have excited great enthusiasm. Different companies are already exploiting this natural wealth on a large scale, and numerous requests for land and permits for cutting timber have been presented to the Government. These exploitations, which are effected through the Atlantic ports, will be very productive at no distant date.

The Bureau of Agriculture, recently established as a dependency of the Department of Public Works, is devoting its energies to the increase of agricultural products in general. This will be accomplished by a greater development of the existing products, and at the same time by the creation of new ones adapted to the different climatic conditions and the different varieties of soil throughout the extensive tracts of uncultivated national land.

The development on a large scale of the production of wheat, corn, and other grains and cereals, which at present is insufficient for home consumption, is possible. The native gums, tobacco, henequen, cacao, and other valuable products are destined with the employment of improved methods of culture, not only to cover the deficit which in normal times exists between the importations and exportations, but even to furnish a surplus which will increase to a considerable extent the public revenues.

ESTABLISHMENT OF SALT WORKS.

The Government of Guatemala has made a contract with Señor Don Angel Peña for the establishment of salt works on the Pacific coast. The salt will be produced by evaporation, and must be of the best quality on sale in that country at the present time.

The installation must be completed within a period of eighteen months. The price of salt at the factory shall not exceed $1.75 per 50 kilograms. The concessionaire shall pay to the Government for a period of five years 5 per cent of the net profits of the company.

The Government grants to Señor Peña, for a period of twenty-five years, 2,000 hectares of public lands on the coast of the Pacific, and exempts from duty the machinery and supplies necessary for the installation of the salt works. At the end of twenty-five years the Government shall have the right to purchase the plant at its appraised value. The concessionaire may transfer the concession to a third party.

A full text of the contract is published in "La Gaceta," of San Jose, under date of October 16, 1900.

ABOLISHMENT OF EXPORT DUTY ON FRUITS.

"El Gualtemalteco," official organ of the Republic of Guatemala, publishes in its issue of September 26, 1900, legislative decree No. 464, a translation of which is as follows:

"Only article. The exportation of fresh fruits from the country is free from all fiscal taxes, modifying in this respect article 1 of decree No. 603, which taxed the exportation of bananas 10 cents a bunch."

HONDURAS.

AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS.

The "Recueil Consulaire Belge" publishes a report by Mr. J. Wolters, Belgian Consul-General in Central America, on the agricultural and industrial conditions in Honduras, in which he says that bananas are extensively cultivated on the Atlantic coast, and with satisfactory results. This culture is, however, open to certain improvements, such, for instance, as the introduction of machinery and implements for preparing the soil—at present a very expensive operation.

Tobacco is cultivated in almost every part of the country. The product is of good quality, and a considerable quantity is exported to the other Central American Republics, and with greater care in its preparation the quality would be sufficiently good to warrant its exportation to European markets. The cultivation of tobacco is at present not highly developed, the necessary care in the preparation of the leaf not always being observed. If more care were given to this cultivation the tobacco of Honduras would equal that of Mexico and could compete with the Cuban product, thus creating for itself a place in the European markets.

Honduras coffee is of good quality, and although its preparation often leaves much to be desired, it brings at the present time a better price in Europe than the coffee from Salvador and Nicaragua. This cultivation is, however, conducted on a limited scale, doubtless because it requires numerous laborers to raise and prepare it for the market, and also because the price is subject to great fluctuations. Moreover the favorable situation in Honduras is due in great part to the undeveloped state of the coffee culture, a product which has in late years greatly fallen in price.

Sugar cane, as well as coffee, is only cultivated on a small scale, although this plant grows rapidly in Honduras. The lack of implements suitable to this culture and the heavy expense for transportation to and from the interior, due to the absence of good roads, must be considered as the principal reasons for the unimportant development sugarcane raising has taken in Honduras. The greater part of the sugar consumed in the country is imported from the neighboring Republics. Corn and beans are extensively cultivated, and among the other products cultivated on a small scale are indigo, cacao, citrus fruits, wheat, rice, and a number of varieties of vegetables.

Indigo is cultivated to some extent in the lands near Salvador, but

as the price of this article has fallen, with small prospects for an increase, there is little chance for the development of this culture in Honduras, unless, however, the method of preparation employed in the Orient is resorted to. This method is more economical and leaves a certain profit to the planter in spite of the low price.

The cultivation of the cocoa palm could apparently be successfully undertaken, for there are vast zones on the Atlantic coast where this tree grows wild.

Wheat, although of excellent quality, is little cultivated in Honduras. An American company, however, has in view the establishment of a certain number of flour mills, and intends to buy up large tracts of land in different parts of the Republic to be devoted to wheat raising.

The cultivation of citrus fruits, especially oranges, is being developed on the northern coast, from whence they are shipped to the United States.

The exportation to Louisiana of seed rice produced in Honduras is proof of the good quality of this cereal. Nevertheless, this cultivation is little developed, the preparation of the rice, on account of lack of suitable machinery, which is very expensive.

Among other products which can be successfully cultivated in Honduras are cotton, grapes, and different medicinal plants, which are indigenous to the country. The Honduran grape has the flavor of the Spanish grape, and it was perhaps on account of this similarity in taste that, with a view to the avoiding of competition, all the vineyards on the northern coast of the country were during the Spanish domination ordered destroyed.

Agricultural development has not reached the state of advancement to which it can justly aspire. The lack of capital and of technical knowledge, the difficulties of transporting the products to foreign markets, have prevented the country from profiting from the favorable agricultural conditions which it possesses.

The Government is studying the best methods for aiding this branch of industry. It realizes that a system of irrigation, established on a large scale, is of paramount importance. The fertility of the soil is such that two and even three crops a year can be raised, yet in the central and southern parts of the Republic only one is obtained, the lack of water during the dry season preventing germination. The Government is also seeking to attract immigration and foreign capital; to open markets for the products of the country; to form associations of educated farmers, and to import choice seeds to be distributed gratuitously. In order to realize a part of this programme the Government intends to submit to Congress a new immigration bill, and another measure relative to the establishment of one or more agricultural colleges.

Stock raising in Honduras is confined principally to cattle, horses, and mules. Sheep are found in small numbers, although certain zones of the country are particularly suited to this branch of stock raising. Swine and barnyard fowls scarcely supply the local demand.

This branch of agricultural industry, after having passed through a period of depression, recovered its prosperity with the opening of the Cuban market. At the end of the economic year 1898–99 the cattle exports to the island exceeded 6,000 head, out of a total exportation of 11,000 head, and as it is probable that the demand for this market will still increase, a corresponding development in this branch of the stockraising industry is hoped for.

In addition to mining, agriculture, and stock raising, Honduras possesses a number of manufacturing industries. Cigar making, which should be mentioned as first in importance, is carried on principally in the Department of Copan. This manufacture is consumed chiefly in the country itself, although it is exported to some extent to the neighboring Republics and to British Honduras. Reed and palm hats, which are made principally in the Departments of Santa Barbara and El Paraiso, occupy the second place in the manufacturing industries of the country. Matting is made in the district of Texiguat, Department of El Paraiso. The brewery established at Tegucigalpa is giving satisfactory results. While the beer is of good quality, it would be much improved if there were an ice plant near at hand. There is a small ice plant in the port of La Ceiba and a larger one at San Pedro Sula, Department of Santa Barbara. Spirits of turpentine is produced at different places in the Republic. The quality is excellent, and in view of the abundance of the pine forests this article could be prepared in great quantity and could easily compete with the foreign product, at least in Central America. In addition to those mentioned, there are some other industries of lesser importance, such as flour milling, and candle and soap making, and a saddlery and a tannery.

All of the ports on the Caribbean Sea are in constant and direct communications, by means of steamship lines, with those of Guatemala, British Honduras, the West Indies, and the United States (New Orleans and New York). Also, steamers coming directly from Hamburg sometimes enter these ports. These lines are not subsidized by the Government, the trade of the northern coast—principally fruits—being of sufficient importance to attract the vessels. The situation is less favorable with regard to Nicaragua and Costa Rica on the Caribbean Sea, and there is need of a coastwise steamer which would place all of the ports of Honduras in regular communication with themselves and with the ports of the two Republics mentioned. The Pacific coast is regularly visited by the steamers of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company,

Compañia Sud Americana de Vapores, Pacific Mail Steamship Company, and the Kosmos Line.

The waterways of Honduras are scarcely utilized, although the country possesses a large number, navigable for the greater part of their length. The shallowness of the bars at the mouth of the rivers is undoubtedly the principal cause of this situation.

The only railroad in operation in Honduras is a part of the interoceanic railway, planned thirty years ago, and which, starting from Puerto Cortes, on the Caribbean Sea, was to be extended to the Gulf of Fonseca on the Pacific. In 1868 work was begun by an English company, which after completing 60 kilometers abandoned it. The concession was again taken up in March, 1897, by a syndicate of American capitalists (The Honduras Syndicate), which signed a contract with the Government stipulating the following conditions: The transfer without indemnity to the said syndicate of the part of the road already built; the authorization to eventually establish branches and to mortgage the railroad at the maximum rate of $20,000 per mile; the granting of a term of six years for the completion of the work; the duration of the contract to be for ninety-nine years; the privilege on the part of the Government to acquire the line after seventy-five years, and, lastly, the transfer of the railroad to the Government, without indemnity, at the expiration of the contract.

Work having been recommenced in 1897, the road now extends from Puerto Cortes to La Pimenta, a distance of 110 kilometers; the total length will be 440 kilometers.

This is the only line at present in Honduras. The building of a railroad along the northern coast would be a profitable enterprise, as this route would cross lands of great fertility, and could count, from its opening, on the transportation of numerous products, notably bananas and the native woods.

The exchange of articles between Honduras and the United States is very active. This is also true in regard to the four other Central American Republics with the United States, Germany, and England, where they send coffee, by far their most important article of export.

In concluding his report Mr. Wolters says that Honduras offers a good investment for capital. Rich in minerals and forests, and possessing land of remarkable fertility, this region certainly merits the attention and study of enterprising business men

CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC ROADS.

"La Gaceta" of Tegucigalpa, official organ of the Republic of Honduras, under date of September 8, 1900, publishes a decree approving the contract made with the Department of Public Works by Mr. Abel McLelan for the construction of 5 kilometers of highway, commenc-

ing at a point beyond the Loarque pass to be designated by the Government's engineer.

"The work of construction shall be carried on under the supervision and direction of an engineer appointed by the Government, and in conformity with the following conditions: The width of the highway shall be 10 meters, and the grade shall in no case exceed 6 per cent. The contractor shall erect the masonry work that may be deemed necessary by the Government's engineer, and on completion of the work of construction the road shall be left even and free from obstructions of any kind."

The Government agrees to pay to Mr. McLelan 3,500 *pesos* per kilometer for the construction of the road, the contractor obligating himself to complete the construction of the 5 kilometers within a period of 5 months from the beginning of the work.

Under similar conditions Mr. Teófilo Cárcamo agrees to complete that section of the highway between "Portillo Grande" and "Hato Grande." The compensation for this work is to be at the rate of 4,000 *pesos* per kilometer, and the road shall be completed within 4 months from the date of the commencement of construction.

IMPROVED TRADE CONDITIONS.

Mr. Robert Woodville, Vice-Consul of the United States at Utilla, informs the Department of State at Washington that trade in Honduras was improving on October 4, quarantine restrictions, to a certain extent, having been raised. Two ships had loaded within the previous 2 days with cocoanuts, and there were upward of 500,000 more in warehouses, ready to ship. Importations of United States goods are greatly on the increase, and the outlook for the next 3 months is very satisfactory.

NEW GOLD REGION.

"La Paz," of Juticalpa, reports that the gold region of Mangulile, where the Trinidad and Firmeza veins are found, is one of the richest on the American continent. The yield is estimated at 230 ounces of gold per ton, the veins containing besides a large quantity of silver. The discovery of these veins, together with the confirmation of the information regarding their yield of gold, has attracted many prospectors and caused a great business movement in this region.

"La Gaceta," of Tegucigalpa, official publication of the Republic of Honduras, in its No. 1940, dated September 29, 1900, publishes a decree authorizing Mr. A. B. Gosling to act as agent and representative of the American Gold and Silver Mining Company, Limited.

MEXICO.

FRANCO-MEXICAN TREATY.

In the City of Mexico, on April 10, 1899, an important treaty was entered into by Señor Don Ignacio Mariscal, Minister of Foreign Relations on behalf of the Mexican Republic, and M. Hugues Boulard de Pouquerville, the secretary of the French Embassy in Mexico, on behalf of France. This treaty was ratified by the Mexican Congress on May 30, 1899, and by the Congress of France on June 26, 1900. These ratifications were exchanged at Mexico on September 11, 1900, and the treaty became operative from that date. The object of this treaty is to protect what is called industrial property as represented by patents and trade-marks, particularly the latter. A translation of its chief clauses (nine of the ten) shows that the regulations are very stringent, while the treaty, as a whole, has attracted considerable attention. The principal articles are as follows:

"Article I. The citizens of each of the high contracting parties will enjoy, in the territory of the other, the same rights as the natives of the country, with respect to patents of invention, trade-marks, labels, name scrolls, mercantile and manufacturing names, firm names, designs, and manufacturing models; also with respect to indications and names of the place of manufacture.

"Art. II. In order to secure the protection guaranteed by the foregoing article, applicants belonging to either State do not need to fix their domicile, residence, or mercantile agency in the country whose protection they seek, but they will be required to observe the other conditions and formalities laid down by the laws and regulations of that country.

"Art. III. The present convention is applicable to the marks for which legitimate protection is secured in both countries by the manufacturers and merchants making use of them; that is to say, the character of a French mark must be appreciated in Mexico according to the French law, and the character of a Mexican mark must be appreciated in France according to Mexican law.

"It is understood, however, that each of the two States reserves the right to refuse the registration and prohibit the use of any trade-mark which in itself is contrary to public order, morality, or decency.

"Art. IV. Mercantile names, firm names, and name scrolls do not stand in need of registration to be protected in the two States.

"Art. V. The act of imprinting or causing to be imprinted upon any article a false indication as to the place of its origin (manufacture), whereby one of the contracting States, or a place situated in either of them, is, directly or indirectly, referred to as the country or place where the article originated, shall be punished conformably to the

legislation of each State. If the legislation of either has made no special provisions for this case, such an act will be subject to the enactments which are in force for the infringement of trade-marks.

"ART. VI. Any article bearing a false indication of origin, whereby one of the contracting States, or a place situated in either of them, is, either directly or indirectly, referred to as the country or place of origin, will be confiscated upon importation into each one of the said States.

"The confiscation can also take place in the State where the false indication of origin has been imprinted on the article or in the country into which the article bearing the false indication has been introduced.

"If the legislation of either of the two States does not allow of confiscation by reason of the importation of an article, then instead of that measure the importation of the article will be prohibited.

"If the legislation of either of the two States does not allow of the prohibition to import or of confiscation either at the place of importation or in the interior, then said confiscation, or said prohibition, shall be replaced by such action and such measures as the laws of the State render available to the prosecuting attorney or to natives of the country in such cases.

"ART. VII. Articles 3, 5, and 6 shall be enforced at the instance of the prosecuting attorney, or of the party affected, whether an individual or a company, according to the legislation of each State.

"Any manufacturer, merchant, or producer taking part in the making, commercial handling, or production of the article in question, who is established in the city, locality, region, or country falsely indicated as places of origin, will be regarded as an affected party.

"In the case of the transit of merchandise the authorities will not be obliged to effect the confiscation.

"ART. VIII. These enactments do not prevent the vender from indicating his name and address on products coming from a country other than that in which they are to be sold, but in such cases the name of the country or place of manufacture or production, in legible characters, must be added to such name and address.

"ART. IX. The tribunals of each country will decide which are the designations that, by their generic character, are excluded from the provisions of the present convention. Nevertheless, regional designations of the origin of vinous products are not included in the exception established in this article."

NEW BANKING INSTITUTIONS.

The "Diario Oficial," in its issue of October 6, 1900, publishes the concession granted by the Mexican Government to Messrs. OSEGUERA, RAMÍREZ, ITURBIDE, and ELGUERO for the founding of a bank in the city of Morelia.

"The name of the bank shall be "Banco Refaccionario de Michoacán." Its capital shall be $300,000, and it shall have the privilege of establishing branches in the State of Michoacán, and may establish them outside of that State if specially authorized by the Government.

"The bank shall be exempt from all taxation, with the exception of the stamp tax, for a term of twenty-five years from March 19, 1897, and the duration of the concession shall be for a period of forty years from the before-mentioned date. The concession shall not be transferred to a third party without the approval of the Department of Finance. The bank has deposited with the Federal Government $30,000 in 3 per cent bonds of the consolidated debt as a guaranty for the faithful compliance of the conditions of the contract. This amount shall be returned to the bank as soon as it commences operations."

The "Banco Refaccionario de Campeche," at Campeche, Mexico, has commenced operations. This bank was organized on February 24, 1900, under a concession granted to Messrs. CASTELLOT, LAVALLE, and ESTRADA on February 7 last. A general banking business is being carried on, and correspondents have been appointed in the United States and Europe. The bank has entered upon its career under exceedingly favorable auspices, and has done a large and profitable business ever since it opened its doors to the public.

BEER BREWING IN THE REPUBLIC.

The industrial policy of the Mexican Government, as directed toward fostering all branches of internal development, has included measures for the improvement of the class of beer brewed in the Republic. With this end in view the best varieties of hops have been imported and have been planted in suitable localities, yielding good crops of brewing material. It is intended that these hop gardens shall not only render Mexico independent to a great extent of foreign imports, but shall also tend to provide a cheap and agreeable substitute for the national drink of the country, "pulque," which, owing to the large quantity of alcohol contained therein, is regarded as deleterious to the health of the inhabitants.

There are at present sixteen breweries in the Republic, none of them having been in existence more than a few years. One of these establishments, at Monterey, is quoted as occupying the first rank among the industries of the city. It has an actual capital of 2,000,000 *pesos*, and all the apparatus and machinery are of the most modern types used in Germany and the United States, and the capacity of production is about 800 hectoliters a day. Other breweries are situatnd at Chihuahua, Guadalajara, Oaxaca, Mazatlan, Cuernavaca, Mexico City, and at various other centers of population.

FRENCH REPORT ON MEXICO.

The report of the French Minister to Mexico has recently been published in Paris, treating extensively of the commercial and industrial conditions of the Republic. In this report the supremacy of United States trade and financial relations with Mexico are readily acknowledged, and the relative standing of the various commercial nations of the world in that Republic is stated as follows:

"The importations from the United States are increasing every year in considerable proportions. From $15,130,367 in 1894–95 they reached last year the figure of $24,164,687, and they represent nearly one-half of the total of all importations. This result is explained by the privileged situation of the United States, which touches Mexico geographically and can trade with it at lower rates of freight. But this result is also due to the efforts and activity of American merchants and manufacturers, who try to make their products known here by distributing numerous catalogues and establishing agencies or stores well stocked, especially with machinery, footwear, wagons, agricultural implements, etc."

The Minister then states that English importations continue to decrease, while Germany has made a little progress in her Mexican trade. France is third, after the United States and England. There has, however, been a slight improvement in the French trade within the past two years.

THE SALT INDUSTRY.

The British Vice-Consul at Monterey reports to his home Government the development of a new industry in the State of Monterey, namely, the making of salt. He states that for some years it has been known that salt deposits existed in the northeastern part of the State, but several experiments to exploit them resulted in failure, owing to the insufficiency of water and the weakness of the brine. Within the last eighteen months, however, one concern has secured an apparently unlimited supply of brine of 18 per cent strength, and is now successfully making a very fine quality of salt by solar evaporation. This firm contemplates adding the artificial process during the present year, and will thereby very greatly increase the output. The Consul adds that there is a very large demand all over the Republic for good salt, and nearly all has been heretofore of an inferior quality, and even then has not been sufficient to satisfy the requirements of the trade. The protective duty on this commodity is stated to be $20 a ton.

IMPORTANT RAILWAY ITEMS.

The "Diario Oficial" of October 8, 1900, contains the full text of two important railway concessions.

One of these is to the Cananea Consolidated Copper Company for the

construction and exploitation, for a term of ninety-nine years, of a railroad which, starting from Naco, State of Sonora, will extend to the boundary line of the United States. The preliminary survey must be commenced within six months, and the concessionaires are obligated to complete the entire road within five years.

Another concession has been granted to Mr. ARTHUR STILWELL for the building of a railroad from the city of Durango to Gutierrez, a station on the Mexican Central Railway in the State of Zacatecas. The survey must be commenced within two months and the construction completed within five years. In both cases the Government grants the free importation of construction materials and supplies.

A contract has been made between the Department of Public Works and Messrs. PARDO and BATRES, concessionaires of the railway known as "Carbonífero del Norte," whereby the concession granted by the Mexican Government on December 3, 1897, and modified on the 31st of May, 1899, is declared forfeited by the mutual consent of the contracting parties. The Government retains the plans and tracings showing the preliminary survey of the line, which have been presented by the concessionaires and approved by the Department of Communications, returning, however, to Messrs. PARDO and BATRES the deposit of $4,000 in bonds of the national consolidated debt made as a guaranty for the faithful performance of the terms of the contract.

The concession for the construction of the Toluca and Iguala Railway of May 30, 1898, has been modified in the following manner:

"Construction of the road must be commenced within two years from June 16, 1900, and 10 kilometers of track completed in each of the following years, but in such a manner that the entire line shall be concluded by the 16th of June, 1910."

The concession granted to Mr. EDWARD VAN BUREN HOES for the construction of a railroad from Guaymas to Villa San Marcial, in the State of Sonora, on November 4, 1899, has been modified so that construction may be commenced within twelve months from November, 1900. The concessionaire is obligated to construct at least 30 kilometers of track a year, and to complete the entire construction within a period of four years from November 26, 1900.

The "Nouveau Monde" of October 27, 1900, says that the concessionaires of the Pachuca Railroad to Tampico have decided to have the new road pass through Tuxpam. The inhabitants of this city are very much elated over this project, which will place them in direct communication with the center of the Republic, from which they have until now been almost isolated, all communication with this city being dependent upon a very irregular maritime service from Vera Cruz and Tampico.

The "Nouveau Monde," of Paris, reports that the Department of Communications of Mexico has authorized Messrs. HENKEL & BROS.,

or the company which they may form, to construct a railroad line connecting Toluca with Tenango, and which from there shall be extended to Santa Maria, or Tenancingo, at the option of the concessionaires. The line may be prolonged into the State of Morelos, where it will connect with the Cuernavaca and Pacific Railway at a point near Amacusac. The duration of the concession is for ninety-nine years.

Work is being rapidly pushed on the Vera Cruz Railroad to the Pacific. New orders for building material, ties, rails, steel for bridges, etc., have been given, and skilled workmen have been engaged in Mexico, Europe, and the United States to superintend and push the construction forward to completion.

Several capitalists of Tampico have formed a company for the construction of an electric railroad which, starting from the center of the city, will end at La Barra, passing by Doña Cecilia. This line will be about 10 kilometers in length.

CONCESSIONS FOR WATER RIGHTS.

The Mexican Government has modified the contract made by the Department of Public Works with Messrs. Daza, Zepeda and Gonzalez for the use of the waters of the Baltasar or Cantarranas River in the State of Puebla.

The original concession was granted in 1898 and was transferred to Señor Don Barroso Arias, who is the present concessionaire. Señor Arias is authorized, either on his own account or through the company which he may organize, to construct the necessary hydraulic works that will enable him to utilize as motive power up to 1,500 liters of water per second taken from the river Baltasar or Cantarranas in the course of the river between San Baltasar Springs and a place called Nahualapa, under the conditions that the water thus used shall be returned to the river.

The concessionaire is obligated to commence the construction of the work within two months from the date of the approval of the plans by the Department of Public Works and to complete the same within three years from that date.

Señor Miguel Bringas has been authorized by the Mexican Government to use the waters of the Blanco River, in the State of Veracruz, for the purpose of generating electric power and for irrigation purposes. The "Diario Oficial" of September 28 last contains the full text of this important concession.

NEW STEAMSHIP LINES.

At the request of several merchants located in the City of Mexico who import Italian products, a Spanish navigation company has decided to establish a line of steamers between Italy and Mexico. This service was to have been inaugurated August 7 last by a trip

from Genoa to Progreso, with stops at Veracruz and Tampico. It is said that a German company also contemplates establishing a steamship line between Italy, Spain, and Mexico. The creation of these lines proves what statistics have already shown, that the traffic between Mexico and Italy is constantly increasing. The exportation of henequen and large quantities of textiles to Italy has already begun.

The Department of Communications and Public Works has made a contract with Messrs. E. Escalante & Son, of Merida, State of Yucatan, by which the latter agree to establish a line of steamers between Progreso and New York City. According to the terms of the contract trips must be made at least once a month between the ports mentioned. The duration of the contract is for two years, but may be prorogued for further periods of two years by the mutual consent of the contracting parties.

IMPORTANT PATENTS GRANTED.

Mr. Edward Lacey Anderson has been granted a patent covering a method of generating electricity by a chemical process of his invention.

A patent has also been issued to Mr. Lee Baggett, protecting his improvements on presses used in extracting liquids from solid materials.

These patents are good for twenty years. The decrees referring to same are published in the "Diario Oficial" of September 27, 1900.

VESSELS OPERATED BY ELECTRICITY.

Word is received from San Juan Bautista, State of Tabasco, says the "Nouveau Monde" of Paris, that the English Navigation Company on the Rio Grijalva has inaugurated a daily service between the port of Frontera and Huimanguillo. These boats are operated by means of electricity, as well as is the *Galo*, built at San Juan Bautista, for a Frenchman, Mr. Rauld. The latter vessel has for the second time made the voyage from Tacoltapa. The freight is considerable, consisting principally of sugar, cacao, and coffee, and barrels of rum.

PROPOSED CULTIVATION OF HOPS.

"El Nacional," an important daily newspaper of the City of Mexico, under date of October 24, 1900, states that Mr. W. T. Hefferman, in representing a United States syndicate, had acquired a large tract of land in the State of Guerrero which will be devoted to the cultivation of hops. This product is at present in great demand by the brewers of the Republic, and the company referred to expect to raise a sufficient quantity of hops to supply the needs of the beer-making industry of the country.

EXTENSION OF MAIL CONTRACT.

The contract which the Munson Steamship Line to Cuba and Mexico made with the Mexican Government on May 16, 1895, and which was modified on the 15th of September, 1898, so as to include the carrying of the mails in the ships of that line, has been extended for a period of ten months from June last. All the other provisions of the contract remain in full force and effect.

VALUE OF EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES.

The annual average of agricultural imports by the United States from Mexico in the five years from 1895 to 1899, according to a statement in the "Two Republics" of October 16, is $13,600,110, or a total value of $68,000,552. Vegetable fibers, coffee, hides and skins, and cattle are shown to be the leading articles, sisal grass being the leading item. The import value of the last-named product is estimated at a yearly average of $4,778,000. Ixtle or Tampico fiber was also largely taken, and coffee imports figure for $4,178,000 yearly.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES.

During excavations for the drainage works in the streets of Santa Teresa and Escalerillas an idol about 75 centimeters in height was discovered, which Mr. BATRES affirms represents the Goddess of Death. At a point a few steps further away the pick of a workman brought to light a stone of enormous dimensions, a part of which only was found, and which is supposed to have been the base of a gigantic stairway. The Department of Justice has set aside a fund for excavations in the neighborhood where these discoveries were made.

DISCOVERY OF COAL DEPOSITS.

Rich coal mines have recently been discovered near Jalapa, in the State of Jalisco. These will soon be developed by a company organized for this purpose, the necessary capital having already been subscribed.

NICARAGUA.

EUROPEAN AGRICULTURAL COLONISTS.

"El Comercio," of Managua, under date of October 20, 1900, referring to the contract recently made between Dr. CARLOS BOVALLINS and the Department of Public Works, states that the contractor referred to proposes to bring to Nicaragua 100 immigrants either from Sweden, Norway, or Iceland or from some other country of northern Europe.

The first year he shall bring into the country ten families skilled in the knowledge of agriculture and stock raising. The remaining colonists shall settle in the Republic within four years from the date of that session of Congress which approved the contract, or, in other words, from the adjournment of the last Congress, the concession having been duly sanctioned by that body.

The concessionaire is also obligated to found a college, in which shall be taught the science of agriculture and stock raising, in which institution especial attention shall be given to the study of rubber and its scientific and economical preparation for the market, as well as to the raising of coffee, cacao, vanilla, and other agricultural products.

The department of the college devoted to the science of stock raising shall import into the country the best breeds of cattle obtainable for the purpose of improving the cattle industry of the nation. At the same time there shall be inaugurated a system for the manufacture of cheese and the preparation of butter according to the plan now in use in Europe. The college referred to shall admit yearly, by order of the Government, twenty Nicaraguan youths, to whom theoretical and practical instructions, as well as board, shall be given.

The Government, among other valuable concessions made to Dr. BOVALLINS, agrees to sell to that gentleman, provided all the conditions of the contract are complied with, 30,000 *manzanas* (a *manzana* being a square of 100 by 100 yards) of public lands situated in the district of Tepenaguasana, jurisdiction of Chontales, 6 leagues to the north of the village of San Miguelito, for the modest sum of $30,000, national currency.

RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION.

In a recent communication to the Department of State of the United States, Consul SORSBY reports that the Nicaraguan Government has temporarily abandoned the construction of the proposed railroad from San Ubaldo, on Lake Nicaragua, to Rama, near Bluefields, on the Rama River, and intends, instead of constructing the one proposed, to build a line from Managua to La Paz, about 37 miles in length, which shall connect the two divisions of the present Government railway, thus obviating the transfer across Lake Managua by steamer.

A concession has also been granted to a citizen of the United States for the construction of a railroad from the Wawa River, on the Atlantic coast, to Matagalpa, connecting at La Paz or some other convenient point on the Pacific coast with the national railway system from Granada to Corinto. Among other obligations assumed by the concessionaire are channel improvements in the Wawa River, the building of a wharf, and the establishment of a steamer line on the coast, with New Orleans connections.

The Government guarantees 6 per cent interest on $10,000 gold bonds per mile, for a period of twenty-five years and will grant 4

square miles of land in alternate lots along the railway route, as well as the privilege of selecting and purchasing, at the prevailing price for Government lands, 100,000 *manzanas*, a *manzana* being equal to 1.727 acres.

This road, when completed, will be about 250 miles long and will pass through the leading industrial districts of the country, including Matagalpa, which is the principal coffee-growing center.

REGULATIONS CONCERNING CATTLE.

"El Comercio," of Managua, in a recent issue, publishes an important decree of the National Legislative Assembly of the Republic of Nicaragua. A translation of this law, which became operative on September 22, 1900, is as follows:

"ARTICLE 1. The exportation and slaughter of cows for public sale is prohibited.

"ART. 2. The slaughter of the cattle referred to, when unfit for breeding purposes on account of old age or other defects, shall be permitted.

"ART. 3. The slaughter for public sale and the exportation of cattle under 3 years old is also prohibited.

"ART. 4. The provisions of articles 1 and 3, when the cattle slaughtered are for consumption on the stock ranches or grazing grounds, are excepted.

"ART. 5. The violation of the present decree shall be punished by a fine which shall be paid into the National Treasury.

"ART. 6. The National Executive is empowered to enforce the provisions contained in the foregoing articles in conformity with the stipulations of this decree."

RUBBER AND AGRICULTURAL COMPANY.

The Nicaragua Rubber and Agricultural Company, which was incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware on September 28, 1899, with a capital of $250,000, is the owner of 8,105 acres of valuable rubber lands situated in the valley of the Rio Coco, about 80 miles from Cabo de Gracias. These lands were purchased on account of their desirability for the purpose of cultivating the rubber tree, and the raising of bananas and other tropical fruits. The location is exceptionally favorable, and now that the work of clearing and planting has been actually begun, the management is elated over the flattering prospects that are evident on every hand of a successful and prosperous career from the very beginning of its operations.

PERU.

NEW CABINET.

Advices from the United States Legation to Peru state that, under date of September 5, 1900, a new Ministry was formed in that Republic, as follows:

Señor Dr. Don Felipe de Osma, Minister for Foreign Relations.

Señor Dr. Don Domingo Almenara, Minister of Finance and Commerce.

Señor Col. D. Ernesto Zapata, Minister of the Interior and Police.

Señor Dr. Don Rafael Villanueva, Minister of Justice, Religion, and Instruction.

Señor Col. Don Pedro Portillo, Minister of War and Marine.

Señor Don Agustín Tovar, Minister of Public Works.

INCREASED TRADE WITH THE UNITED STATES.

Hon. Irving B. Dudley, United States Minister to Peru, in commenting on trade conditions in Peru and opportunities for increasing California's trade in that quarter, reports that Peruvian trade with the United States has doubled in the past two years. This, in his opinion, is due largely to the fact that the sugar of Peru, which heretofore had been shipped direct to Liverpool, has been diverted to the New York market.

In regard to the Pacific coast trade, he says that the leading articles imported into Peru from that section of the country are lumber and wheat, coming principally from California, though Oregon also shares in the trade. Most of the mining machinery used is received through the port of San Diego, and as the development of Peruvian mines continues so will the demand for machinery of this class be increased. Minister Dudley, therefore, urges the establishment of better communication facilities between the Pacific ports of North and South America.

In speaking of the resources of Peru in the light of security for capital invested, he states that either the rubber industry or mining development offers the best guaranty. The exploitation of the valuable coal beds, as yet totally undeveloped, would, in his opinion, amply repay investigation, as the principal fuel used in the country at present is petroleum, which is found in the northern section of the Republic.

SALVADOR.

BANKING INSTITUTIONS.

The "Diario del Salvador" of September 21, 1900, contains an interesting article entitled "The banks of Salvador."

From this article it appears that the banks of that Republic are now in a highly prosperous condition, the volume of their business having increased considerably during the past year. The profits realized during this period were also exceedingly satisfactory, and never before have the financial institutions of the nation enjoyed the confidence of the people to a greater extent or attained more real prosperity than that existing at the present time.

Take, for example, the transactions of the four principal banks of the country for the first half of the year 1900. The Salvadorian Bank was established in 1885 with an authorized capital of $6,000,000, of which there were subscribed $4,200,000, $2,520,000 of which were paid in. The financial statement of this institution, embracing the period covering the six months ending June 30, 1900, shows that it has a reserve fund of $887,346.40, and bank notes in circulation amounting to $526,990. The net profits for the half year mentioned were $44,346.44, or a dividend of $10 a share.

The Occidental Bank, which was founded in 1890 with an authorized capital of $2,000,000, of which amount one-half has been paid in, has a reserve fund of $151,000. This institution has bank notes in circulation to the amount of $359,833, and its net profits during the first half of the present year were $21,103.23.

The Agricultural Commercial Bank was founded in 1895, with an authorized capital of $5,000,000. Two million and fifty thousand dollars of this amount was subscribed, of which $922,500 has been paid in. The reserve fund of this bank is $26,000, and its notes in circulation amount to $120,004. The net dividend for the first half of the present year was $20,500.

The branch of the London Bank, according to its balance sheet of the 13th of September last, has a capital of $500,000, a reserve fund of $339,586.95, and bank notes in circulation to the amount of $385,570. At that time it had on hand in coin and notes of other banks $567,110.60, its real estate was valued at $167,966.54, and its other securities amounted to $42,744.82.

The foregoing figures show that the banks of the Republic are now enjoying a marked degree of prosperity, that they are organized and operated on solid business principles, and are rendering incalculable service in the material progress and development of Salvador.

COPYRIGHT DECREE.

The "Diario Oficial" of August 10 last publishes the legislative decree of June 2, 1900, governing copyrights in the Republic of Salvador.

According to the provisions of this decree authors of all kinds of writings or musical compositions, paintings, drawings, sculpture, etc., shall have the exclusive right during their lives to sell, form, or distribute their works by any means whatsoever.

The heirs of the author or authors referred to shall enjoy this same right for a period of twenty-five years, except where the property reverts to the State, in which case it shall be common property. The authors or their heirs may transfer their copyrights to any person or persons.

Foreigners who publish books in Salvador shall have the same rights as Salvadorians.

Theatrical plays shall have, in addition to the usual rights, the privilege of not being produced in any theater of Salvador without the written consent of the author or his heirs.

The translators of any Latin or Greek work, and their heirs, shall have the same rights as authors.

For the enjoyment of all the privileges mentioned in the foregoing no title whatever is required from the Government, it being sufficient to deliver a copy of the work, announcing its author, to the Department of Public Works. If the book should be immoral or dangerous to the public order, its circulation will be prohibited in the Republic.

Should any person reprint, engrave, imitate, or in any way violate this law the aggrieved party may denounce him before the competent authority, who shall judge him in accordance with the penal code, sentencing the accused, if found guilty, to the loss of the edition, imposing upon him a fine of from $100 to $1,000 and a judgment for damages.

STIMULATING COTTON PRODUCTION.

The "Diario del Salvador," in its issue of August 9, 1900, referring to the legislative decree of the 2d of June of the same year, with respect to the protection and encouragement of cotton cultivation, says that the effect of this beneficent law has been wonderful and has greatly stimulated the production of cotton throughout the Republic. The decree referred to states that "The first planters who export through any port of the Republic from 100 to 30,000 quintals of cotton of a good quality shall be entitled to one silver dollar per quintal, which shall be credited to the exporter in the custom-houses of the Republic in export duties."

The President is authorized to instruct and reasonably assist those who engage in this cultivation, furnishing them, at the beginning, with

the seed and instructions that may be necessary to obtain good results, and to bring into the country practical instructors in said cultivation. He is also empowered to arrange, in the manner that he may deem convenient, everything relating to the planting, cultivating, and development of the cotton-growing industry.

SANTO DOMINGO.

ISSUE OF POSTAGE STAMPS—NEW TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

The MONTHLY BULLETIN is indebted to the courtesy of Señor Don JOSÉ G. GARCÍA, honorary corresponding member of the International Union of American Republics at Santo Domingo, for the following interesting items:

On the 10th of September last the time set for the sale of Columbian postage stamps in the Republic of Santo Domingo expired. The new issue of postage stamps not having arrived, however, the Government resolved to continue the use of these stamps until the new ones were received and placed on sale.

In a decree dated September 19, 1900, the President of the Republic authorized the Postmaster-General of Santo Domingo to arrange for the manufacture of the postage stamps necessary to meet the needs of the Government.

The telegraph line, which connects Azua with Barahona, was opened to the public service during the month of September. The operation of this telegraph line is a matter of considerable importance to the Republic and will greatly benefit commerce by affording increased facilities for the rapid dispatch of commercial transactions.

UNITED STATES.

TRADE WITH LATIN AMERICA.

STATEMENT OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The following is the latest statement from figures compiled by the Bureau of Statistics, United States Treasury Department, showing the value of the trade between the United States and the Latin-American countries. The report is for the month of September, 1900, with a comparative statement for the corresponding month of the previous year, also for the nine months ending September, 1900, compared with the corresponding period of the calendar year 1899. It should be explained that the figures from the various custom-houses showing imports and exports for any one month, are not received at the Treas-

ury Department until about the 20th of the following month, and some time is necessarily consumed in compilation and printing, so that the returns for September, for example, are not published until some time in November.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

Articles and countries.	September—		Nine months ending September—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Chemicals:				
Logwood (*Palo campeche; Pao de Campeche; Campêche*):				
Mexico			$11,995	$14,244
Coal, bituminous (*Carbón bituminoso; Carvão betuminoso; Charbon de terre*):				
Mexico		$4,797	152,392	57,872
Cocoa (*Cacao; Coco ou cacao crú; Cacao*):				
Central America			809	13,315
Brazil	$8,274		261,814	825,514
Other South America	72,353	238,715	1,274,233	1,514,141
Coffee (*Café; Café; Café*):				
Central America	58,887	65,623	5,000,692	4,081,634
Mexico	82,929	48,577	2,531,335	2,773,579
Brazil	2,621,115	3,023,062	27,678,349	25,816,252
Other South America	201,238	486,112	5,315,028	4,004,039
Cotton, unmanufactured (*Algodón en rama; Algodão em rama; Coton, non manufacturé*):				
South America		9,099	116,924	234,876
Fibers:				
Sisal grass (*Henequén; Henequen; Hennequen*):				
Mexico	877,762	701,271	6,282,896	9,098,177
Fruits:				
Bananas (*Plátanos; Bananas; Bananes*):				
Central America	171,541	179,491	1,576,483	1,848,453
South America	68,401	36,144	809,476	684,998
Oranges (*Naranjas; Laranjas; Oranges*):				
Mexico	5,269	9,601	16,192	12,385
Fur skins (*Pieles finas; Pelles; Fourrures*):				
South America	16,218	17,332	142,727	102,842
Hides and skins (*Cueros y pieles; Couros e pelles; Cuirs et peauz*):				
Central America	34,778	78,169	263,350	446,144
Mexico	119,926	118,078	1,547,002	1,790,959
South America	504,841	478,434	7,929,928	7,503,060
India rubber, crude (*Goma elástica; Borracha crua; Caoutchouc brut*):				
Central America	33,094	47,093	653,546	585,829
Mexico	7,161	8,819	136,930	140,519
Brazil	787,206	598,323	13,392,701	12,641,372
Other South America	108,024	53,106	769,596	423,984
Lead, in pigs, bars, etc. (*Plomo en galápagos, barras, etc.; Chumbo em linguados, barras, etc.; Plombs en saumons, en barres, etc.*):				
Mexico	194,489	256,560	1,672,776	1,986,807
Sugar, not above No. 16 Dutch standard (*Azúcar, no superior de la escala holandesa; Assucar, não superior ao No. 16 de padrão hollandez; Sucre, pas au-dessus du type hollandais No. 16*):				
Central America	6,723	1,213	168,585	52,804
Mexico	811	208	65,704	11,406
Cuba	962,922	14,071	17,460,873	16,648,916
Brazil		14,765	681,865	1,785,454
Other South America	190,398	357,917	3,675,325	3,566,154
Tobacco, leaf (*Tabaco en rama; Tabaco em folha; Tabac en feuilles*):				
Mexico	5,144	977	27,492	37,721
Cuba	350,631	532,372	4,725,770	5,821,488

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	September—		Nine months ending September—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Wood, mahogany (*Caoba; Mogno; Acajou*):				
Central America	$35,661	$45,458	$252,509	$320,500
Mexico	35,612	47,885	323,193	381,716
Cuba	8,915	36,017	49,496	255,096
South America		2,425	10,921	17,950
Wool (*Lana; Lã; Laine*):				
South America—				
Class 1 (clothing)	9,308	15,852	479,474	2,239,494
Class 2 (combing)			101	52,607
Class 3 (carpet)	77,887	124,238	439,155	830,096

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE.

Agricultural implements (*Instrumentos de agricultura; Instrumentos de agricultura; Machines agricoles*):				
Central America	$146	$2,013	$5,797	$4,694
Mexico	28,335	49,849	234,669	442,813
Santo Domingo		327	744	1,411
Cuba	15,559	12,902	79,226	135,590
Argentine Republic	397,850	185,927	1,665,214	1,020,262
Brazil	627	1,140	25,245	21,568
Colombia	100	752	577	1,535
Other South America	75,243	68,687	242,486	257,477
Breadstuffs:				
Corn (*Maíz; Milho; Maïs*):				
Central America	2,140	893	30,879	21,089
Mexico	5,675	23,881	105,478	291,476
Santo Domingo			315	327
Cuba	18,469	7,876	337,958	492,698
South America	22,435	2,808	42,478	13,466
Wheat (*Trigo; Trigo; Blé*):				
Central America		1,350	13,944	18,069
Mexico			609	118
South America	719	9,169	69,318	463,273
Wheat flour (*Harina de trigo; Farinha de trigo; Farine de blé*):				
Central America	42,705	74,731	655,204	656,659
Mexico	15,865	16,139	119,497	103,383
Santo Domingo	7,531	15,961	103,504	152,850
Cuba	134,396	103,123	1,520,071	1,492,099
Brazil	118,138	246,759	1,959,627	2,261,716
Colombia	19,298	32,510	342,705	166,343
Other South America	89,987	148,702	1,214,833	1,088,663
Carriages, cars, etc., and parts of (*Carruages, carros y sus accesorios; Carruagens, carros e partes de carros; Voitures, wagons et leurs parties*):				
Central America	1,301	1,447	14,812	30,747
Mexico	63,539	188,739	657,248	913,532
Santo Domingo	341	335	11,755	18,564
Cuba	16,129	90,339	112,739	271,025
Argentine Republic	33,402	21,312	198,174	364,498
Brazil	44,347	8,541	186,328	45,653
Colombia	2,152	34	13,443	10,838
Other South America	11,179	13,073	40,376	63,546
Cycles, and parts of (*Bicicletas y sus accesorios; Bicyclos e accessorios; Bicyclettes et leurs parties*):				
Central America	324	556	4,143	1,600
Mexico	2,830	755	35,537	11,516
Santo Domingo		80	298	232
Cuba	14,662	521	64,504	63,898
Argentine Republic	31,756	6,759	232,518	68,297
Brazil	2,996	1,041	26,393	15,392
Colombia	682	21	6,790	3,421
Other South America	8,045	2,262	49,938	32,967
Coal (*Carbón; Carvão; Charbon*):				
Central America	1,441	1,529	13,394	26,245
Mexico	108,832	80,492	1,096,995	1,464,820
Santo Domingo	338	3,919	6,874	15,277
Cuba	56,980	27,754	524,161	635,002
Brazil	3,936	34,611	98,585	160,456
Colombia		20	49,606	33,389
Other South America	7,420	22,104	53,229	159,780

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	September—		Nine months ending September—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Copper (*Cobre; Cobre; Cuivre*):				
Mexico	$27,802	$11,280	$210,307	$468,251
Cotton, unmanufactured (*Algodón no manufacturado; Algodão não manufacturado; Coton, non manufacturé*):				
Mexico	12,378	141,735	428,116	778,731
South America				6,607
Cotton cloths (*Tejidos de algodón; Fazendas de algodão; Coton manufacturé*):				
Central America	50,025	61,255	464,744	565,260
Mexico	51,028	28,459	410,198	284,146
Santo Domingo	5,364	24,907	138,276	160,114
Cuba	57,165	9,473	617,837	165,198
Argentine Republic	9,377	9,256	96,424	69,565
Brazil	21,523	24,336	315,512	218,264
Colombia	22,787	31,552	305,970	173,057
Other South America	59,976	190,906	853,662	1,186,366
Wearing apparel (*Ropa de algodón; Roupa de algodão; Vêtements en coton*):				
Central America	16,816	18,013	209,880	296,927
Mexico	38,636	37,839	330,200	402,795
Santo Domingo	985	7,126	13,879	43,982
Cuba	16,322	8,943	146,181	85,132
Argentine Republic	1,950	1,972	36,257	10,492
Brazil	1,504	5,227	23,422	29,691
Colombia	3,165	2,893	32,223	32,379
Other South America	4,394	6,308	55,647	54,544
Instruments:				
Electric and scientific apparatus (*Aparatos eléctricos y científicos; Apparelhos electricos e scientificos; Appareils électriques et scientifiques*):				
Central America	5,028	4,600	49,104	49,271
Mexico	31,328	36,274	369,663	265,069
Argentine Republic	27,308	120,510	218,213	238,117
Brazil	48,857	34,883	114,535	177,979
Other South America	11,141	15,651	98,818	193,694
Iron and Steel, Manufactures of:				
Steel rails (*Carriles de acero; Trilhos de aço; Rails d'acier*):				
Central America			17,734	9,124
Mexico	29,748	98,172	340,812	899,709
South America	12,115	101,275	102,291	445,907
Builders' hardware, and saws and tools (*Materiales de metal para construcción, sierras y herramientas; Ferragens, serras e ferramentas; Matériaux de construction en fer et acier scies et outils*):				
Central America	5,473	6,679	65,013	86,964
Mexico	36,056	64,027	333,641	408,876
Santo Domingo	560	1,691	7,013	14,948
Cuba	37,592	21,602	313,822	225,120
Argentine Republic	17,782	26,258	191,814	217,156
Brazil	21,587	16,567	181,663	170,876
Colombia	6,614	3,118	78,994	31,381
Other South America	28,422	61,757	192,109	275,042
Sewing machines and parts of (*Máquinas de coser y accesorios; Machinas de coser e accessorios; Machines à coudre et leurs parties*):				
Central America	2,280	2,591	15,973	25,810
Mexico	18,261	31,975	222,941	264,012
Santo Domingo	14	594	1,369	5,878
Cuba	8,082	6,779	32,593	91,516
Argentine Republic	16,794	11,209	135,938	142,243
Brazil	4,638	7,725	100,167	94,229
Colombia	928	793	38,999	6,627
Other South America	8,242	15,228	100,421	130,922
Typewriting machines, and parts of (*Máquinas de escribir y accesorios, Machinas de escribir e accessorios; Machines à écrire et leurs parties*):				
Central America	140	196	1,353	2,535
Mexico	5,107	3,974	44,536	54,339
Santo Domingo		32	187	860
Cuba	2,355	4,225	21,321	30,712
Argentine Republic	8,231	4,272	33,250	25,768

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	September—		Nine months ending September—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Typewriting machines, and parts of—Continued.				
Brazil	$1,427	$1,219	$6,645	$7,739
Colombia	233	.....	2,371	1,459
Other South America	1,389	962	21,673	24,989
Leather, other than sole (*Cuero, distinto del de suelo; Couro não para solas; Cuirs, autres que pour semelles*):				
Central America	1,059	1,843	9,819	25,285
Mexico	4,109	370	17,067	23,761
Santo Domingo	.....	585	1,057	6,457
Cuba	4,058	4,457	24,305	31,712
Argentine Republic	4,427	17,182	40,677	84,238
Brazil	6,008	4,372	55,058	76,685
Colombia	25	361	3,191	1,580
Other South America	1,614	12,615	31,705	43,606
Boots and shoes (*Calzado; Calçados; Chaussures*):				
Central America	16,437	7,314	93,427	100,584
Mexico	28,741	30,061	235,621	259,654
Colombia	2,779	7,521	30,933	40,460
Other South America	1,413	4,005	18,168	38,728
Naval stores:				
Rosin, tar, etc. (*Resina y alquitrán; Resina e alcatrão; Résine et goudron*):				
Central America	1,584	723	11,415	8,511
Mexico	590	1,067	7,698	5,042
Santo Domingo	138	415	3,092	2,662
Cuba	1,199	1,194	10,251	10,505
Argentine Republic	4,560	.....	71,882	55,681
Brazil	17,925	15,758	168,440	104,261
Colombia	1,927	566	9,472	7,881
Other South America	8,130	6,709	51,462	57,637
Turpentine, spirits of (*Aguarrás; Agua-raz; Térébenthine*):				
Central America	565	475	3,855	6,243
Mexico	107	260	3,465	2,932
Santo Domingo	55	23	440	520
Cuba	4,632	3,498	41,041	30,000
Argentine Republic	14,891	9,995	60,430	135,773
Brazil	6,601	8,132	51,344	70,698
Colombia	341	388	5,145	2,575
Other South America	10,312	7,593	52,306	75,998
Oils, mineral, crude (*Aceites minerales, crudos; Oleos mineraes, crús; Huiles minérales, brutes*):				
Mexico	.....	77,001	355,684	426,533
Cuba	32,206	436	181,644	275,389
Oils, mineral, refined or manufactured (*Aceites minerales, refinados ó manufacturados; Huiles minérales, raffinées ou manufacturées*):				
Central America	9,527	9,974	106,576	121,661
Mexico	12,444	9,295	158,013	154,941
Santo Domingo	11,546	3,928	29,826	52,229
Cuba	3,502	10,743	90,088	61,374
Argentine Republic	130,561	103,679	842,644	1,045,080
Brazil	156,089	218,512	1,150,678	1,808,282
Colombia	11,234	16,080	103,712	135,974
Other South America	109,406	122,961	894,891	1,214,329
Oils, vegetable (*Aceites vegetales; Oleos vegetaes; Huiles végétales*):				
Central America	515	389	4,073	4,821
Mexico	47,655	24,046	431,477	681,056
Santo Domingo	3,666	5,716	22,723	63,530
Cuba	2,299	757	28,014	12,918
Argentine Republic	1,935	2,441	30,661	60,179
Brazil	15,678	37,121	156,139	302,288
Other South America	15,431	10,539	95,523	122,193
Provisions, comprising meat and dairy products:				
Beef, canned (*Carne de vaca en latas; Carne de vacca em latas; Bœuf conservé*):				
Central America	1,391	2,072	15,958	19,321
Mexico	1,235	1,981	15,901	15,572
Santo Domingo	10	.....	98	81

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	September—		Nine months ending September—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Provisions, etc.—Continued.				
Beef, canned—Continued.				
Cuba	$230	$595	$11,013	$2,980
Argentine Republic			1,484	1,007
Brazil	2,767	3,840	12,827	18,138
Colombia	473	424	5,229	5,428
Other South America	1,616	2,791	13,744	14,056
Beef, salted or pickled (*Carne de vaca salada ó en salmuera; Carne de vacca salgada ou em salmoura; Bœuf, salé ou en saumure*):				
Central America	3,621	1,095	29,105	28,743
Mexico	800	23	1,794	1,382
Santo Domingo	673	366	4,680	3,540
Cuba	1,070	233	20,875	12,946
Brazil	32	50	1,265	1,250
Colombia	969	1,317	13,372	17,155
Other South America	19,795	20,269	124,930	154,699
Tallow (*Sebo; Sebo; Suif*):				
Central America	4,483	9,620	68,808	81,302
Mexico	1,426	1,607	22,672	18,565
Santo Domingo	1,447	58	14,517	9,417
Cuba	153		2,129	3,529
Brazil	1,963	1,595	22,419	55,874
Colombia	2,605	518	15,980	4,584
Other South America	7,850	4,861	36,393	89,862
Bacon (*Tocino; Toucinho; Lard fumé*):				
Central America	1,839	2,174	14,915	22,958
Mexico	2,797	1,781	16,457	15,236
Santo Domingo	338	157	1,725	1,590
Cuba	85,128	38,941	711,865	461,303
Brazil	12,399	18,407	157,391	98,407
Colombia	33	28	1,517	2,171
Other South America	804	1,137	11,616	14,225
Hams (*Jamones; Presunto; Jambons*):				
Central America	1,784	2,388	18,701	22,058
Mexico	3,748	3,981	25,474	30,118
Santo Domingo	414	1,125	4,939	9,264
Cuba	51,702	39,936	560,199	461,152
Brazil	561	1,392	2,710	5,073
Colombia	827	1,377	13,264	15,496
Other South America	3,946	6,474	63,688	49,000
Pork (*Carne de puerco; Carne de porco; Porc*):				
Central America	3,837	5,760	49,437	71,303
Santo Domingo	1,387	1,074	5,071	7,275
Cuba	12,925	16,880	59,569	387,732
Brazil	93	37	3,001	1,527
Colombia	630	1,113	28,605	14,805
Other South America	16,560	25,007	146,128	190,297
Lard (*Manteca; Banha; Saindoux*):				
Central America	13,785	20,016	132,757	160,414
Mexico	40,454	44,715	209,076	306,782
Santo Domingo	3,064	3,592	19,608	31,122
Cuba	113,520	171,109	1,350,696	1 980,964
Argentine Republic	81	755	3,382	6,413
Brazil	74,955	111,607	788,289	684,845
Colombia	9,811	12,893	104,332	98,485
Other South America	55,050	121,838	567,454	708,136
Butter (*Mantequilla; Manteiga; Beurre*):				
Central America	3,261	3,561	35,747	34,561
Mexico	3,710	4,071	37,803	32,120
Santo Domingo	384	1,825	5,990	20,711
Cuba	4,340	1,463	85,965	24,870
Brazil	23,506	18,282	168,869	140,008
Colombia	1,088	1,212	12,289	10,755
Other South America	3,104	10,248	161,610	82,945
Cheese (*Queso; Queijo; Fromage*):				
Central America	1,181	1,303	13,140	17,334
Mexico	1,876	2,337	17,344	16,450
Santo Domingo	437	288	3,466	7,094
Cuba	3,180	1,815	54,479	27,232
Brazil			217	64
Colombia	447	649	5,874	5,700
Other South America	1,466	757	10,741	5,780

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	September—		Nine months ending September—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Tobacco, unmanufactured (*Tabaco no manufacturado; Tabaco não manufacturado; Tabac non manufacturé*):				
Central America	$1,457	$1,049	$22,899	$26,402
Mexico	13,467	6,830	120,050	126,864
Argentine Republic	620	3,985	17,992	25,496
Colombia	215	.....	4,929	9,844
Other South America	7,294	10,431	79,737	85,949
Tobacco, manufactures of (*Manufacturas de tabaco; Manufacturas de tabaco; Tabac fabriqué*):				
Central America	4,449	2,949	41,297	40,737
Mexico	430	732	14,817	8,941
Cuba	8,180	8,486	155,075	159,674
Argentine Republic	2,151	20	8,129	6,853
Brazil	352	.....	352	105
Colombia	34	1,884	5,259	6,519
Other South America	1,088	6,437	50,544	62,065
Wood, unmanufactured (*Madera no manufacturada; Madeira não manufacturada; Bois brut*):				
Central America	1,222	2,055	20,272	33,448
Mexico	1,062	21,083	107,083	251,176
Cuba	1,017	871	42,328	35,836
Argentine Republic	615	4,428	14,251	17,334
Brazil	.....	.....	240	17,992
Colombia	673	495	15,191	2,794
Other South America	10,186	18,801	45,699	38,788
Lumber (*Maderas; Madeiras; Bois de construction*):				
Central America	2,841	5,462	41,201	38,679
Mexico	103,533	110,563	746,953	1,021,684
Santo Domingo	1,868	6,805	28,642	36,136
Cuba	33,623	43,240	695,878	927,664
Argentine Republic	51,736	99,164	744,008	808,641
Brazil	60,205	37,650	337,947	162,020
Colombia	5,773	997	39,799	41,035
Other South America	40,449	76,039	472,342	400,752
Furniture (*Muebles; Mobilia; Meubles*):				
Central America	3,321	3,826	26,609	40,267
Mexico	25,484	20,471	226,110	307,185
Santo Domingo	91	5,398	6,272	16,982
Cuba	20,401	20,348	136,373	557,019
Argentine Republic	7,779	8,947	84,204	64,901
Brazil	3,259	2,313	27,130	20,896
Colombia	1,202	761	23,466	11,706
Other South America	6,610	6,564	53,276	47,494

COTTON AND COTTON MILLS.

Owing to the insufficiency of the cotton crop of the United States of 1899–1900 to meet the requirements of home manufacturers, the exports of that commodity show a remarkable decline for the commercial year. In the case of Great Britain, cotton exports fell from 3,471,252 bales in 1899 to 2,295,358 in 1900, a decrease of 1,175,894 bales. To Germany there was a decrease of 163,959 bales, and to France a decrease of 93,838 bales. Among the Latin-American countries, Mexico's quoted receipts of United States cotton fell from 32,437 bales in 1899 to 18,391 bales in 1900, a decrease of 14,046 bales. Japan, Belgium, and British North America are the only countries showing increased importations from the United States, the advance in each case being 116,213, 14,212, and 8,068 bales, respectively.

Another factor which, without doubt, has had considerable effect on

the decline of cotton exports, as noted above, is the growth of the cotton-mill industry in the United States within the past ten years. Many of the cotton-growing States have of late years become centers of cotton manufacture as well, thus minimizing the quantity of raw material available for export. The "Textile World," published in Boston, estimates the increase of cotton spindles and looms in the United States as follows:

	1900.	1890.	Per cent of increase.
Spindles	21,057,983	14,188,103	48.4
Looms	490,398	324,866	50.9

Of these, 15,243,000 spindles are in the Northern States and 5,815,000 in the Southern States. In 1890 the spindles in operation were divided into 1,828,000 for the South and 12,721,000 for the North, so that the quoted increase for the former section is 3,987,000, or 217 per cent, and for the latter 2,522,000 spindles, or 19.8 per cent.

At the Paris Exposition the "grand prize" for cotton and other fibers has been awarded to the United States Department of Agriculture, official confirmation being thus given of the magnificence of the exhibit.

TRADE IN WOOLENS.

In the matter of trade in woolen manufactures, the balance in favor of the United States is every year increasing at an almost phenomenal rate, the imports being in 1900 less than one-third in value what they were in 1895, while in the decade 1890–1900 the exports of the same commodity have more than trebled. During the eight months ending August 31, 1900, imports of woolen manufactures were valued at $12,084,928, against $40,667,044 in the eight months of 1895 and $29,544,094 in the corresponding eight months of 1896. The average annual imports of woolens in the decade from 1890 to 1900 has been about $25,000,000, the year 1895 representing the highest valuation, at $40,667,044. Importations continued heavy for the two succeeding years, but since then have constantly decreased, until in the years 1898, 1899, and 1900 they averaged but $11,000,000 during the eight months of each year. Thus it will be seen that the importations of this class of goods are now only one-half their annual average since 1890. On the other hand, exports have slowly but steadily increased, advancing from $268,094 in 1890, $470,725 in 1895, $614,678 in 1896, $644,512 in 1897, and $717,689 in 1898 to $886,030 in the eight months of 1900.

The details as to the destination of the woolen manufactures exported from the United States for the present year are not yet available, but from an examination of the official report for the fiscal year 1899 it is

seen that United States carpets find their chief foreign markets in the United Kingdom, Canada, Mexico, and the East; dress goods go chiefly to England and Mexico; flannels and blankets to Hawaii, China, Hongkong, Canada, and Chile; clothing to Canada and Chile, and miscellaneous manufactures to Canada, Miquelon, England, Australia, the West Indies, Germany, France, and Denmark, in the order given.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE TIN-PLATE INDUSTRY.

No branch of national industry has been a source of greater interest both at home and abroad than the development of the tin-plate industry by the United States. In a report made by the Secretary of "The British Iron Trade Association" on iron and steel exhibits at the Paris Exposition, the statement is made that the most important and only exhibit of tin plates shown was that of an American company. The exhibit of this organization included samples of tin plate and tables of statistics showing the output of the United States for a number of years past. From these it appears that the American output of tin plates has increased from 18,803 tons in 1892 to 397,767 tons in 1899, while within the same period the imports of British tin plates into the United States have fallen from 268,472 tons to 58,915 tons. The report cited says that there is no question but that the tin-plate industry has now been firmly established on American soil, and that the plates exhibited at Paris appear to be of good merchantable quality. An interesting feature of the exhibit was a number of rolls of continuous sheets, made by uniting a number of black sheets by seaming, the seam being afterwards soldered together in the tinning process.

For the present, of course, the United States has not begun to compete seriously with Great Britain in the matter of exports of this commodity, but the result of the exhibit has been the placing of a number of orders, and thus forms the entering wedge for introducing American tin plate into the markets of the world.

EQUIPMENT AND EXTENT OF RAILROADS.

From the annual railroad statistics contained in "Poor's Manual" it is seen that the growth of railroads in 1899 in the United States, while far below the records of some years, is still without parallel in any of the world's great railroad centers. On December 31, 1899, the length of completed line was 190,833 miles, the net increase for the year being 3,981 miles. Upon this trackage, throughout the year, 538,000,000 passengers were carried, and 978,000,000 tons of freight handled, the total revenue from traffic being estimated at $1,336,000,000. The operating expenses were about $888,000,000, leaving $448,000,000 as net earnings, which, added to $66,000,000 reported as "other receipts," brings the total revenue up to $513,879,443.

The publication referred to gives some interesting statistics regarding the percentage of steel rails employed on the tracks of the United States from the year 1880 to 1899. It is stated that when in 1880 there were 116,000 miles of track, 29 per cent of it was laid with steel rails. In 1885, when the total mileage was 160,000, 61 per cent was laid in steel. In 1890, 80.4 per cent of the total of 208,000 miles was laid in steel. In 1895 the total had risen to 235,000 miles, and the percentage of steel track was 87.8 per cent, while at the close of the year 1899, out of 250,000 miles of track, 91.7 was in steel rails.

The total number of locomotives at the close of 1899 was 37,245, as compared with 18,000 in 1880. In the same period the number of passenger and baggage cars advanced from 17,000 to 34,000, and freight cars from 539,000 to 1,328,000. It is important, in considering these figures of increase, to remember that locomotives and cars have increased enormously in carrying capacity, the heaviest passenger locomotive having risen in the twenty years under comparison from 45 to 90 tons in weight, the freight locomotives from 60 to 115 tons, while the largest freight cars in 1880 had a maximum carrying capacity of 15 tons, and in 1899 of 55 tons.

MUSTARD CULTIVATION.

Almost the entire mustard crop of the country is produced in Santa Barbara County, California, where a region of 2,500 acres is devoted to the industry. It has never been ascertained scientifically what especial principle of the soil is extracted by the plant, but it is known that it is impossible to obtain two successive crops from the same soil. It is therefore necessary for the mustard farmer to alternate his crops, which he does usually by putting half the land in beans, barley, corn, or beets, while the other half is given over to mustard culture, and thus a change in the soil becomes regular.

The wild mustard found in abundance on the hills and in the valleys of Santa Barbara County first gave the farmers of the vicinity their cue for its cultivation, and for eighteen years this locality has had a practical monopoly of this branch of agriculture. Much water and dampness are necessary for its satisfactory growth, and a dark, heavy soil is preferable. January is the sowing time for the brown variety, and March for the yellow. The ground is broken and cultivated, after which the seed is sown broadcast, 4 pounds to the acre. The mustard stalk is straw color, growing from 4 to 5 feet in height. The pods are from 1 to 4 inches long, and contain one row of seeds only. In harvesting the crop a reaper is used, cutting the stalks and throwing them in bunches, where they are left to cure until October. At that time they are thoroughly dry, and are transported to some central place and spread out upon large sheets of canvas, where the stalks and pods are rolled with a heavy roller until crushed, after which they are

raked off with hand rakes. The chaff and seed remaining are run through a fanning machine, which separates all the light and loose material, and the seed is ready to sack and market. San Francisco is the distributing point, and the markets of the East and of the Middle West receive the crop.

FRUIT GROWING AND TRADE.

An idea of the immense monetary interests involved in the growing of fruits in the United States may be obtained from the fact that in one State alone, California, raisins to the amount of 103,000,000 pounds, worth $26,000,000, were in one year shipped out of the State. The apple crop of the country for the present year is placed at 48,000,000 barrels, having been 37,500,000 barrels in 1899 and 69,000,000 barrels in 1896. Apples head the list of fruit values for the country, being for the current year estimated at a valuation of more than $200,000,000; but oranges, lemons, and grapes, to say nothing of the smaller fruits and berries, are significant elements in the vast aggregate of $1,000,000,000, which is regarded as a most conservative estimate of the fruit interests.

It is estimated that within two years the California orange crop will supply every market in the country, the growth of this branch of the fruit trade being indicated by the fact that last year 12,000 carloads of oranges and lemons were shipped from that State, and this season the crop is estimated at from 15,000 to 18,000 cars. In Florida the yield for the present year will be 1,000,000 boxes. Arizona has also developed this industry to the extent of shipping 100 cars a week, and yet commercially oranges were not grown in the United States previous to 1873.

In peaches, the Delaware crop is estimated at 4,000,000 baskets in the season just past; Connecticut and Maryland furnished the same number, while Michigan surpassed them both, one individual in the latter State realizing $80,000 from his peach orchards.

Grape culture has its center, as is well known, in the State of California, where the largest vineyard in the world is located. It embraces an area of 6 square miles, every acre of which contains 680 separate vines. So great is the production of wine and brandy at this locality that the Government has found it necessary to build a warehouse, covering 2 acres, upon the ground, where the casks are stored and the taxes estimated.

Among the smaller fruits it is estimated that $80,000,000 worth of strawberries are grown and consumed in the United States in a single season, while huckleberries, the least of them all, reach the million-dollar mark each season in the produce market.

Mr. Theodore Dreiser, from whose very interesting article in "Harper's Magazine" for November, 1900, the above data is obtained,

considers that the fruit industry in the United States is at present only in the period of inception, and that when the resources of the land are fully appealed to by more extensively organized labor the results will surpass all reckoning.

PRESERVATION OF PRODUCE IN COLD STORAGE.

Some very interesting facts of great importance to countries engaged in the culture and shipment of food products are elucidated in a bulletin issued by the Weather Bureau of the United States. Among the strange devices mentioned is the use of ice, not only for refrigerating purposes in summer, but also for heating or equalizing the temperature in winter. For produce that is subject to deterioration through change of temperature this is of inestimable benefit, as, when the weather is at zero outside the cold-storage car, the ice, whose normal point is about 32° F., helps to keep up the temperature inside. One plan is to have the car made with a double lining, and at each end four galvanized-iron cylinders filled with ice, and, being at the same temperature both summer and winter, the perishable goods are subject to no change whatever. Another device against cold consists in throwing upon the car, when the weather is near the zero point, a stream of water, which promptly freezes and forms a complete coating of ice all over the vehicle. This prevents radiation of heat from the car and so tends to keep up the temperature inside. This latter plan is frequently adopted in the transportation of bananas, which are particularly susceptible to cold. When the temperature is dangerously low, fruit of this kind is put into paper bags inside of heavy canvas bags and covered with salt hay.

It has been found by experience in the South that it is detrimental to fresh fruit to load it on the cars without chilling it first. Accordingly, one railroad in the fruit district of the United States is about to establish, at the largest shipping points along its lines, cooling rooms in which the merchandise may be put for a while before sending it on its journey. It has been ascertained that oranges on the trees will endure 26° for an hour or two, but in four hours will freeze inside. It has also been found that perishable produce, such as fruits and vegetables, will stand a lower temperature when the car is in motion than when it is stationary.

A contrivance has recently been invented and is now in the market for ventilating grain in transit, at the same time securing the contents of the car against rain, sparks, or cinders. It can be attached to an ordinary car, and it is probable that its use will shortly become general.

The bulletin of the Department also contains valuable instructions regarding the shipment and care in transportation of fish and oysters, shrubs and trees, and all kinds of dairy produce.

GOVERNMENT CHEMICAL ANALYSES.

The chemical laboratory of the Department of Agriculture is the center of chemical tests of all kinds for the various Executive Departments of the Government. Before the War Department orders any large quantities of food for the use of the Army samples are submitted to the Chief Chemist to determine the nutritive and hygienic value. The materials entering into the manufacture of clothing and camp equipment also undergo a rigid chemical analysis before being accepted for service.

Recently, at the request of the Secretary of the Interior, Dr. WILEY, Chief Chemist, began an extensive analysis of the waters of Hot Springs, in the State of Arkansas, where a Government recuperative reservation is maintained for the benefit of invalid soldiers, who are sent thither for the cure of rheumatism and ailments of a kindred nature. At these famous springs there are seventy or eighty different kinds of water, each of which is to receive thorough treatment at the hands of the Government experts. The points to be determined are the amount of gases in solution, the temperature, amount of organic matter, if any, the number and character of germs found, if any, and the chemical composition of each. The laboratory of the medical and hygienic department of the Army, located at Hot Springs, has been placed at the disposal of the chemists by the War Department. This examination will be of national importance, as it will establish on a firm basis the curative qualities of the springs.

In an analysis as to the causes of typhoid fever recently published Dr. WILEY expresses the opinion that the chief benefits derived from the use of so-called mineral waters are not due so much to their curative qualities as to the fact that they are free from germs, the conditions which produce mineral water being unfavorable to germ growth. The statement is further made that milk is the most powerful medium for the production of the typhoid germ, as it furnishes, both as regards temperature and other conditions, the most favorable environment for its growth.

THE DAIRY INDUSTRY.

Among the important agricultural interests of the country the dairy industry holds a prominent position. According to the "Yearbook" of the United States Department of Agriculture, the estimated number of cows in the United States on January 1, 1900, was 16,292,360, as compared with 15,952,883 on the same date in 1890 and 12,027,000 ten years earlier. The State of New York, which is the center of cheese manufacturing, contained the largest number (1,487,000), being followed, in order, by Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania.

The product of 5,000,000 of these cows is consumed as milk and cream, either fresh or condensed; that of 11,000,000 is made into but-

ter, and that of 1,000,000 into cheese. It is estimated that the annual consumption of milk and cream as such is 1,750,000 gallons, the production of butter being 1,500,000,000 and of cheese 300,000,000 pounds. The value of the annual dairying business is estimated at about $500,000,000.

The total butter exports of the United States for the year 1899 were 20,000,000 pounds, Great Britain receiving more that one-half of the amount. China received 22,000 pounds; the Philippine Islands, 5,000; Cuba, 585,000; Japan, 92,000; Hawaii, 170,000, and Mexico, 381,000.

The foreign trade in cheese is one of great importance, although it has declined somewhat in the last few years. The year 1880 was the record year for such exports, 148,000,000 pounds having been shipped abroad at that time. For the last two years, however, 24,000,000 pounds and 30,000,000 pounds mark the export limit; but in view of the fact that during the current year from May 1 to September 22 there have been exported 8,240,000 pounds more than in the same period of last year, more favorable reports may be anticipated. One cause assigned for the decrease in cheese exports is that the home product has in some instances replaced the foreign article for local consumption, and thereby not only driven the latter out of the United States markets, but also diminished the quantity of the native cheese available for export. Another reason is due to the changes that have taken place in the dairying business within twenty years, milk being used in so many more ways than formerly, the new application of it—such as the manufacture of condensed milk, for example—diverting a large proportion of it from its old uses.

ENORMOUS DEMAND FOR RAILROAD TIES.

Owing to the successful application of quebracho wood for use as railroad ties (as noted in the MONTHLY BULLETIN for October, 1900), it may be of interest to countries growing this species of timber to have their attention called to the enormous demand for this important item in railroad development in the United States. A new mile of standard single track railroad, without taking into consideration the switch tracks and side tracks, requires about 4,500 ties. The average life of a railroad tie is about five years, so that in ten years a railroad will use ties at the rate of about 9,000 for every mile of track. This means that the Pennsylvania Railroad Company requires 2,500,000 ties for that part of its system east of Pittsburg every year; that the New York Central requires nearly 2,700,000 ties between New York and Buffalo, and that the Erie road requires about 2,000,000 every year between Jersey City and Salamanca. It is estimated that under the best possible conditions, and making no allowance for fire and other accidents, it would require a plat of ground 2,000 acres in extent to grow 1,000,000 railroad ties, and that thirty years would be needed to develop them.

It has been estimated that in every 30 feet of standard single track road there is nearly a ton of steel, but the cost of ties for the same distance is even greater than that of the metal. It is therefore a problem of increasing perplexity to railroad men to obtain a sufficient supply of ties or "sleepers." Nothing has ever been found that will successfully take the place of the hand-hewn tie of young, growing timber, and many methods have been applied for prolonging the life of the individual tie.

Quebracho wood, by reason of its extreme hardness and durability, goes a long way toward settling the question satisfactorily, the only drawback at present being the lack of sufficient receipts of this valuable wood.

EDUCATIONAL STATISTICS.

The latest available statistics concerning educational conditions throughout the United States bring the information on the subject up to July 1, 1899. From the figures furnished in the annual report of the Commissioner of Education it is ascertained that on that date the pupils in all schools, elementary, secondary, and higher, whether public or private, numbered 16,738,362. This represents an increase of about 50,000 as compared with the preceding fiscal year. The number of children enrolled in the common schools, elementary and secondary, was 15,138,715.

It appears from the report that there were 35,458 pupils in attendance in all the departments of the colleges of agriculture and the mechanic arts, established under act of Congress in aid of such institutions. The total income of these colleges, distributed throughout the various States, amounted to $6,193,016, of which $1,769,716 represents Government aid, and $2,570,427 were derived from appropriations by the several States and Territories, while the remainder was obtained from fees, invested funds, and other miscellaneous sources.

Considerable space is occupied in the report by the educational conditions of Porto Rico, Hawaii, and the Philippine Islands. In the schools of Manila the total attendance on September 30, 1899, was 5,706, as compared with a school population of about 25,000. In Porto Rico, during the first term of 1899–1900, there was a total enrollment of 24,392 scholars, of whom 15,440 were boys and 8,952 girls. The average daily attendance was 20,103. In Hawaii the total enrollment numbered 15,490, and the total number of schools, both public and private, was 169. Cuba is also treated of from an educational standpoint, showing that a decided impetus has been given in the island to this branch of national development.

GOVERNMENT ADOPTION OF GERMICIDAL LAMP.

A series of experiments has recently been made by the United States Marine-Hospital Service for the purpose of testing the availability of

an improved formaldehyde lamp as a germicide. One set of experiments was made under conditions as nearly as possible like those which would obtain after the occurrence of a case of infectious disease, such as yellow fever or diphtheria. The results demonstrated the absolutely germicidal effect of the application of formaldehyde gas as produced by the generator employed. The apparatus in question is known as the KUHN generator and is designed to produce formaldehyde gas by the dehydrogenization of wood or methyl alcohol. This object is accomplished by passing the vapor of wood alcohol through disks or plates, which contain incandescent metallic platinum in a state of fine division.

The report on the subject made by the hygienic laboratory of the Marine Hospital, which is contained in the "Public Health Reports" for October 19, 1900, states that the KUHN generator accomplishes the end in view in a way superior to any formaldehyde generators previously under examination in that laboratory. A smaller apparatus is designed for the disinfection and deodorizing of ill-ventilated apartments, and the experiments made fully justified the claims made in their behalf. These generators have received the indorsement of the United States Treasury Department, under whose supervision the Marine-Hospital Service is placed, and their utility is to be demonstrated at the various quarantine stations of the Government.

PETROLEUM OUTPUT OF CALIFORNIA.

The annual report of the Director of the United States Geological Survey shows that California's output of petroleum for the year 1899 shows an increase of 384,888 barrels as compared with the year previous. The total production of crude petroleum for the year was 2,624,095 barrels, valued at $2,508,751, averaging about 95 cents per barrel. The price per barrel advanced on an average 10 cents per barrel. The principal demand for petroleum in the State is for use as fuel, being employed extensively in sugar manufactories, in generating steam for electric light and power plants, in pumping water, in refineries and pumping wells. It is also being introduced extensively as locomotive fuel and in some instances in the manufacture of iron and steel.

THE WORK OF THE WEATHER BUREAU.

It is estimated that the cost of maintaining the 150 stations of the United States Weather Bureau is about $1,000,000 per year. Of this amount $180,000 is expended in telegraphy, though the utmost economy is effected by the employment of a cipher code. As the value of weather forecasts lies in the immediate distribution of the knowledge obtained within two hours after the instruments are read in the morning, the information is sent to about 1,000 centers of distribution, thence, by telephone, mail, and railway service, to more than 73,000

addresses, the greater number being delivered early in the day and none later than 6 p. m. Observations are received in Washington within an hour of the time when they are taken, as arrangements are made with the telegraph officials whereby certain wires are held exclusively for weather reports during certain hours of the day. Besides the 1,000 telegraph distributing centers, the forecasts are telegraphed at Government expense to about 1,800 additional places, where they are communicated to the public by means of signals, both of sound and sight, the latter consisting of flags and the former of steam whistles. In addition, about 8,000 emergency stations are supplied with news concerning prospective hurricanes, cold waves, frosts, and local storms of local severity. It is reported that Germany proposes to copy the system prevailing in the United States.

VALUABLE VARIETY OF SUGAR CANE.

Prof. William C. Stubbs, director of the United States Sugar Experiment Station in Louisiana, the only one in the country, announces that after years of experiment he has developed a sugar cane that will yield 30 per cent more sugar than any of the canes grown in Louisiana, Texas, or the other Southern States, and will wellnigh revolutionize the sugar industry.

The present improved cane comes from the island of Trinidad, and is one of the several varieties imported thence six years ago. Professor Stubbs has secured a cane specially adapted for cultivation in the South, and one that will increase the proportionate sugar output for the acreage planted.

There are now two varieties of cane derived from the original Trinidad species that will yield 38 tons to the acre and 16 per cent of sugar to the juice, whereas the cane heretofore in use yields from 30 to 35 tons to the acre and 12 per cent of sugar to the juice.

The new cane is deep rooted and strong. The Louisiana Experiment Station has sufficient cane to supply the sugar planters of the State for planting purposes, and will begin to supply other parts of the United States, as well as stations in Cuba and Hawaii.

FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES.

In pursuance of the Government policy to develop the forest resources of the Philippine Islands, it is reported that the New York State College of Forestry has been requested by the Forestry Bureau at Manila to furnish six competent assistants to aid in the work at that point. It is the intention of the Bureau officials to thoroughly reorganize the system of administration for the purpose of developing the 20,000,000 acres of public forest domain, which now supply a revenue of $100,000 annually. This revenue may, in the opinion of

Captain AHERN, in charge of the work, be greatly increased under competent foresters. Further aid in the matter is to be obtained by sending graduates from native colleges in the Philippines to take a special course of forestry at Cornell University.

RESOURCES OF ALASKA.

There seems to be a general impression that the resources of the Territory of Alaska are limited to gold production, but according to Col. P. H. RAY, of the United States Army, this portion of the United States offers occasion for as many varieties of industrial activity as are found elsewhere in the Republic. In an address before the Alaska Geographical Society of Seattle, Washington, Colonel RAY expressed the opinion that the resources of Alaska, aside from the gold obtained, are greater than those of the Pacific coast States, exception being made only in the matter of timber. In most all parts of the Yukon Valley oats, wheat, and all kinds of grain can be grown. He further reports that to his personal knowledge 1,400 bushels of potatoes have been produced on 4 acres of ground, while timothy grows wild to a height of 4 feet. In fisheries Alaska offers boundless opportunities, their value being greater than those of the North Sea and Newfoundland combined. In his reports to the War Department Colonel RAY has recommended that special inducements be offered to Scandinavians to emigrate thither, the people of that race being more familiar with the conditions surrounding life in that latitude. The climate of Alaska is said to be no more rigorous than on the great plains of Wyoming, Montana, and some parts of Nevada.

THE PRICE OF LABOR.

According to a statement made by Hon. CARROLL D. WRIGHT, Commissioner of Labor, the wages now paid to workingmen throughout the United States are relatively higher than at any previous period in the history of the country. This statement was based on an investigation recently made by the Commissioner, and which included a thorough canvass of the conditions in the representative industrial establishments of the country. It was found that the relative rate of wages for each year from 1890 to 1900 is as follows: 1891, 100; 1892, 100.30; 1893, 99.32; 1894, 98.06; 1895, 97.88; 1896, 97.93; 1897, 98.96; 1898, 98.79; 1899, 101.54; and 1900, 103.43. The data forming the basis of this report was collected directly from the pay rolls of establishments located in all sections of the Republic, and all the figures given relate to the manufacturing industries (mining excepted), the information relative to steam railroads and street railroads having been excluded from the summary.

NEW USE FOR SPANISH MOSS.

Professor STOCKBRIDGE, of the Florida experiment station of the United States Agricultural Department, reports the fact of a successful application of the so-called "Spanish moss" to the filtration of cane syrup, the special condition resulting from its use being the production of a syrup which will not ferment under any conditions. He adds that the system has been employed by many syrup makers in Florida and Georgia, and in no case has it been attended with failure.

LATIN-AMERICAN PRESS AT BUFFALO.

In a communication addressed to the Bureau of the American Republics by Mr. MARK BENNETT, superintendent of the press department of the Buffalo Pan-American Exposition, it is stated that the Latin-American press section of his department is in charge of Mr. JOHN VAVASOUR NOEL, to whom all communications from the Latin-American press should be addressed.

NEW QUICKSILVER MINES.

Shortage in the world's supply of quicksilver has prompted a search for the metal in the State of California, with the result that a number of new claims are being brought in, and the prospect is that there will be a larger output of quicksilver from this State than ever before. San Luis Obispo County has several new mines of a very promising character, and steps are now being taken to open a large mine in Modesto County.

RECOGNITION OF CONSULAR OFFICERS.

The State Department at Washington reports the recognition by the Government of the following consular officers from Latin-America:

From Mexico: AUGUSTIN PINA, Consul at Corpus Christi, Tex.; JOAQUIN DIAZ PRIETO, Consul at Phoenix, Ariz.; LEON VERGAS NAVARRO, Consul at Tucson, Ariz.; EVARISTO BATTLE HERNANDEZ, Consul at Manila, P. I.; MANUEL PANIAGUA Y OLLER, Vice-Consul at San Juan, P. R., and CASPAR WISTAR HAINES, Vice-Consul at Philadelphia, Pa.

From Nicaragua: BENJAMIN VIDUARRE, Consul at New Orleans, La.

From Paraguay: WILLIAM MILL BUTLER, Vice-Consul at Philadelphia, Pa.

From Uruguay: MANUEL PEYPOCH, Consul at Manila, P. I.

Señor DON ARTURO DE BRIGARD has been officially recognized as Consul-General of the Republic of Colombia at New York City.

VENEZUELA.

ASPHALT DEPOSITS.

The reported activity of American capitalists in connection with the Venezuelan asphalt deposits on the shores of Lake Maracaibo has caused a revival of interest in the famous asphalt lake of Trinidad, the most notable existing source of the supply of that material in the world. It is estimated that the annual output of this deposit is at the rate of 80,000 tons, and that there are still 4,500,000 tons in sight, and that the deposit of bitumen is being constantly renewed from the bowels of the earth at the rate of 20,000 tons yearly. The area of this wonderful lake is 114 acres, and recent soundings at its center have shown its depth to be 125 feet in that section. At this point it is semiliquid and bubbling, but elsewhere its surface is so hard that it will support the weight of a man on horseback.

The Maracaibo asphalt deposits were recently sold to an American syndicate, whose representative has been recognized by the Government of Venezuela. Another syndicate, however, is endeavoring to obtain an option on the property, and the "New York Herald" publishes a dispatch from Caracas, October 21, 1900, in which it is stated that at that time there were three American lawyers and five contractors in the city all interested in the same deposit. Among them was MALLET PREVOST, one of the lawyers for Venezuela before the arbitration tribunal in Paris.

The Venezuelan "Herald" of October 8, 1900, contains the decision of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Venezuela, recognizing the validity of the CLEMENTE heirs to valuable asphalt mines situated in the State of Maracaibo, and which were purchased from the King of Spain in 1787. The "Herald" states that the titles declared invalid are those acquired under the MELENDEZ, SUAREZ, and GUZMAN concessions. All of these mines were held, by option, at the disposition of an American attorney.

Title has been granted by the Venezuelan Government to H. RANGEL for an asphalt mine situated in the State of Trujillo; also to Señor JESÚS MARÍA NAVA, covering an asphalt mine in the State of Maracaibo.

RECENT IMPORTANT DECREES.

The "Gaceta Oficial" of October 3, 1900, publishes several important decrees. One of these is in regard to the war tax, and is as follows:

REPEAL OF THE WAR TAX.

"ARTICLE 1. The Executive decree of the 7th of February of the present year, establishing the war tax, is hereby repealed.

"ART. 2. This decree is effective with respect to merchandise imported from the United States at the expiration of ten days from this date; with respect to merchandise from Europe, at the end of twenty days; and with respect to merchandise coming from the West Indies, at the expiration of six days from this date.

"ART. 3. The Minister of Finance and Public Credit is charged with the execution of this decree."

THE TRANSIT TAX.

Another important decree, repealing the transit tax, was duly promulgated October 3, 1900, and is as follows:

"ARTICLE 1. Law XX of the Code of Finance, which establishes the transit tax (*impuesto de tránsito*), is hereby repealed.

"ART. 2. In accordance with section 34 of article 13 of the present Constitution, the President of the Republic shall designate the manner of returning to the States the part of their revenue suppressed by the present law.

"ART. 3. This decree shall take effect:

"With respect to native products, on the day it becomes known to the collectors of the now extinct transit tax; on merchandise imported from the United States, at the expiration of ten days from the date of this decree; on merchandise imported from Europe, twenty days from this date; on merchandise imported from the West Indies, six days from the same date.

"ART. 4. The Minister of Finance and Public Credit is charged with the execution of this decree."

OFFICERS OF THE PORT

Under date of October 3, 1900, there was promulgated an important decree, a translation of which is as follows:

"ARTICLE 1. At all the ports of the Republic open to the importation of foreign merchandise and for exportation, besides the maritime customs there shall be a maritime officer charged to collect the territorial contribution established by the present law, with the powers and duties therein described.

"The territorial officers of Juan Griego, San Antonio del Táchira, San Carlos de Río Negro, San Fernando de Atabapo, Porlamar, and Caño Colorado shall be governed respectively by the maritime or fluvial custom-house.

"ART. 2. The personnel of the territorial offices shall consist of a cashier and a bookkeeper, who shall receive the salary assigned them in the budget; but the staff of La Guayra, Puerto Cabello, Maracaibo, and Carúpano shall have, in addition, the assistance of a clerk.

"ART. 3. The territorial contributions shall be collected in the territorial offices as follows:

"*No. 1. Foreign merchandise.*—Foreign merchandise, subject to the payment of import duties, shall pay as territorial contribution 12½ per cent, calculated upon what the importer pays thereon into the maritime customs.

"The personal baggage of passengers and immigrants, articles imported in conformity with the law for the use of the President of the Republic, members of his cabinet, foreign Ministers, and diplomatic representatives on their return to the country, and articles which by special contracts or other legal cause enjoy the right of free importation.

"*No. 2. National products.*—National products shall be divided into eight classes, as follows:

"The first class shall pay 50 *bolivars* ($9.65) per kilogram, and in this class is included gold.

"The second class shall pay 50 *bolivars* ($9.65) per kilogram. This class includes heron plumes, pearls, precious stones, and metals, except gold.

"The third class shall pay 25 *centimes* of a *bolivar* (4.8 cents) per kilogram. This class covers caoutchouc and sarrapia.

"The fourth class shall pay 15 *centimes* of a *bolivar* (2.9 cents) per kilogram. This class includes skins or untanned hides, the hides of neat cattle being excepted.

"The fifth class shall pay 10 *centimes* of a *bolivar* (1.93 cents) per kilogram. This classification includes cacao, purgo, copaiba, and hides (cattle).

"The sixth class shall pay 7 *centimes* of a *bolivar* (1.35 cents) per kilogram, and in this class is included cotton, indigo, coffee, and Peruvian bark.

"The seventh class shall pay 4 *centimes* of a *bolivar* (0.007 cents) per kilogram, and this class includes sea salt and Indian barley.

"The eighth is exempt from territorial contributions, and includes all the other national products that are not taxed in the foregoing classification.

"ART. 4. For the payment of the territorial contribution on foreign merchandise the merchant shall repair to the territorial office with a list of the import duties furnished him by the maritime custom-house, he previously having complied with the conditions of section 2, chapter 8, Law XVI of the Financial Code.

"ART. 5. The territorial officers shall make the collection of the territorial contribution according to the lists issued by the maritime customs, and shall keep them as vouchers for their account, and shall mark at the foot thereof the amount collected, which they shall distribute as follows: Sixty per cent for the State and 40 per cent for the

national revenue; and they shall give to the interested party a certificate or voucher of payment, on which shall appear the name of the importer, that of the ship and its captain, the number of the manifest marked on the list, the date of the latter, the amount of maritime duties, the number of kilograms marked on the list, the amount of territorial contribution which the territorial officer has received, and the distribution which it has made thereof. This certificate shall serve the importer as voucher of payment to the maritime customs instead of the list, which must be left in the territorial office.

* * * * * * *

"ART. 7. The present law shall be included in the Financial Code, under the number of the rules and regulations of the abolished overland customs.

"ART. 8. The Minister of Finance and Public Credit is charged with the execution of this decree."

TRADE OF LA GUAYRA.

During the month of July, 1900, the importations into the Republic of Venezuela, through the port of La Guayra, consisted of 51,846 packages, weighing 5,694,230 kilograms, valued at 2,857,339.38 *bolivars*. The following table shows the movement of these imports in detail:

Countries.	Number of packages.	Weight.	Value.
		Kilograms.	*Bolivars.*
United States	20,365	1,882,672	1,186,114.52
France	2,005	122,683	549,581.15
Germany	18,418	827,871	583,280.35
England	699	2,222,300	237,300.91
Holland	4,471	408,658	120,277.25
Italy	582	45,655	55,298.50
Spain	5,303	184,293	124,536.70
Cuba	3	98	1,000.00
Total	51,846	5,694,230	2,857,339.38

The total revenue which the Government derived from these importations was 921,780.32 *bolivars*.

The principal articles imported during the month referred to and the quantity of each were as follows:

Articles.	Weight.	Articles.	Weight.
	Kilograms.		*Kilograms.*
Coal	2,855,547	Lard	176,281
Flour	454,110	Kerosene	146,257
Cement	399,699	Stearine, etc	140,474
Rice	396,471	Cotton goods	121,985
Provisions, liquors, and beer	238,309		

The exports from the port of La Guayra during the month mentioned were 35,727 packages, weighing 1,705,602 kilograms, valued at 1,667,120 *bolivars*. These exports produced the Government a revenue of 173,842 *bolivars* and were shipped to the following countries:

Nations.	Packages.	Weight.	Value.
		Kilograms.	*Bolivars.*
United States	7,126	130,882	135,777
France	25,326	1,309,674	1,392,326
Germany	1,779	84,732	71,964
Holland	268	5,400	3,720
Italy	956	158,093	45,560
Spain	272	16,821	17,773
Total	35,727	1,705,602	1,667,120

The customs duties collected at the port of La Guayra during the month of August, 1900, amounted to 1,161,760 *bolivars*. It is estimated that the customs returns for September, 1900, from all the ports of the Republic will exceed 2,500,000 *bolivars*.

INSTRUCTIONS TO PROVISIONAL GOVERNORS.

The "Gaceta Oficial" of Venezuela (No. 8002) publishes an important decree appointing provisional Governors in the following States: Apure, Barinas, Aragua, Barcelona, Carabobo, Coro, Guárico, Guayana, Lara, Miranda, Maracaibo, Mérida, Sucre, Táchira, Trujillo, and Zamora.

Article II of this decree is as follows: "The Governors mentioned in the present decree shall proceed to organize provisionally the States of their respective jurisdictions in all the branches of the public administration."

Article III refers to the exercise of the authority of the former Governors in levying imposts upon merchandise which pay national taxes while the same are in transit through the different States. The spirit of this article is worthy of commendation, inasmuch as a strict observance of the provisions of the same will tend to greatly promote trade and increase the internal commerce of the Republic. The article says:

"The provisional Governors shall devote special attention, in the States under their authority, so that articles which pay national taxes or which are exempt by law from taxation shall not pay contributions before they have been offered for consumption; that no contributions shall be laid on cattle, goods, or merchandise of any class while in transit to another State; that the consumption of cattle, goods, and products of other States shall not be prohibited, and that their consumption shall not be burdened with heavier taxes than those that are assessable in their several localities."

The foregoing decree went into effect on August 11, 1900. This

law has been well received by the Venezuelan people, and already its beneficent results may be seen in the gradually increasing trade between the different States of the Union.

COFFEE TRADE WITH FRANCE.

The "Venezuelan Herald," of Caracas, in its issue of September 23, 1900, referring to the duty placed by France on coffee shipped to that Republic from countries having no commercial treaty with that nation, predicts that the exports of this article to France from Venezuela will decrease about 33 per cent during the next few months.

This law went into effect on September 1, 1900, and the duty imposed is 300 *francs* per 100 kilograms of coffee imported from countries having no commercial treaty with France and 136 *francs* from countries which have celebrated treaties with the French Republic. Notwithstanding the fact that Venezuela has had no diplomatic relations with France since 1895, about two-thirds of the coffee crop of the Venezuelan Republic ultimately finds its way to the French markets and is consumed in France.

Owing to this condition of affairs it is quite probable that Venezuela will in the future look to the United States as a market for her surplus coffee. Already a vast quantity of its agricultural products is sent to the United States, and none of its exports are more highly prized and more eagerly sought after by the American people than its coffee, some grades of which are delicately flavored and are truly delicious—probably unexcelled in general desirability by the coffee of any other country in the world.

REPEAL OF NAVIGATION DECREE.

The "Gaceta Oficial," official organ of the Government of Venezuela, published at Caracas, in its number 8048, dated October 5, 1900, promulgated the following important decree:

"ARTICLE 1. The decree of the 1st of July, 1893, which prohibited the free navigation of the Macareo, Pedernales, and other navigable channels of the Orinoco River, is hereby repealed.

"ART. 2. The Minister of Interior Relations is charged with the execution of this decree."

BOUNDARY COMMISSIONERS.

The "Venezuelan Herald" of October 22, 1900, states that "the Venezuelan Government has just named commissioners to act in accordance with the English Commission for demarcation of the new frontier line with the colony of British Guiana. This is the last act of the Paris Conference of October 30, 1899."

The Commission is composed of the following gentlemen: Chief

engineer, Señor FELIPE AGUERREVERE; first assistant engineer, Señor Don SANTIAGO AGUERREVERE; second assistant engineer, Señor Don ABRAHAM TIRADO; third assistant engineer, Señor Don RAMON BAEZ, Jr.; attorney, Señor Don FRANCISCO ARROYO PAREJO.

PRINCIPAL PRODUCTS.

Agriculture and stock raising, which are the principal sources of Venezuela's wealth, are to-day in a very prosperous condition, says a recent French publication.

Venezuela abounds in agricultural and grazing lands suitable to colonization; it possesses gold and copper mines under exploitation, oil wells, asphalte deposits, which are being developed; silver and iron mines; forests of timber; textile plants, such as henequen, *piassava*, *cocuiza*, etc. It supplies the foreign markets with coffee, sugar, tobacco, cotton, and cocoa, recognized as equal to the best in the world; hides, wool, etc.

The Republic's trade in live stock with the West Indies, principally Cuba and Porto Rico, is very important. Fruits are exported to the United States.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

A recent report of the Bank of Venezuela, published in the "Venezuelan Herald," of Caracas, shows that institution to be in a flourishing condition and with exceedingly good prospects for a long and continued period of unexampled prosperity. The profits of this bank during the last six months, after setting aside 10 per cent for the reserve fund, amounted to a gain of over 5 per cent on the nominal capital and about 9 per cent on the paid-up capital.

The "Venezuela Herald" of September 23, 1900, states that a silver and gold mine has been denounced in the municipality of Alta Gracia, State of Zulia, under the name of "Santa Teresa." The ore is reported to be of good grade but highly silicious.

The Seminary of Caracas is to be reestablished. Presidential decree of September 28, 1900, provides for the opening and maintenance of this important educational institution.

Messrs. M. C. JACKSON, JOHN MCDONOUGH, and A. JOHN CLARK, of Arapahoe County, Colorado, have obtained a patent covering their improved attachment for use on rock drills, etc.

A gold mine has been denounced by Mr. F. J. BARROSO, of Maracaibo. The mine is situated in the municipality of Lugunillos, State of Maracaibo.

COAL-DUST BRIQUETTES.

The art of cementing pulverized coal together and molding the paste into blocks for fuel has long been profitably practiced in Europe, and the industry has been developed to large proportions. This has been especially true of continental countries, and coal briquettes are extensively used on the railways of France and Belgium. Large quantities are also shipped to Brazil, the Argentine Republic, and elsewhere in South America, for use on railroads under British control. This fuel is largely employed on ocean liners, and it is reported that the French Government has contracted for a supply of it from England. Two years ago Westphalia alone produced 1,800,000 tons of briquettes, and it is estimated that the combined output of European countries for 1900 will exceed 20,000,000 tons.

In the United States numerous attempts have been made to follow the example of European countries and to utilize the valuable material represented in the piles of waste at the mouths of the coal mines, but until within a very recent period all efforts have proven unsuccessful from either a scientific or a commercial point of view. A coal-briquetting plant in Chicago has, however, apparently solved the problem even more effectually than has been done in Europe.

Theoretically, making briquettes is a simple process, something to hold or "bind" the particles of coal dust together being the principal necessity. On the European side of the Atlantic, cheap pitch, refuse left by coke ovens, is employed and from 8 to 10 per cent of binder is used. Effective binding material is, however, more expensive in the United States and it has hitherto been regarded necessary to use 12 or 15 per cent in order to cement the briquette firmly. The plan which has finally been adopted in the United States is to introduce a small quantity of lime and thus make possible a reduction in the amount of pitch required. According to the Chicago process, only 5 per cent of pitch is put into the compound, and the proportion of lime is 2 per cent. The latter material has been used extensively to consolidate pulverized metallic ores into briquettes and gives very satisfactory results. The use of lime, as here indicated, makes a harder briquette and thus prevents immediate disintegration when the fuel begins to burn, while the wear and tear of transportation is also successfully resisted. There is said to be less waste with it than with anthracite coal, and another advantage claimed for the new-process briquettes is that the diminished percentage of pitch practically eliminates smoke during combustion. In both respects the United States article appears to be superior to that of any other country and is, at the same time, cheap enough to yield a profit to the producer.

The present output of the press is about 200 tons a day, equivalent to 60,000 tons a year, though the plant has been in operation but a few months. It is estimated that Europe makes about 1 ton of briquettes for every ton of coal mined, and has been engaged in the industry for many years, while the United States, on the other hand, as yet only turns out 1 ton of briquettes to every 3,000 or 3,500 tons of coal mined. A full description of the process used in the Chicago plant is contained in the "New York Tribune" of October 7, 1900.

COPPER IN LATIN AMERICA.

In its issue for October 27, 1900, "The Mining Journal, Railway and Commercial Gazette" of London, England, publishes a paper treating of the "Sources of Copper Supply". The opinion is advanced that the conditions for copper mining are among the most favorable on record, and various countries and localities in which the industry might be extended and enlarged are referred to.

In discussing the Peruvian copper situation, it is stated that the increase in receipts of copper from that Republic were, in the current year, mainly from the Cerro de Pasco district, and the shipments to Liverpool and South Wales, for the nine months ending with September, are given as 6,354 tons, as compared with 3,653 tons in the same period of last year; 1,834 tons in 1898, and 681 tons in 1897. Mexico is also reported to be increasing its output, British receipts having almost doubled since 1898. The latter Republic is, however, looked to for still greater development, the great mineral belt of the "Mother Range" (Sierra Madre) showing innumerable copper deposits such as the mines of Chihuahua, Sonora, Sinaloa, Jalisco, Michoacan, Zacatecas, Queretero, etc. The mineral region of the eastern district includes Zomelhuacan, in the State of Vera Cruz, where argentiferous copper, lead, and iron are mined. In Lower California, near San José and Cape San Lucas, are cupriferous deposits as also in the municipalities of La Paz, El Triunfo, San Antonio, and others. Loreto, San Luis, Comandu and Mulege, and the northern parts of the peninsula are rich in copper.

A feature of the recent statistics is the increased copper advices from Chile, the only difficulty in the way of the successful exploitation of these mines being the distance from fuel. The island of Cuba is reported as excessively rich in this mineral, the Province of Santiago alone containing 53 copper mines, covering an area of 1,160 hectares.

THE SHIPPING OF THE WORLD.

The mercantile marine of the world, according to "LLOYD's Register," is represented by 28,422 vessels, having a tonnage of 29,043,728. Of this aggregate, Great Britain has 10,838 vessels and a tonnage of 14,261,254. Next to the British Empire ranks the United States, with 3,135 vessels and a total tonnage of 2,750,271. Germany has 1,710 vessels with a tonnage of 2,650,033. Following comes Norway with 2,380 vessels with a tonnage of 1,640,812; France, with 1,214 vessels, with a tonnage of 983,655; Sweden, with a greater number of vessels than France (1,433), but as they are smaller craft their total tonnage is only 637,272. Japan has 1,066 vessels, tonnage, 574,557; Holland, 406 vessels, tonnage, 530,277; Denmark, 802 vessels, tonnage, 416,084. Greece, Brazil, Belgium, Portugal, and Chile all have a tonnage in excess of 100,000. The steam tonnage of the British merchant navy is superior to that of all other countries combined, but nearly half the tonnage of the United States is made up of sailing vessels.

LLOYD's quarterly returns, issued early in October, 1900, demonstrate the enormous impetus given to shipbuilding in the United States, partly as the result of the cheapness of material, partly owing to a large demand for tonnage, but to a still greater degree the result of the marketing of American coal abroad, which is regarded as one of the most remarkable economic evolutions of the time.

According to the authority cited, the United States had, next to Great Britain, the largest amount of tonnage under construction at the end of the last quarter. The total for merchant ships—154,712 tons—is 36,000 tons more than France, and 42,000 tons more than Germany had at the same date. Hitherto the vessels built on the Great Lakes have not been usually taken into account when reviewing the world's ocean tonnage. They can not, however, be ignored in the future, as the deepening of the Canadian canals and the lengthening of the locks will enable large-sized vessels of moderate draft to pass easily into the St. Lawrence and thence out to sea. An example of the eligibility of vessels for Lake service for classification under the head of "ocean-going" vessels was demonstrated during the month of October, when four steel cargo boats, each of 3,000 tons burden, passed down the connecting channels from Lake Erie to New York for service in the Atlantic coasting trade. At Cleveland and Detroit ten or more large ocean steamers are to be built during the winter, and at Chicago and other Lake ports contracts for various types of cargo boats for use on the high seas have been entered into.

The shipyards on the Atlantic seaboard have also taken on a new lease of life, and, as noted in the MONTHLY BULLETIN for October, large number of "tramp" steamers are being constructed to compete

with British and other vessels in all parts of the world. A new shipyard is just being completed at New London, Conn., and at this point it is intended to build a fleet of steamers for regular service between the Pacific coast and the Far East, in connection with the Great Northern and Northern Pacific railroads, and with the lake steamers of the Great Northern Company. At another yard, near Boston, the construction of the largest vessel for the United States Navy built in New England since the days of the wooden clippers has just been commenced. It is to be a cruiser of 3,200 tons displacement. Farther south, at Richmond, Va., a yard hitherto accustomed only to small craft has just been enlarged and equipped for the construction of the largest war ships, while on the Pacific coast preparations are being made for the establishment of a plant to compete with the Union Iron Works for work for the United States Navy. A New York paper recently announced that the New York Central Railroad Company is contracting to establish a regular service of ocean-going steamers in connection with its railway system, with a harbor terminus at Weehawken, opposite New York. It is also reported that the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company is about to acquire more vessels for the trans-Atlantic service.

Three protected cruisers, whose construction was authorized in the last session of Congress, are to be allotted to private builders during the course of a few weeks, each to have a displacement of 9,000 tons and to cost about $2,500,000. At the beginning of the present year 49 war vessels were being built in the United States for the Federal Navy. At the same time a cruiser of 6,500 tons and a battle ship of 12,700 tons were in the course of construction for the Russian navy. Thus the total of war ships "under construction" was approximately 136,463 tons, which, taken in conjunction with the indicated tonnage for merchant ships, shows a very considerable expansion of marine interests.

THE CROSS BREEDING OF WHEAT.

The favorable results of the series of experiments made by officers of the Agricultural Department in the cross breeding of wheat have inclined scientists to believe that with proper care and by carefully observing principles in fertilizing the soil, rotating the crops, and selecting the variety most suited to the locality the yield of wheat in the United States, with the present acreage, will be increased to 900,000,000 bushels a year, while the net annual increase of the world's output will be nearly 2,000,000,000 bushels.

During the last ten years a number of scientists have been carefully studying the problem of creating, by artificial means, new varieties of

wheat which promised to give larger yields, better and stronger grains, and possessed of more highly nutritious properties. The experiments which have been carried on at different agricultural stations have been based upon the theory of the survival of the fittest. From a single grain of wheat, produced by cross breeding in 1892, it is stated that enough seed accumulated through successive harvests to supply planting seed for a 5-acre tract of land in 1898. The field yielded a fine harvest of excellent wheat, the quality of which far surpassed all expectations. The method followed is described by "Bradstreet's" as one of great care, the seeds being planted one by one and being well protected from injurious influences. During the period of their development the plants are watched, and all weak and unpromising plants removed, thus insuring the harvesting of the best and strongest heads only. Tests to determine the weight, size, and chemical combination of the new wheat are employed, and only such as is of the right color, specific gravity, and nourishing properties is retained for the next planting.

Every effort is made to maintain the normal conditions of production, as the wheat is destined for distribution on farms in different parts of the country where it will be surrounded by the same natural conditions attending the growth of other wheat.

Some of the wheat grown by the stations making the experiment of cross breeding has yielded 42 bushels to the acre, and at no time did the average fall as low as the general farm average of 15 bushels to the acre. The experiments have not been confined to one locality; some was sown in different parts of Minnesota, while various localities in North Dakota were also used for the purpose.

PAPER FOR LATIN AMERICA.

Advices indicate the absence of favorable paper-stock conditions in various countries of Latin America, demonstrating that the field in question does not receive the attention it merits at the hands of United States exporters. In the city of Monterey, Mexico, the paper famine recently became so great that there was serious doubt whether the supplies on hand would permit of the continuous issue of newspapers, pending the arrival of expected shipments. It is further reported from Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic, that a fine opportunity exists there for the manufacture and sale of paper of all kinds. During the early part of October, shipments of paper from the port of New York, during one week, amounted in value to $3,000, which is far above the average of Argentine orders. There is but one paper factory in the country, and though it runs day and night it is unable to meet the demands made upon it, and local journals urge the establishment of

more mills, as the reasonable outcome would be cheaper and better material. The Argentine Republic has an inexhaustible supply of material for the making of wood pulp for paper at a cost which can compete with any other part of the world.

Treasury statistics for the month of September show that the United States sold more paper in foreign lands during that month than was ever before exported in a similar period, the export value being $652,149 as compared with $458,896 in the same month of 1899. The record for the period of nine months ending September is also very favorable, being valued at $5,155,915 for 1900 as against $4,246,311 for 1899, a gain of nearly 22 per cent. It is estimated that the value for the entire calendar year will equal $6,000,000. During the week ending November 3, 1900, paper to the value of $2,009 was sent to the port of Callao, and to Mexican ports $1,673, while more than $80,000 worth went to Australia, the total shipments for the week being valued at $103,183.

FOREIGN NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST.

A HANGING RAILWAY IN GERMANY.

A novelty in elevated railroads has found its application in Germany, where the towns of Vohwinkel, Eberfeld, and Barmen are connected by a suspended railway, which is the first of its kind ever put into operation. The distance between the points of terminus is a little over 8 miles, and the track being constructed above the River Wupper, the carriages travel literally hanging from a single rail running exactly above the center line of the roof. The railroad itself consists of two distinct lines—for up and down traffic—and is rigidly held by cross-girder work. The whole superstructure is supported at a suitable height above the travel of road and river by A and O shaped trestles, the ends of which rest in masonry foundations at either side of the way. The designed maximum speed of the railway is only 36 miles an hour, and there are 19 stations throughout its extent. Inclusive of stoppages, twenty minutes will be required to make the trip. Building was commenced in the spring of 1898.

SUBSTITUTE FOR RUBBER.

The increasing demand for rubber has drawn attention to the advantages of cultivating "gutta," an important vegetable product of the Island of Java and of several adjacent islands. The "Straits Budget" states gutta leaves have been freely resorted to in order to eke out the market supplies of rubber, consequently the extraction of this article from the fresh leaves of the gutta tree has become an important branch

of industry. For the purpose of developing the latter a company has been formed at Batavia, under the title of the Borneo Gutta-Percha Company, with the intention of buying up and working a factory at Miliouw, on the Kapuas River, in West Netherlands, Borneo. This factory is equipped for the extraction of gutta from the fresh leaves by a process of French invention.

YERBA MATE IN FRANCE AND GERMANY.

It is reported that a shipment of yerba maté (Paraguay tea) has been ordered by the French Government for the use of the colonial troops, as it is thought that the maté may prove a valuable restorative for soldiers in active service. Germany is also said to be making an experimental application of this substitute for tea and coffee, which is claimed to have superior stomachic qualities. Analysis shows that yerba maté contains important proportions of caffeine and cafetannic acid.

THE METRIC SYSTEM IN RUSSIA.

It is probable that the metric system will be introduced before long in Russia. The bill which has been prepared to this effect by the Minister of Finance has received the approbation of the State Council, with the understanding that the university and the various scientific societies will give their assistance in the verification of the weights and measures necessary for commercial use. The details have been nearly all decided upon and will be submitted to the Council in the near future.

INDIAN COFFEE TRADE.

A dispatch from Bombay, dated October 3, 1900, states that the Indian coffee trade with France is threatened with extinction by the new French duty on colonial products. According to this authority India annually exports 10,000,000 pounds of coffee to France, and by the provisions of the new tariff will have to pay twice the duty levied on Brazilian coffee. In that event India's coffee trade with France will suffer greatly, while the Brazilian trade will be increased.

PRESERVED COCOANUT MILK.

The Colonial Museum at Haarlem, in its recent annual report, at the request of an old planter, has raised the question whether a market could be created for preserved cocoanut milk. As thousands of tons of dried cocoanut (copra) are annually exported, great quantities of nutritious milk have to be thrown away because there is no method of preserving what would otherwise prove to be a refreshing beverage. It has been suggested that by adding a slight quantity of silicic acid and putting the milk in air-tight bottles it would retain the qualities so much appreciated in countries where the cocoanut is produced.

WEATHER BUREAU IN GERMANY.

In a recent report the United States Consul at Frankfort, Germany, says that the agriculturists of that country have expressed a wish to have a meteorological signal service established and that the German Government is inclined to comply with their request. With this end in view, a meeting of Government officials and meteorological and agricultural authorities is soon to take place at Hamburg. At that time they will discuss the advisability of the introduction of a telegraphic service in behalf of agricultural interests.

NEW USE FOR LIQUID AIR.

Under date of August 9, 1900, the Consul-General of the United States at Frankfort, Germany, reports to the State Department at Washington that an engineer in Germany has designed a furnace with an ingenious application of liquid air. The furnace is intended to burn low-class fuels, such as lignite and peat. The combustion is intensified by burning a gaseous mixture obtained by evaporating liquid air in a fire. Nitrogen is first set free, after which there is left a gas containing at least 50 per cent of oxygen. If practicable, this invention is an important one, as the bars of gaseous mixture referred to are said to cost 81 cents per 1,000 cubic feet.

TRADE OPPORTUNITIES IN LATIN AMERICA.

Vice-Consul HARRISON writes to the Department of State from Asunción that hats are imported into Paraguay from England, France, Buenos Ayres, and Montevideo. The selling prices are twice as high as in the United States for the same class of goods. A derby hat which costs about $2 in the United States sells in Paraguay for $4 and sometimes $5. Soft hats are very much in demand and sell at even greater profits. The hats which have the largest sale are of good, but not of the best, quality.

The Chihuahua and Pacific Railroad, at Chihuahua, Mexico, is to spend upward of $40,000 in the equipment of its shops. The New York offices of this road are at No. 80 Broadway.

Dr. OLYMPIO DE ASSIS, at Minas-Geraes, Brazil, states that in his town some electric railway lines are to be constructed, and he is desirous that manufacturers of electrical apparatus and other kinds of street-railway material send him price lists, catalogues, and any other information they may care to give.

The Mexico Jupiter Steel Company, of Tampico, Mexico, and Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, recently incorporated with a capital of $500,000, is to soon commence the erection of its plant at Tampico. The com-

pany is making preparations to send out for bids for its many requirements.

An engineering firm of New York City has received an inquiry from Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic, for fifteen medium-sized dynamos, two large engines, and one water-tube boiler, as well as a considerable quantity of transmitting machinery, for an industrial shop to be erected in the neighborhood of the Argentine capital. In all it is expected, according to reports, that some $80,000 will be spent in the United States for the undertaking.

The United States Consul at Demerara sends to the Department of State at Washington, for the consideration of those who seek a profitable investment, he says, as well as those in whose power it may be to encourage such investment, a feasible railway route from the Atlantic seaboard in British Guiana to the capital of the State of Amazonas, in Brazil.

The Minister of Public Works of Nicaragua has advertised for bids for the construction of a narrow-gauge (3½ feet wide) railroad, about 55 miles long, from the city of Managua, around the south side of Lake Managua, to a station on the Government's railroad near to and west of Lake Managua. The intention is to connect by railroad the eastern and western divisions of the National Railroad, thus avoiding the crossing of Lake Managua on steamboats and giving an all-rail transportation between the city of Grenada, on Lake Nicaragua, and the port of Corinto, on the Pacific Ocean.

At Corrientes, Argentine Republic, the Municipal Council is considering a proposal to erect electric power works. As most of the electrical undertakings in that Republic use a great deal of American-made machinery and material, the contract for the Corrientes plant may be secured by some of the United States electrical engineering firms if the proper efforts are made. The outlook in the Argentine Republic for other machinery seems to be bright. Each month there appear to be inquiries for tools and machinery. The growth of trade in railroad supplies and manufactured iron and steel, from exporters' point of view, is highly satisfactory. The shipments of agricultural implements to Argentine ports from the United States are expected to continue large for at least two months longer.

The new harbor works at Rosario, Argentine Republic, are to be let next spring. Bids must be sent to the Argentine Legation in London not later than April 10, 1901, or to the Minister of Public Works, at Buenos Ayres, not later than May 10, 1901. Mr. E. L. Corthell, civil engineer, of 27 Pine street, New York, and care of Eddy, Hall & Co., No. 399 Reconquista street, Buenos Ayres, is the chief engineer.

An occasional correspondent of the "Engineering News" in the City of Mexico sends an interesting communication on various enterprises

in that country, which shows to what extent even foreign contractors are using material from the United States. The Tehuantepec National Railway is now being built by S. Pearson & Sons, Limited, 10 Victoria street, London, England. These contractors are preparing same for the vast transcontinental traffic which they anticipate as soon as the terminal ports are completed. A very considerable length of the road is being laid with 80-pound steel rails, American standard section. These have been obtained from the Carnegie Steel Company, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. They are using creosoted pine ties imported from the Southern States, 100,000 of which have already been contracted for; 200,000 California redwood ties have been contracted for from San Francisco, and 150 gondolas of 60,000 pound capacity are now being delivered by the South Baltimore Car Company, Baltimore, Maryland. The contractors are now in the market for fifty 60,000-pound-capacity box cars, the order for which has not yet been placed. They have recently received three passenger locomotives from the Pittsburg Locomotive Company, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and, in fact, most of the material for this railway has been supplied from the States.

With reference to the port of Salina Cruz, the correspondent says that Pearson & Sons are developing the quarries and have already made a very good start on the breakwater. They hope that this breakwater, about 1,000 meters long, in a depth of about 50 feet of water, will be finished within three years. A creosoted timber pier is being constructed in the port of Salina Cruz for temporary facilities until the permanent work is completed. At Coatzacoalcos they expect to commence the retaining walls within the next few weeks, and by the time they are completed it is hoped to have 33 feet of water on the bar. With reference to Veracruz Railways Company, Limited, the writer adds that it is expected that it will be in the market for rolling stock for the railway within the next few months; also the electrical equipment for the tramways in the city of Veracruz. The difficulty with Americans securing work in Mexico is that unless they are acquainted with the language the obstacles they have to overcome do not allow them to do profitable work unless they have been in the country for a considerable time and are willing to become subcontractors. For further information about the awarding of contracts, etc., address John B. Body, general manager Tehuantepec National Railway, and managing director Veracruz Railways Company, Limited, Coatzacoalcos, Mexico.

Important municipal improvements are soon to be undertaken at Parral, the second largest city in the State of Chihuahua, Mexico. These improvements include the building of a complete waterworks system and a sewer system. Concessions for these works have been obtained from the municipal and State Governments.

The construction of railroads in Ecuador is responsible for the num-

ber of orders arriving at New York for material. The steamer *Capac* recently took upwards of $30,000 worth of truck material and other railroad supplies. Pending orders to be placed in the New York market, it is said, will reach to considerably more.

The River Plate Electric Light and Traction Company, at Rosario, Argentine Republic, has prepared plans for its installation in accordance with the decision of the Arbitration Court. The work will cost $475,000. The actual system of alternating current is to be changed to continuous current. All the mains in the central streets will be underground. Quantities of new machinery and material will be required by the company for the change.

The "Moniteur Officiel," of October 11, states that a national company has recently been formed in Peru for the irrigation of a vast plain situated south of Lima near the coast, with which it is connected by a railway. This plain is known under the name of Pampa de Noco. Bids for the execution of this contract will soon be called for.

Plans for the canalization of the city of Callao, port of Lima, as well as for the construction of a large tunnel for the exploitation of the mineral wealth of the region of Cerro de Pasco, are also being studied.

TRADE WITH SPANISH AMERICA.

The Acting Consul-General of Mexico at New York advises that the imports from Mexico through that port during the month of September last were as follows: Henequen, 14,288 bales; coffee, 3,638 sacks; hides, 3,201 bundles; hides, loose, 6,457; ixtle fiber, 1,358 bales; goatskins, 235 bundles; deerskins, 223 bundles; rubber, 76 bales; tobacco, leaf, 1,912 bales; cigars, 262 boxes; broom root, 2,983 bales; chicle gum, 669 bales; fustic, 2,727 pieces; Tecali marble, 342 pieces; hair, 16 bales; lead bullion, 51,445 bars; metals, 453 boxes; ores, 67,050 sacks; sarsaparilla, 139 packages; vanilla, 27 boxes; alligator skins, 125; heron plumes, 5 boxes; honey, 798 barrels; cedar, 3,399 logs; mahogany, 1,495 logs; jalap, 5 sacks; copper, 6,878 bars. During the same month 15 ships, carrying 133,905 packages, were cleared, and 17 ships, bringing 176,861 packages, were entered.

The Consul-General of Venezuela at New York reports that during the month of September, 1900, there were exported from that port to Venezuela, 59,200 packages, weighing 3,173,302 kilograms, valued at $309,667.51. These figures show an increase in the value of exportations, as compared with the same month of the previous year, of $155,269.42.

The Mexican Consul at San Francisco, California, announces that during the month of September, 1900, the total exports of American

merchandise through that port to Mexico amounted to $164,152. In addition to this amount there were shipped from San Francisco to Mexican ports merchandise of foreign origin—such as rice, spices, silks, etc.—valued at $2,789. The shipments of Mexican dollars to Hongkong during the month amounted to $1,295,996.

The principal importations, together with their values, were as follows: Argentiferous ores, $45,512; gold bullion, $3,117; gold coin, $2,700; Mexican dollars, $119,000; silver bullion, $171,614; sundry articles, consisting of hides, coffee, shells, fish, precious woods, etc., $8,099. Total, $350,039.

Reports received from the Consul-General of Venezuela at New York show that during the month of October, 1900, the exports from that city to the Republic of Venezuela consisted of 47,165 packages weighing 2,718,114 kilograms, valued at $455,735.39. The increase, as compared with the same month of the previous year, amounted to $295,861.47.

BOOK NOTICES.

Books and pamphlets sent to the Bureau of the American Republics, and containing subject-matter bearing upon the countries of the International Union of American Republics, will be treated under this caption in the Monthly Bulletin.

The last edition of the classic work compiled by Señor Don ANDRÉS SANSÓN entitled, Zootécnica ó "Economía del Ganado" (Stock Rasing, or the Economy of Live Stock), has been translated into Spanish by Señor Dr. EMILIO D. CABRAL, of Buenos Ayres. There has been a considerable demand for this famous work in the Latin-American Republics, and Dr. CABRAL has performed a service of inestimable value to the stock-raising industry of Spanish America by supplying in so convenient and intelligent a manner such a valuable translation of this celebrated publication.

For a number of years there has been a growing interest manifested in South America, and especially in the Argentine Republic with respect to the subject of scientific stock raising, and numerous inquiries have been addressed to the various stock journals and agricultural newspapers of that country asking for works upon this important industry. So great has been the demand for this class of literature that Argentine scientists have felt the necessity of supplying it, and, indeed, there has just been edited an important book by the celebrated agricultural writer Señor Don ROBERTO CAMPOLIETI, a well-known resident of the South American metropolis, covering in an extensive, detailed, and systematic manner this entire subject in all its branches. This publication bears the title of "Los Problemas de la Ganadería Argentina" (Argentine Live-stock Problems), and is an exceedingly

useful and interesting treatise upon the subject of stock raising and kindred industries in the Argentine Republic.

A careful examination of the book shows it to have been prepared with great care by a thoroughly competent and practical person entirely familiar with the diverse and various operations of stock raising in their most complex and difficults forms. The language is simple, clear, concise, and explicit, entirely free from ambiguity, and within the comprehension of everyone. In examining the book, page by page, it is at once seen that it is especially illustrative of the actual methods at present employed in the Argentine Republic, and topic after topic is treated and handled in a masterful way.

The book is divided into three parts: (1) The Economy of the Pasture; (2) Utilization of Animal Products, and (3) Economic Considerations. The first division is an extensive dissertation upon the alimentative properties of the highly nutritious grasses of the fertile pasture or prairie lands of the Argentine plains as a necessary factor in the raising of certain kinds of stock, such as cattle, sheep, etc., on a large scale. Valuable suggestions are given, deduced from actual experience and careful observation, and facts and figures are stated to show the importance of the industry and to what an almost illimitable extent it may be carried. Passing over the prospective and speculative future of the cattle industry of the nation, the author enters upon the second grand division of his work, and shows in a clear and intelligent manner the relative values and importance of the animal products of the stock-raising industry. He points out how to avoid loss in the different operations of marketing and preparing live stock for sale and shipment, and indicates in unmistakable terms the processes by which all of the animal products may be most advantageously utilized when cattle are slaughtered and not shipped upon the hoof.

The author deserves great credit for the minute, careful, and detailed investigations made in the interests of practical, scientific, and economical stock raising, and his instructions and suggestions if properly observed and put into practice will result in the saving of thousands of dollars annually to hitherto thoughtless and improvident stock growers, and will insure at the same time the handling of live-stock products in a more satisfactory manner. The third division of the book treats of economic considerations, and is full of forcible reasoning and practical suggestions upon the important subject of economy and the avoidance of wasteful methods in the stock-raising industry. The presentation of this branch of the subject and the conclusions arrived at are both logical and significant, while the arguments and illustrations used are appropriate and convincing.

There has just issued from the official press of the Argentine Government, at Buenos Ayres, an important historical publication entitled "Guerra de la Independencia" (War of Independence). This work has

been compiled from the official files and documents, which are preserved in the archives of the nation relative to the war in which the Argentine Republic achieved its independence. The Director-General of the National Archives, Señor Don AGUSTÍN PARDO, at the time of proposing the publication of this book to the Department of Justice, made the following pertinent observations: "There exist in these national archives the originals—a large number of which have never been published, and are consequently unknown to the majority of the people—of the detailed dispatches and complementary reports, describing the engagements on land and sea of the Argentine Army and Navy since 1810. This information covers the glorious campaigns for liberty which were waged over a territory out of which have been carved seven South American Republics." These documents are highly interesting to the historian and biographer, and the publication of their contents in such a well-arranged and in so systematic a manner places much valuable information within easy reach of the public. The book is worthy of the careful consideration of the patriot, the statesman, and the student, and will be celebrated in South America as a faithful record of valorous deeds done for the sake of liberty and independence.

The memorial of the Minister of Justice and Public Instruction of Bolivia to the regular Congress of 1900 has been received at the Bureau of the American Republics. A very interesting subject, and one that is discussed at considerable length in this notable document, is the rapid growth of the public school system of the country. Under the beneficent laws and wise protection of the Bolivian Government, the progress made in education, both in the primary and higher grades of instruction, has been phenomenal. The public men of Bolivia realize the importance of giving to every child within the domain of the State the freest and most ample opportunities of securing a common school education, and have spared neither time nor money in making this condition not a mere possibility but an actual fact—something already accomplished; and, while their interest has been unceasing in the cause of primary instruction, their zeal has not been diminished or impaired in their devotion to the needs of higher education. Money has been appropriated, colleges founded, and everything that legislation could accomplish with respect to the encouragement of the arts and sciences has received the hearty support of the representatives of the Bolivian people in the National Congress.

"A Century of American Diplomacy" is the title of a notable work from the pen of the Hon. JOHN W. FOSTER. Mr. FOSTER stands in the first rank of American diplomatists and has represented the United States Government in high official capacities in a number of foreign countries. During the latter part of the administration of President HARRISON he was Secretary of State of the United States, a post that

he filled with great ability and distinction. Mr. FOSTER has occupied the chair of diplomacy in the Columbian University at Washington. His book commences with the Revolutionary epoch and contains the diplomatic history of the country up to 1876. Chapter XII is an able exposition of the Monroe Doctrine, and is worthy of careful study in all the countries of the Western Hemisphere. Mr. FOSTER calls attention to the numerous duties that attach to the Secretary of State in his official capacity, not only politically, but socially, obligations which, properly speaking, do not appertain to the other members of the Cabinet. Mr. FOSTER'S book will doubtless be translated into the different languages spoken in America, as it is eminently worthy of being read in all the countries of the Western Continent.

One of the important articles of the October "Forum," and one which is far-reaching in its application to industrial arts and economic conditions, is the query: "Is a Timber Famine Imminent?" The writer of the paper is Chief Geographer GANNETT, of the United States Geological Survey, who estimates that the present timber stand of the United States would at the present rate of consumption furnish a supply for about fifty years. Mr. GANNETT has reached the conclusion that the average stand of timber upon wooded lands in the eastern part of the country probably does not exceed 1,500 feet to the acre, the area of woodland for that section being a little less than 500,000,000 acres. The total stand of the country he calculates at 1,380,000,000,000 feet. In 1890 the cut was about 25,000,000,000 feet, and since then the annual cut has increased somewhat. Some species, of course, renew themselves more rapidly than others, and some, such as the Southern pine, the redwood, and the red fir, will last longer, but the supply of others, such as the black walnut and the white pine, is reported as being already very nearly exhausted.

Mr. ROSA RODRÍGUEZ, Director of the Botanical Garden of Rio de Janeiro, has recently published a very interesting pamphlet entitled "As Heveas ou Seringueiras" (*Hevea* and *Seringueira* rubbers). This work, which follows a request for information on rubber and elastic gum addressed by the Venezuelan Minister of Foreign Affairs to the Brazilian Government, treats almost entirely of the rubber tree. It describes the origin, the conditions necessary to its development, and the different methods of extraction. In regard to this subject the author protests energetically against the present manner of exploitation which has destroyed the immense forests of *Heveas* of the Amazon and seriously threatens all of the Upper basin if new measures of cultivation and protection are not introduced to stop the damage caused by the greed of the rubber hunters. The author devotes a special chapter to exportation and gives a table of the quantity and value of the rubber exported from the Amazon and Para from 1825 to 1878. In examin-

ing this table it is seen that the price of this product increased from 4½ *milreis* in 1825 to 135 *milreis* in 1899 per *arroba* of 15 kilograms.

In the "Cosmopolitan" for November, Capt. A. W. Butt, U. S. V., writes concerning the transport of horses across the Pacific to the Philippines. The treatment of this "Problem in Army Transportation," as the paper is entitled, is from the view point of the Quartermaster's Department, which has made a study of the question and has brought the transportation of horses to such a degree of perfection that the average loss on a voyage does not amount to 3 per cent. It is reported that other Governments in effecting the transport of horses count on a loss of 15 per cent. Captain Butt was the first to try the experiment of crossing the Pacific without unloading stock, and out of 456 horses only one was lost. Electric and steam fans were used to give fresh air to the animals, and they were lifted by means of portable stalls, the horses being tied in their stationary stalls on the transport with ropes giving them 3 feet leeway. The horses soon learned to ride with the movement of the vessel, and after six hours of the first rough weather, they worked together as if they were uniform machinery.

The initial number of the new magazine issued by Doubleday, Page & Co. under the title "The World's Work" contains a warning to American manufacturers from the pen of Mr. Frederic Emory, Chief of the Bureau of Foreign Commerce, State Department of the United States. Mr. Emory writes on "Our Growth as a World Power" and emphasizes the economic reasons for political expansion, showing, at the same time, the immense strides taken by the United States in international trade. He thinks, however, that there is some danger in this rapid success and that American manufacturers may make the mistake of thinking their goods will sell themselves. He urges that great nations like Great Britain, Germany, and France will not permit themselves to be deprived of markets they have long controlled without serious struggles, and is of the opinion that those countries have certain advantages growing out of their carefully systematized methods of gaining and holding foreign trade which it would be well for United States manufacturers to consider.

"Historia de las Provincias del Río de la Plata" (History of the Provinces of the River Plate). Division 5 of the first volume of the historical work above mentioned has recently been issued from the Argentine press. The book consists of a collection of works and documents relating to the ancient and modern history of the Provinces of the River Plate. The author, Mr. Pedro de Angelis, has made this subject interesting and entertaining by illustrating it with extensive notes and timely and well selected observations, which are not only instructive but are pertinent and explanatory of the subject-matter. The book when concluded will be a complete history of this growing

and progressive part of the Argentine Republic from the earliest settlements up to the present time, and will form a valuable addition to the files of any library. No doubt it will be highly prized by all students of South American history, containing, as it does, much new and unpublished matter regarding the discovery, settlement, and development of this wonderfully fertile region.

The initial number of an exceedingly interesting and very attractive illustrated monthly publication, entitled "Hispano-America, Revista Mensual Ilustrada" (Illustrated Latin-American Monthly Review), has just been published in San Francisco, Cal. This important review is dedicated to commerce, industry, arts, literature, and the general interests of Spanish America. The October number is elegantly printed, the subject-matter is well selected, and the illustrations are appropriately chosen and tastefully arranged. Señor ACED, the general manager of the company, is to be congratulated upon the establishment of such a creditable publication, and the cities of the Pacific coast will doubtless reap material benefits from the circulation of this new organ, which has for its object the laudable project of promoting commerce, industry, and art, and the enlargment of the trade of the Pacific coast with the Spanish-speaking countries of the Western Hemisphere.

"La Imprenta and La Prensa en el Uruguay desde 1807 á 1900" (The Art of Printing and the Press in Uruguay from 1807 to 1900) is the title of an important brochure published in Montevideo by Señor Don BENJAMÍN FERNÁNDEZ Y MEDINA. This pamphlet is an historical retrospect of the progress made in the art of printing and by the press in Uruguay. Regarding this the author in the first chapter of his interesting essay uses the following language:

"This chapter has two titles, because in Uruguay the press and the printing industry, aside from the intimate and indissoluble bonds by which they are connected, had their acceptance and beginning at one and the same time and the advancement of the one and the other has been contemporaneous."

"Progress of Irrigation Work in the West" is the title of the first report on irrigation investigations made by the Office of Experiment Stations and issued by the United States Department of Agriculture. It deals with the methods in use in arid States for the distribution and use of irrigating waters; gives a large number of measurements made to determine the duty of water; the losses from seepage and evaporation in canals, and describes the methods by which the water supply may be more effectually and economically applied to the crops. It is illustrated by views, diagrams, and maps, showing the location and character of the investigations made. The edition is limited to 1,000 copies.

"Tierra de Promisión" (The Land of Promise) is the title of a pamphlet which has just been published in Montevideo by Señor Don Carlos M. Maeso, and which contains a general description of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay; treats of her commerce, industries, revenues, wealth, education, and progress, and contains, in addition, historical narratives, biographical sketches, etc. Señor Maeso also discusses in this interesting dissertation the foreign residents of Uruguay. The publication is replete with copious statistical and historical data and is one of the best expositions that has come to the notice of this Bureau with respect to the Latin-American Republics.

A very interesting book for all students of belles-lettres has recently been published under the auspices of Ferd. P. Kaiser, St. Louis, Missouri, entitled "The World's Best Orations." The papers contained in Vols. III to VII of the collection have been edited by Justice David J. Brewer, of the Supreme Court of the United States, and comprise a great diversity of selection. Masterpieces of the oratory of all nations, regardless of their length, and even the work of minor orators possessing genuine historical importance, are included as representing what they actually stood for in history, religion, science, art, or literature.

Under the title "Clearing Houses: Their History, Methods, and Administration," Vice-President Cannon, of the Fourth National Bank of New York City, has collected material regarding the different institutions of that character throughout the world. Mr. Cannon has an intimate knowledge of the workings of the New York Clearing House, and the chapters on the more important clearing houses written for this work have been submitted to those in charge of their administration for criticism. The publishers are D. Appleton & Co., New York.

The Monthly Bulletin acknowledges receipt of two notable works from the pen of the distinguished anthropologist, Mr. A. H. Keane, a member of the Royal Geographical Society of London. One of these works is entitled "Ethnology," and the other "Man—Past and Present." They are scientific works worthy of careful study, rivaling, it is claimed, those of Huxley, Darwin, Tyler, and other sages of the nineteenth century. The works of Mr. Keane are recommended to all persons interested in scientific investigations respecting the origin of man.

The first volume of the "Livro do Centenario," which is commemorative of the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of Brazil, has just been published. It is a large quarto volume of over 400 pages, containing articles on the discovery of Brazil, religion, literature, education, etc. This volume contains also the memorial by Mr.

OLIVEIRA DE LIMA on the discovery, first explorations, and diplomatic negotiations, which was awarded the prize in the literary contest offered by the Association of the Four Hundredth Anniversary.

The Bureau of the American Republics has received copies of the prospectus of "O Dia," a new daily newspaper which is shortly to appear in Rio de Janeiro. This new publication will be devoted to the interests of trade, industry, and finance. The editor in chief is Mr. DUNSHEE DE ABRANCHES, assisted by Messrs. CUNHA E COSTA and GREGORIO GARCIA SEABRA.

The first number of "A Propaganda," a new weekly journal published at Pernambuco, Brazil, in the interest of commerce, has just been received by this Bureau. This publication is a newspaper of four pages, containing an abundance of varied reading matter. Its editors are Messrs. BRANLIO DA CUNHA, MANOEL DUARTE, and FRANCISCO DOS SANTOS MORÚRA.

The Bureau of the American Republics has received with pleasure an attractive volume containing a record of the proceedings of the Board of Trade of the city of Paris, France, during the year 1899. It is an important publication, destined to receive the attention of all the boards of trade of the American Continent.

The third edition of the "American Trade Index," being a descriptive and classified directory of the membership of the National Association of Manufacturers, has just been issued. A departure in the preparation of this edition is that the matter is published in French as well as in English and Spanish.

LIBRARY ACCESSIONS DURING OCTOBER.

American Honduras: Looking southward. A descriptive pamphlet of Honduras. Cleveland; 1900. 53–2 pp. 8°.

Arona, Juan de: Páginas diplomáticas del Perú. Lima, 1891. 346 pp. 8°.

Capron Springs Conference: Proceedings of the third conference. Raleigh, St. Augustine's School, 1900. 108 pp. 8°.

Casa de Orates: Movimiento de la casa de Orates. Santiago de Chile: 1900. 164 pp. 8°.

Fernández y Medina: La imprenta y la prensa en el Uruguay. Montevideo, 1900. 87 pp. 8°.

Foster, John W. A Century of American Diplomacy. Boston, 1900. 8°.

Garland, Alejandro: South American conflicts and the United States. Lima, (1900). 13 pp. 8°.

Gatschet, Albert S.; Grammatic sketch of the Catawba language. New York, 1900. 549 pp. 8°.

Kaufmännisches Verein: (Bremen) Bericht über die Thätigkeit der Gesellschaft "Union." Bremen, 1900. 28 pp. 8°.

Keane, A. H.: Ethnology. Cambridge, 1896. 442 pp. 8°.

———. Man, past and present. Cambridge, 1897. 584 pp. 8°.

Maèso; Carlos M.: Tierra de promisión. Montevideo. 1900. 211 pp. 8°.
Mexican Espiscopal Church: Church work in Mexico. (Mexico), 1900. 21 pp. 8°.
Montalva, A. F. (Ed.): Guía comercial é industrial del Paraguay. Asunción, 1900. 215–49 pp. 8°.
Moreno, Federico: Las irrigaciones de la Costa. Lima, 1900. 226 pp. 8°.
New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts: Principles of Water Analysis. Goss. Santa Fe, 1900. 106 pp. 8°.
Odescalchi, Baldassarre: Un viaggio in Argentina. Roma, Nuova Antologia, 1900. 83 pp. 8°.
Paris Chamber of Commerce: Travaux de la Chambre pendant 1899. Paris, 1900. 793 pp. 8°.
Pittsburg Carnegie Library: Annual report of the Board of Trustees. Pittsburg, 1900. 72 pp. 8°.
Plate, Enrique: Notes on Paraguay. Buenos Aires, 1899. 38 pp. 8°.
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Terry, Walter Phillips: Por Cristo y Santiago. (Mosher's Magazine, October, 1900). New York, 1900.
Wissenschaftlichen Vereins: (Chile) Verhandlungen des deutschen Wissenschaftlichen Vereins. Valparaíso, 1900.
Zerolo, Elias: Diccionario enciclopédico de la lengua Castellana. París, 1900. 2 v. fol.

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Bolivia.

Anuario de leyes, decretos y resoluciones de 1899. La Paz, 1900. 395 pp. 8°.
Departamento de Instrucción y Justicia: Reglamento del Colegio Nacional de Ingeniería Civil y de Minas. La Paz, 1900. 51 pp. 8°.
———. Memoria del Ministro. La Paz, 1900. 219–III pp. 8°.
Memoria de Gobierno y Fomento. 1900. La Paz, 1900. 4°.
Presupuesto general para 1900. La Paz, 1900. 182–261 pp. fol.

Chile.

Anales de la Universidad de Chile. Julio de 1900. Santiago, 1900. 145 pp. 8°.
Memoria de Relaciones exteriores. 1900. Santiago de Chile, 1900. 254 pp. 4°.

Costa Rica.

Museo Nacional: Informe de 1899 á 1900. San José, 1900. 58 pp. 4°.

Ecuador.

General regulation for quarantine service of Guayaquil. (Guayaquil) El Vigilante. 1900. 40 pp. 8°.

Great Britain.

Foreign Office: Trade of Mexico for 1899. London, 1900. 48 pp. 8°.
———. Statistical abstract for the United Kingdom. 1885–1889. London, 1900. 268 pp. 4°.

México.

Anuario estadístico de la República Mexicana. México, 1899. 766, viii, pp. 4°.
Boletín de estadística fiscal. Marzo-Abril de 1900. (Nos. 204, 205.) México, 1900. 2 v. 4°.

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Registro oficial correspondiente al año de 1899. Asunción, 1900. 364 pp. 8°.
———. Para año de 1898. Asunción, 1899. 366 pp. 8°.

SALVADOR.

Código de Sanidad. San Salvador, 1900. 145 (2) pp. 8°.

UNITED STATES.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Account of the Big Trees of California. Washington, 1900. 30 pp. 8°.
Agricultural exports of the United States. Washington, 1900. 88 pp. 8°.
Agricultural imports of the United States. Washington, 1900. 74 pp. 8°.
Free employment agencies for the use of farmers. Washington, 1900. 42 pp. 8°.
Sheep and wool. (J. R. Dodge.) Washington, 1900. 63 pp. 8°.
Trade of the Philippine Islands. F. H. Hitchcock. Washington, 1898. 160 pp. 8°.
Use of water in irrigation in Wyoming. Washington, 1900. 56 pp. 8°.

NAVY DEPARTMENT.

Notes on naval progress. July, 1900. Washington, 1900. 303 pp. 8°.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

India rubber. (Special Consular Report.) Washington, 1892. 601 pp. 8°.
Consular Reports. Vol. LXIV. No. 241. (October, 1900.) Washington, 1900. 289 pp. 4°.

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Monthly summary of commerce and finance. Washington, 1900. 184–457 pp. sq. 8°.
Decisions of the Comptroller of the Treasury. Washington, 1900. 1073 pp. 4°.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

Monthly summary of commerce of the island of Cuba. Washington, 1900. 73 pp. sq. 8°.
Monthly summary of commerce of Porto Rico, April, 1900. Washington, 1900. 226–252 pp. sq. 8°.
Monthly summary of commerce of Philippine Islands. January, 1900. Washington, 1900. 122–152 pp. sq. 8°.

ADDITIONS TO FILES DURING OCTOBER.

El Estado. La Paz, Bolivia. Daily.
Verhandlungen des Deutschen Wissenschaftlichen Vereins. Santiago de Chile.

PERMANENT LIBRARY FILES.

Persons interested in the commercial and general news of foreign countries will find the following among the official and periodical publications on the permanent files in the Library of the Bureau of the American Republics.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Argentinisches Wochenblatt. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.
Boletín de la Unión Industrial Argentina. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.
Boletín Demográfico Argentino. Buenos Ayres. Monthly.
Boletín Oficial de la República Argentina. Buenos Ayres. Daily.
Bollettino Mensile. Rosario. Monthly.
La Industria Molinera. Buenos Ayres. Semimonthly.
La Nación. Buenos Ayres. Daily.
La Plata Post. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.

La Plata Zeitung. Buenos Ayres.
La Producción Nacional. Buenos Ayres. Semimonthly.
Le Commerce Extérieur Argentin. Buenos Ayres.
Review of the River Plate. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.

BELGIUM.

Bulletin of the Commercial Museum. Brussels. Weekly.

BOLIVIA.

El Comercio. La Paz. Daily.
Revista Económica y Financiera. La Paz. Monthly.

BRAZIL.

Brazilian Review. Rio de Janeiro.
Jornal do Commercio. Rio de Janeiro. Daily.
Lavoura (A). Rio de Janeiro. Monthly.
Revista Agricola. Rio de Janeiro. Monthly.
Revista Brazileira. Rio de Janeiro. Monthly.
Revista Industrial e Mercantil. Pernambuco. Monthly.
Revista Maritima Brazileira. Rio de Janeiro. Monthly.

CHILE.

Chilian Times. Santiago de Chile. Semiweekly.
Diario Oficial de la República de Chile. Santiago. Daily.
Revista Comercial e Industrial de Minas. Santiago. Monthly.

COLOMBIA.

Diario Oficial. Bogotá. Daily.
El Correo Nacional. Bogotá.
La Estrella de Panama. Panama. Weekly.
Revista de la Instrucción Pública de Colombia. Bogotá. Monthly.
Star and Herald. Panama. Weekly.

COSTA RICA.

Boletín de la Biblioteca Nacional. San José.
La Gaceta. (Oficial.) San José. Daily.

CUBA.

La Escuela Cubana. Havana. Weekly.
Revista del Foro. Havana. Quarterly.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

El Mensajero. Santo Domingo. Three times a month.
Gaceta Oficial. Santo Domingo. Weekly.

ECUADOR.

Gaceta Municipal. Guayaquil. Weekly.
Registro Oficial de la República del Ecuador. Quito. Daily.

ENGLAND.

Board of Trade Journal. London. Weekly.
British Trade Journal. London. Monthly.
Commercial Intelligence. London. Weekly.
Diplomatic and Consular Reports. London.
Feilden's Magazine. London. Monthly.
Freir's Colonial and Foreign Register. London. Quarterly.
Geographical Journal. London. Monthly.
Journal of the Board of Agriculture. London. Quarterly.
Mining (The) Journal. London. Weekly.

South American Journal. London. Weekly.
Tenders and Con'racts. London.
Times (The). London. Daily.
Trade and Navigation Reports. London. Monthly.

FRANCE.

Le Nouveau Monde. Paris. Weekly.
Moniteur Officiel. Paris. Weekly.
Revue du Commerce Extérieur. Paris. Semimonthly.
Revue Générale des Sciences. Paris. Semimonthly.
Revue Politique et Parlementaire. Paris. Monthly.
Tableaux Mensuels de Statistique Municipale de la Ville de Paris. Paris. Monthly.

GERMANY.

Der Tropenpflanzer. Berlin. Monthly.
Deutsche Kolonialzeitung. Berlin. Weekly.
Handels-Kammer zu Hannover. Hannover.
Petermann's Mitteilungen. Gotha. Monthly.
Südamerikanische Rundschau. Berlin. Monthly.
Thonindustrie Zeitung. Berlin.

GUATEMALA.

Diario de Centro-America. Guatemala. Daily.
El Guatemalteco. Guatemala. Weekly.
La República. Guatemala. Daily.

HONDURAS.

Boletín Legislativo. Tegucigalpa.
Gaceta Judicial. Tegucigalpa.
La Gaceta. Tegucigalpa.

JAPAN.

Japan-American Commercial Journal. Tokyo. Monthly.

MARTINIQUE.

Les Colonies. St. Pierre. Daily.

MEXICO.

American (The) Evolution. Mexico.
Boletín de Agricultura, Minería é Industrias. Mexico. Monthly.
Boletín de Estadística. Mérida. Semimonthly.
Boletín de la Red Meteorológica y Revista Científica. Toluca.
Boletín del Instituto Científico y Literario. Toluca.
Boletín Postal de la Administración General de Correos de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos. Mexico. Monthly.
Boletín Telegráfico. Mexico. Daily.
Diario Oficial. Mexico. Daily.
El Agricultor Mexicano. Ciudad Juárez. Monthly.
El Economista Mexicano. Mexico. Weekly.
El Estado de Colima. Colima. Weekly.
El Progreso de Mexico. Mexico. Weekly.
El Republicano. Aguascalientes. Weekly.
La Gaceta Comercial. Mexico. Daily.
Le Mexique. Mexico. Bimonthly.
Mexican Trade Review. Mexico. Monthly.
Resumen de la Importación y de la Exportación. Mexico. Monthly.
Semana Mercantil. Mexico. Weekly.

NICARAGUA.

Diario Oficial. Managua. Daily.
El Comercio. Managua. Daily.
La Patria. León.

PARAGUAY.

La Enseñanza. Asunción. Semimonthly.
Revista del Instituto Paraguayo. Asunción. Monthly.

PERU.

Boletín de la Sociedad Geográfica de Lima. Lima. Monthly.
El Comercio. Lima. Daily.
El Economista. Lima. Weekly.
El Peruano. Lima. Daily.
Padrón General de Minas. Lima.
Revista de Ciencias. Lima. Monthly.

PORTO RICO.

La Correspondencia. San Juan. Daily.

SALVADOR.

Diario del Salvador. San Salvador. Daily.

UNITED STATES.

American Review of Reviews. New York. Monthly.
Anglo-American Magazine. New York. Monthly.
Bulletin of the American Geographical Society. New York.
Bulletin of the Free Museum of Science and Arts. Philadelphia. Quarterly.
Century Magazine. New York. Monthly.
Coal Trade Journal. New York. Weekly.
Cram's Magazine. Chicago. Monthly.
Export Implement Age. Philadelphia. Monthly.
Field Columbian Museum Publications. Chicago.
Forum, The. New York. Monthly.
Hispano-America. San Francisco, Cal. Monthly.
India Rubber World. New York. Monthly.
Modern Machinery. Chicago. Monthly.
Modern Mexico. St. Louis. Monthly.
National Geographic Magazine. Washington. Monthly.
New-Yorker Handels-Zeitung. New York City.
Novedades (Las). New York. Weekly.
Pan-American Magazine. Buffalo. Monthly.
Publications of the New England Free Trade League. Boston.
Scientific American. New York. Weekly.
Scientific American. Export Edition. New York. Monthly.
United States Consular Reports. Washington. Daily and Monthly.

URUGUAY.

Anales del Departamento de Ganadería y Agricultura. Montevideo. Monthly.
El Siglo. Montevideo. Daily.
La Nación. Montevideo. Daily.

VENEZUELA.

Gaceta Oficial. Caracas. Daily.
Venezuela. Caracas. Monthly.
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BOLETÍN MENSUAL

DE LA

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Unión Internacional de Repúblicas Americanas.

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REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA.

ARTÍCULOS DE PRODUCCIÓN NACIONAL.

Con este título publica "La Prensa," de Buenos Aires, el siguiente interesante artículo:

"La dirección de inmigración acaba de terminar un importante estudio sobre el comercio de importación de nuestro país durante el primer trimestre de este año. En él se llega á la conclusión de que la República Argentina ha pedido al extranjero por valor de $19,370,017, oro, en artículos, principalmente de origen vegetal, que se producen fácilmente en nuestro vasto territorio.

"Hé aquí, reunidos en grandes secciones, el valor de los artículos similares á los de producción nacional importados:

	Oro.		Oro.
Sustancias alimenticias vegetales	$4,066,092	Colores y tintes	$1,418
Tabacos y sus aplicaciones	1,596,164	Materias primas	2,642,987
Vinos	2,888,623	Piedras y tierras	2,848,218
Aguardientes y licores	661,777	Otros artículos	228,862
Otras bebidas	164,790	Demás fibras textiles	1,190,941
Algodón	2,416,905		
Aceites	1,023,240	Total	19,730,017

"La dirección de inmigración termina su trabajo haciendo notar que muchos de los artículos que importamos se fabrican en el país, aunque no en la cantidad que requiere el consumo.

"Se extiende en muchas consideraciones que llegan á la conclusión de que con un poco de iniciativa y el fomento de la inmigración, en

pocos años nuestro país podría prescindir del extranjero en la casi totalidad de su comercio de importación."

CONVENIO SOBRE LÍMITES.

El "Boletín Oficial" de la República de la Argentina, en su edición de 24 de agosto de 1900, publica las instrucciones para el gobierno de la Comisión Mixta, que, de acuerdo con los protocolos de 9 de agosto de 1895 y 1° de octubre de 1898 y del tratado de 6 de octubre del mismo año de 1898, debe proceder á la demarcación de los límites entre la República Argentina y el Brasil. Dichas instrucciones son los siguientes:

1. Los Comisarios tendrán la representación de sus respectivos Gobiernos para resolver los incidentes de la demarcación, procediendo de acuerdo, en una parte con los protocolos de 9 de agosto de 1895 y 1° de octubre de 1898, que se refieren á la colocación de hitos de acuerdo con el laudo arbitral del Presidente de los Estadas Unidos de América, referente al límite, comprendido entre los ríos Uruguay é Iguazú, que debe correr por los ríos Pepiriguazú y San Antonio, y por la línea del terreno más alto que une en el interior las cabeceras principales de estos ríos; y en otra parte de acuerdo con el tratado de 6 de octubre de 1898, que se refiere á las zonas del río Uruguay, desde la desembocadura del río Cuareim hasta la del Pepiriguazú, afluentes del Uruguay, el primero por la margen izquierda y el segundo por la derecha; y del río Iguazú, de la boca del río San Antonio hasta la desembocadura del primero en el Paraná.

2. En la primera parte la Comisión tendrá presente que los ríos Pepiriguazú y San Antonio, declarados como límites en el laudo citado, son los que figuran con esos nombres en el plano general de la Comisión Mixta argentino-brasileña de 1887–88, encerrando por el costado oeste el territorio que antes del laudo era litigioso entre los dos países; y que como cabeceras principales serán consideradas las que así fueron reconocidas y declaradas por la misma Comisión Mixta.

3. En la segunda parte—es decir, en la demarcación sobre los ríos Uruguay é Iguazú—la Comisión se atendrá al tratado de 6 de octubre de 1898 y determinará la linea divisoria por la dirección del *thalweg* del río respectivo de manera que, excluida la isla que se encuentra próxima á la boca del Cuareim y en la cual se halla el último hito de los límites entre el Brasil y la República del Uruguay, las otras islas, aguas y tierras adyacentes, que se hallaren á uno y otro lado del *thalweg*, sean argentinas ó brasileñas, según se hallaren comprendidas entre esa dirección divisoria y la costa firme respectivamente argentina ó brasileña.

4. El *thalweg* será determinado por el canal principal de mayor calado y más fácil y franca navegación, apreciándose estas condiciones en el momento de la demarcación y según los estudios que fueran

necesarios para su conocimiento. Si hubiera dificultad, los Comisarios procurarán resolverla amistosamente, dando cuenta en último caso de la disidencia á sus respectivos Gobiernos.

Si ocurriera el caso de que conviniera el canje de islas previsto en el artículo 4 del tratado de 6 de octubre de 1898, los Comisarios lo someterán á la aprobación de los Gobiernos con la información fundada é ilustrativa para la resolución que estos juzgaren conveniente adoptar.

5. La demarcación será hecha en el terreno por medio de hitos cuyo material y forma serán determinados por los Gobiernos. Además de los mencionados en los protocolos de 1895 y 1898, los Comisarios pondrán dos en puntos convenientes y próximos á la boca del Iguazú, uno en la lengua de tierra formada por los ríos Cuareim y Uruguay, y otro enfrente, en la margen argentina del Uruguay. Correrá por cuenta de ambos Gobiernos el costo de los que fueran colocados en la divisoria común y del Gobierno respectivo el de los que fueran puestos en las islas según la adjudicación se hiciera de las mismas.

6. Si fuera necesario dividir la Comisión en partidas, en cada una de ellas estarán representados los dos países.

7. Las actas principales relativas á la demarcación serán tres: una concerniente al trecho completo del río Uruguay, desde la boca del Cuareim hasta el Pepiriguazú, describiéndose en ella circunstanciadamente la línea divisoria y las islas y canales ó brazos que quedaran para cada país; otra relativa al trecho entre el Uruguay y el Iguazú, que contenga las particularidades que convenga apuntar para la mejor determinación de la línea divisoria; y la tercera relativa al trecho del río Iguazú, desde la boca del San Antonio hasta el río Paraná con las especificaciones ya dichas con respecto del Uruguay. Cada acta será acompañada del respectivo plano firmado por ambos Comisarios.

Las dudas ó casos que ocurrieren y exigieren resoluciones especiales de los Comisarios ó de los Gobiernos, serán expuestos en actas separadas, en las que consten los antecedentes y la resolución tomada.

Las Comisiones deberán reunirse en Buenos Aires antes de vencidos los seis meses estipulados en el artículo sexto del tratado de 1898 para el canje y el reconocimiento de sus poderes para la resolución de lo que conviniere.

Hecho en la ciudad de Río de Janeiro en dos ejemplares, á los dos días del mes de agosto de mil novecientos.

CEREALES.

Este es el título de un interesante artículo que aparece en la notable revista argentina "La Industria Molinera," en el número correspondiente al 31 de agosto de este año, y el cual da una idea del gran desarrollo que ha alcanzado en la República Argentina el cultivo de cereales. Á continuación se reproduce dicho artículo:

"Aunque el movimiento de los mercados de la capital haya sido de

poca importancia durante las últimas semanas, el que se refiere al comercio de cereales en las plazas principales demuestra que el *stock* de trigo no se ha agotado. La entrada de este cereal á los distintos puertos de embarque suma 22,470 toneladas, para lo que corresponde á la semana anterior, y 1,913,500 toneladas desde el primero de enero hasta el 18 del mes de agosto, distribuidas en la proporción siguiente:

	Semana.	Total.	Por ciento.
Rosario	11,290	803,710	42
Buenos Aires	4,190	409,520	21
Santa Fe	100	170,440	8
Bahía Blanca	4,200	160,670	8
Villa Constitución	2,010	149,730	7
San Nicolás	390	74,190	5
La Plata	90	36,470	3
San Lorenzo	.....	36,080	2
Otros puertos	200	72,690	4
Toneladas	22,470	1,913,500	.....

"La exportación de la penúltima semana suma 26,365 toneladas, y la de todo el año, de 1° de enero á 18 de agosto, 1,730,378 toneladas.

"*Precios.*—En enero próximo pasado los precios variaban, según calidad, de 4.70 á 5.20 pesos por los 100 kilos en Buenos Aires y de 4.50 á 5.15 sobre vagón en Rosario; dadas las condiciones pecuniarias de la agricultura, es muy probable que á principios del mes de marzo la mayor parte del trigo habrá pasado á manos del comercio de manera que el alza que empezó á notarse en abril no ha de haber aprovechado mucho á los productores.

"*Maíz.*—Se han exportado hasta la fecha 420,090 toneladas, contra 380,000 toneladas durante el mismo período del año de 1899.

"La demanda para exportación y la escasez relativa de los arribos durante la última semana han sido parte á promover una alza de 15 á 20 centavos sobre los precios de la semana anterior. El año pasado, en esta misma fecha, los precios oscilaban entre 2.20 y 2.30 pesos los 100 kilos; hoy el morocho superior alcanza á 5 pesos moneda nacional, y según datos consignados en la revista Devoto, Balbiani y Cía., la exportación opera á 4.65 pesos moneda nacional sobre la base de entrega dentro del corriente mes.

"La exportación de maíz durante el último quinquenio presenta las siguientes cifras:

	Toneladas.
1896	1,570,517
1897	374,342
1898	717,105
1899	1,116,276
1900 (hasta 18 de agosto)	420,000

"Estas cifras demuestran que la producción de este cereal sufre grandes alternativas, y esta misma incertidumbre, en que se hallan tanto los productores como el comercio, hace mayor el afán de unos y

otros por conocer oportunamente la extensión sembrada cada año, el monto de la cosecha y el *stock* que queda disponible entre una y otra cosecha; pero se tropieza con grandes dificultades para obtener una estadística que satisfaga estas legítimas exigencias.

"Es posible determinar el número de hectáreas sembradas con trigo y tener la cifra exacta de la cantidad cosechada, porque el cultivo de este cereal tiene regiones determinadas, época fija para la sementera y la cosecha, y medios de comprobar muy aproximadamente las cantidades cosechadas, exportadas y disponibles.

"Pero el maíz se cultiva en casi todo el territorio argentino, desde las latitudes del extremo sur hasta Jujuy, y de las provincias andinas hasta el Chaco, Formosa y Misiones. Las épocas de siembra y cosecha varían según las latitudes y, con frecuencia, según las variedades cultivadas, de manera que casi se podría decir que aquí el maíz se siembra ó se cosecha durante todo el año.

"El maíz cosechado se pone en trojes por tiempo indeterminado y, á veces, se desgrana al año siguiente de haber sido cosechado, sin el auxilio de máquinas sujetas á *control*, como lo son las trilladoras de trigo.

"El trigo se cultiva en grandes áreas y todo lo cosechado se destina al molino ó á la exportación, mientras que el maíz puede ser cultivado en pequeñas extensiones para el consumo de la chacra, y, muchas veces, dado á los animales en el mismo rastrojo.

"Se ha intentado determinar la extensión sembrada, para de ahí deducir por un término medio de rendimiento el monto de la cosecha probable; pero aparte de que esto requiere una investigación continua, son tantas las pequeñas parcelas que escapan á la estadística, que el resultado obtenido ha sido, hasta ahora, completamente deficiente.

"No es posible, tampoco, tomar por base la cantidad exportada para calcular el monto de la cosecha, porque no se puede determinar la cantidad que se consume anualmente en el país, dadas las diversas aplicaciones que tiene este cereal y que, por otra parte, las cantidades exportadas pertenecen, con frecuencia, á la cosecha del año anterior.

"No obstante todas las dificultades apuntadas, se hace necesario allanarlas; contando con el concurso de las autoridades de todas las provincias y territorios, y sobre todo, con el de la comisión central de la extinción de la langosta, que, por medio de sus subcomisiones, podría obtener datos precisos tan indispensables para el buen cumplimiento de la misión que le ha sido encomendada, como necesarios para la producción y el comercio.

"*Lino.*—Los arribos de esta semilla á los puntos de embarque no han pasado, durante la semana, de 600 toneladas. Lo llegado á las plazas desde el 1° de enero hasta la fecha, suma 198,000 toneladas, y la exportación total 196,600 toneladas, contra 198,000 toneladas dentro del mismo período del año de 1899 y 150,000 toneladas en 1898. La

comparación de estas cifras induce á creer que la exportación total del año alcanzará difícilmente á la de 1899, que sumó 210,000 toneladas.

"Los precios actuales son los más altos conocidos desde el año 1892–93, en que las cotizaciones del mercado inglés llegaron á 46.6 el *quarter*, y en nuestros mercados á 13.25 por los 100 kilos (término medio del año en los mercados de la capital).

"Hoy el lino se cotiza en Liverpool á 51½ chelines el *quarter*, y en nuestra plaza los precios han subido en proporción.

"Es indudable que esta situación favorable incitará á nuestros agricultores á aumentar este año las sementeras de lino, y que la exportación del año próximo superará á la mayor de los años anteriores, si no sobrevienen contratiempos.

"Hé aquí las cifras de la exportación desde el año de 1890:

Año.	Toneladas.	Año.	Toneladas.
1890	30,721	1895	276,444
1891	12,213	1896	229,675
1892	42,987	1897	162,477
1893	72,199	1898	158,904
1894	104,435	1899	217,513

"Con estas cifras la República Argentina ocupa el cuarto rango entre los países productores de semilla de lino, según estadística de la producción universal del año de 1898, y en la siguiente forma:

	Toneladas.
Rusia	776,000
Estados Unidos	503,000
India	485,000
Argentina	218,000
Otros países	119,000
Total	2,101,000

"El renglón 'otros países' comprende Austria, Rumania, Bélgica, Francia, México, Países Bajos, Manitoba, Hungría y Suecia, de manera que no son más que cuatro los países proveedores del mercado universal y, siendo así, se comprende que puede haber grandes alternativas en los precios de un año para otro, según sea la cosecha más ó menos abundante en estos cuatro centros, máxime si se tiene en cuenta que las proporciones de la oferta y la demanda de este producto se reducen á unos 2,000,000 de toneladas. Esta circunstancia y las propiedades que tiene el lino para esquilmar las tierras deberían bastar para que los agricultores procedieran con prudencia en la extensión dada al cultivo de esta planta; pero sabemos de antemano que mientras los precios sean halagadores, predicaríamos en el desierto si insistiéramos sobre la conveniencia de procedimientos metódicos."

IMPORTACIÓN DE REPRODUCTORES.

Con este título publica "La Prensa," de Buenos Aires, el siguiente artículo:

"Pocos países importarán del extranjero mayor cantidad de reproductores que la República Argentina, especialmente de Inglaterra, país que provee la casi totalidad del ganado fino que llega á nuestras plazas.

"Desde el 1° de enero hasta el 31 de agosto próximo pasado hemos importado 298 reproductores vacunos, 7,391 lanares, 160 equinos, 49 de raza asnal, y 2 porcinos.

"Hé aquí la clasificación por razas de los animales vacunos y lanares importados:

VACUNOS.

Raza.	Número.	Raza.	Número.
Durham	229	Polled Angus	5
Shorthorn	41	Flamenca	4
Hereford	13	Varias	5
Jersey	1		

LANARES.

Raza.	Número.	Raza.	Número.
Lincoln	1,424	Romney Wash	38
Hampshire	16	Shropshire	122
Shearthing	69	Merino	4
Rambouillet	262	Varias	5,431
Oxford Down	25		

"De los équinos importados, 99 eran de carrera y 23 de raza Yorkshire."

IMPORTACIÓN DE BOLSAS Y HARPILLERA.

Refiriéndose á esta clase de tráfico, hé aquí como se expresa "La Prensa," de Buenos Aires:

"Por el Ministerio de Hacienda se dió un decreto en el cual se declara libre de derecho de importación á la harpillera y bolsas hasta el 1° de febrero del año próximo.

"La medida adoptada por el Poder Ejecutivo ha de ser recibida con satisfacción por los agricultores, pues ella representa una notable economía en los gastos de envase.

"Para que pueda juzgarse de los beneficios que la liberación de derechos importa, bastará que demos las cifras de las cantidades de bolsas importadas en el primer semestre de este año (libres de derecho), con las correspondientes á igual período de 1899, época en que la importación estaba gravada:

"Primer semestre de 1900, libre de derecho—toneladas, 3,716; valor, $579,127, oro.

"Primer semestre de 1899, con derecho—toneladas, 206; valor, $41,948, oro.

"Mientras ha aumentado en tanta proporción la importación de bolsas, ha disminuido notablemente la de harpillera, prueba evidente de que á los agricultores les conviene más el artículo preparado en el extranjero.

"Hé aquí las cifras de la importación de harpillera en el primer semestre de este año comparado con el de 1899:

"Primer semestre de 1900—toneladas, 8,319; valor, $1,291,684, oro.

"Primer semestre de 1899—toneladas, 15,407; valor, $3,081,343, oro."

BOLIVIA.

NUEVO MINISTRO ACREDITADO EN LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

El día 22 de octubre próximo pasado el Presidente McKinley recibió al Señor Don Fernando E. Guachalla como Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario de Bolivia ante el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos.

Al presentar sus credenciales al Presidente, el Señor Guachalla pronunció el siguiente discurso:

"Excmo. Señor: La unión y confraternidad de todos los pueblos de América, bajo la égida de la Justicia y del respeto al derecho ajeno, constituye el programa internacional del Gobierno de Bolivia.

"Para alcanzar este fin, y con el grato propósito de estrechar verazmente las relaciones políticas que ligan á Bolivia y Estados Unidos de América y de vincular de una manera positiva y útil para ambos países, los intereses de su comercio é industrias, mi Gobierno me ha acreditado ante el de V. E., con el carácter de Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario, dando, al mismo tiempo, por terminada la misión de mi Honorable antecesor, como lo manifiestan las cartas autógrafas, que tengo la honra de poner en manos de V. E.

"Dispensadme, Señor, vuestra benévola confianza y aceptad los efusivos votos que hago por vuestra ventura personal y por la creciente prosperidad de vuestra patria."

El Señor Presidente McKinley contestó al Señor Guachalla como sigue:

"Señor Ministro: Al recibir de vuestras manos las cartas por las cuales Su Excelencia el Presidente Constitucional de la República de Bolivia me notifica el retiro de vuestro estimable predecesor y os acredita en su lugar con el carácter de Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario cerca de este Gobierno, me es muy grato saber que vuestra misión tendrá por objeto estrechar más los lazos que ligan á Bolivia y á los Estados Unidos de América, como conviene á miem-

bros de la familia de repúblicas americanas, y fomentar de una manera útil y práctica sus intereses comerciales é industriales. Inspirado en los mismos sentimientos y deseos, este Gobierno trabajará gustoso para llegar al mismo resultado.

"Espero, Señor Ministro, que vuestra permanencia entre nosotros os será agradable, y que contribuirán á hacer más gratas vuestras relaciones oficiales y sociales en esta capital las simpatías que supo captarse vuestro predecesor.

"Estoy animado de deseos tan amistosos como los que habéis expresado y confío en que la República de Bolivia continuará gozando de prosperidad, de paz y de progreso."

El Señor Don Fernando E. Guachalla es un notable hombre público de Bolivia, que ha desempeñado en su país cargos importantes. Es doctor en ciencias políticas y abogado. Sirvió con distinción durante la guerra del Pacífico y obtuvo el grado de Capitán. Ha sido Secretario de Legación en el Perú y en Chile, y además Encargado de Negocios en el primero de estos países. Ha figurado en el Congreso boliviano como Senador y Diputado. Es un periodista muy conocido de ideas avanzadas. Fundó la Cámara de Comercio de La Paz y siempre se ha hecho notar por su espíritu progresivo. Cuando fué nombrado Ministro en Wáshington, tenía á su cargo el Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de su país.

MENSAJE ESPECIAL DEL PRESIDENTE.

Con fecha 27 de agosto de este año, el Señor Presidente de la Republica de Bolivia dirigió á la Cámara de Diputados, por medio del Presidente de la misma, el siguiente mensaje:

"Tengo el honor de someter á la consideración de la Honorable Cámara que usted preside los estudios del Ferrocarril del Lago Titicaca á la ciudad de La Paz, con el Proyecto de Ley referente á su construcción.

"Así el Mensaje de la Presidencia como la Memoria del ramo de Fomento, se han referido á este proyecto, manifestando su necesidad y sus ventajas.

"El tráfico entre el Lago y La Paz aumenta de día en día, como lo demuestran los datos estadísticos tomados de diversa fuente, que estarán á la disposición de la Comisión de Industria cuando en el seno de ella se estudie el asunto.

"Los rendimientos provenientes del Estanco de alcoholes y aguardientes extranjeros, que en su mayor parte se consumen en el departamento de La Paz, y el impuesto que grava la exportación de las gomas del mismo departamento, producirán al rededor de setecientos mil bolivianos anuales; con la aplicación de estos rendimientos á la construcción del ferrocarril por el espacio de tres años, á partir del

1° de septiembre próximo, será posible ejecutar el proyecto por administración directa y en la forma que paso á manifestar:

"I. Compra del material en Europa, por intermedio de un agente de confianza ó de una casa comercial acreditada, estipulándose el pago del importe por armadas.

"II. Preparación del terreno y construcción del ferrocarril por un ingeniero, competente y práctico en este género de trabajos, y mediante una suma de £4,000 por toda remuneración.

III. Administración de los fondos destinados á la obra por una 'Sociedad impulsora del ferrocarril,' que será constituida con personal selecto en esta ciudad y sin gravamen para el fisco.

IV. Negociación sobre anticipo de fondos, para llevar á término la obra en veinte meses, en lugar de tres años.

"El Gobierno, si por esta vez se hace empresario, no pretende asumir la administración del ferrocarril, una vez que éste se halle entregado al servicio público. Su pensamiento es, entregar la explotación y administración de la línea, con sus dependencias, á una Compañía seria que emprenda la construcción del ferrocarril á Oruro. En este caso, la sección del Lago á La Paz, entregada con un rendimiento líquido calculado en 8 por ciento anual, servirá de garantía á la sección de La Paz á Oruro, que no promete las mismas utilidades, con más alguna parte del ingreso total por Estanco de alcoholes y aguardientes, é impuesto sobre gomas del departamento.

"De esta manera, el ferrocarril del Lago á La Paz facilita la construcción del de esta ciudad á Oruro y abre camino al de Oruro á Cochabamba, para constituir un sistema ferroviario completo y equilibrado en su rendimiento general, por la compensación del producto de sus distintas secciones.

"Todo ferrocarril construido en territorio boliviano es ferrocarril nacional, y éste, que arrancará de un puerto boliviano en el Lago Titicaca, para ligar de pronto á tres departamentos, y facilitar la conexión de esta línea con otros ferrocarriles, lo considera el Gobierno de carácter eminentemente nacional.

"En esta virtud, tengo el honor de proponer el siguiente proyecto de Ley:

"El Congreso Nacional decreta:

"ARTÍCULO 1°. Todo el rendimiento del Estanco de alcoholes y aguardientes y el que proviene del impuesto que grava las gomas del departamento de La Paz, se aplicará, por el término de tres anos contados desde el 1° de septiembre próximo, á la construcción de un ferrocarril del Lago á La Paz, conforme á los estudios aprobados por el Supremo Gobierno.

"ARTÍCULO 2. Se faculta al Ejecutivo para estipular las condiciones de un contrato de construcción de los ferrocarriles de Viacha á Oruro (en conexión con los ramales de Guaqui y La Paz), y de Oruro á

Cochabamba, ofreciendo en garantía la primera sección del ferrocarril que debe construirse y la subsidiaria del producto del Estanco de alcoholes, por el tiempo que fuere necesario, al interés del 6 por ciento anual, de conformidad con la Ley de ferrocarriles y varias disposiciones legislativas.

MEMORIA DEL MINISTRO DE GOBIERNO Y FOMENTO.

La Memoria del Ministro de Gobierno y Fomento, presentada al Congreso de 1900, al tratar de los ferrocarriles del país, se expresa de la manera siguiente:

"Se tramita un proyecto presentado por el Señor KRUGGER, Cónsul del Imperio Alemán en Cochabamba, para la construcción de un ferrocarril que, partiendo de la margen derecha del río Paraguay, se extienda hacia Santa Cruz, Sucre y otras ciudades de Bolivia.

"La prolongación del ferrocarril central Norte Argentino, ha merecido la preferente atención del Gobierno, el que, por medio del Señor Don JUAN C. CARRILLO, Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario de Bolivia ante el Gobierno argentino, ha gestionado lo referente á los estudios que, en breve tiempo, deben practicarse en la sección boliviana, por dos ingenieros nacionales y uno argentino, conforme á lo acordado.

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"Se ha estipulado con el Señor Don MARIANO BUSTAMANTE Y BARREDA el estudio del ferrocarril de Guaqui á esta ciudad, el cual se halla hecho en su totalidad, inclusive la bajada del alto, y debe presentarse próximamente al Gobierno para su aprobación. La extensión total de esta línea entre el Lago y el alto es de 87 kilómetros, y está presupuestado el costo de esa sección en £174,000; la bajada del alto á la ciudad, por un sistema especial de ascensor, con cremallera, en £36,000.

"El Gobierno considera de urgente necesidad la construcción de este ferrocarril, por las razones que paso á enumerar: 1ª, insuficiencia de los actuales medios de transporte para transladar la carga de Puerto Pérez á La Paz, importación que se acerca hoy á la cifra de 14,000 toneladas por año, y que aumentará progresivamente por el desarrollo del comercio y las empresas mineras del Departamento, siendo calculada la exportación anual de productos bolivianos en 4,000 á 5,000 toneladas; 2ª, escasez creciente de combustible para el consumo de la ciudad, para la empresa de luz eléctrica y minas de estaño inmediatas, para maestranzas, etc.; la importación de carbón mineral aumentará el tráfico del ferrocarril con el transporte de no menos de 3,000 toneladas anuales; 3ª, imporactión de maquinaria para minas, establecimientos industriales, agricultura, etc.

"El Gobierno ha avanzado negociaciones para asegurar la economía del transporte del material fijo y rodante destinado á la obra del ferro-

carril, así como la tarifa de transportes de carbón de piedra y mercaderías por veinticinco años.

"Dadas las condiciones del crédito boliviano en los mercados donde podría colocarse el capital necesario para este ferrocarril, el Gobierno, con criterio propio y seguro, ha optado por su construcción inmediata con fondos nacionales y propios del Departamento. De este modo, concluida que sea la primera sección del ferrocarril, en la forma indicada y en el término máximo de treinta meses, servirá ella de garantía para las prolongaciones de Oruro y Cochabamba, que se obtendrán en condiciones favorables, entregada que sea dicha sección al empresario que obtenga este derecho, para su administración y explotación.

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"Debe tenerse en consideración que toda obra ferrocarrilera, situada en territorio boliviano, es obra nacional, pues pertenece al sistema general de vías férreas que debe implantarse para ligar á los pueblos entre sí y facilitar su comercio y otras múltiples relaciones. La verdad de esta afirmación se hace más evidente si se considera que el ferrocarril proyectado parte de un puerto boliviano, en el Lago Titicaca y que se unirá en Oruro con el ramal de Cochabamba y con otras líneas que crucen el territorio de Bolivia.

"Para la ejecución de este pensamiento el Gobierno pide al Soberano Congreso que se adjudiquen á esta importante obra por el término de tres años, los ingresos provenientes del estanco de alcoholes que en casi su totalidad grava el consumo del departamento de La Paz, el impuesto sobre destilación de aguardientes elaborados con materia prima extranjera, y el impuesto sobre las gomas del departamento. En esta sencilla forma se hará efectiva una de las más felices combinaciones ferroviarias desde el punto de vista de economía, del afianzamiento del crédito nacional, y de las seguridades de prolongación de la vía hacia otros centros que la necesitan y reclaman para su desenvolvimiento.

"Expuestas las razones que anteceden, el Soberano Congreso espero que ha de ocuparse en dar la autorización que asegure y facilite la construcción del ferrocarril del Lago Titicaca á la ciudad de La Paz.

"No omitiré manifestar aquí que el Gobierno gestiona simultáneamente en Londres, ante las empresas de los ferrocarriles del Sur del Perú y del de Antofagasta á Oruro, todo lo concerniente á fletes y transportes para optar por aquella vía que dé más facilidades á los proyectos de construcción, sea que adelante el ferrocarril de Oruro hacia el Lago Titicaca, sea que de este punto se dirija á La Paz y Oruro. Sin preferencias, sin vacilación el Gobierno optará por aquella empresa que ofrezca más ventajas, no sólo para el transporte de materiales, sino para la fijación de tarifas de fletes por un plazo que no baje de veinticinco años."

MEMORIA DEL MINISTRO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES Y CULTO PRESENTADA AL CONGRESO ORDINARIO DE 1900.

Se ha recibido la Memoria del Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto de la República de Bolivia presentada al Congreso Ordinario de 1900, y de este notable documento se toman las siguientes párrafos:

"El Cónsul de Bolivia en Nueva York, Señor ENRIQUE WULFF, representó á Bolivia en el Congreso Comercial Internacional, organizado por el 'Philadelphia Commercial Museum,' que se instaló en dicha ciudad, el 10 de octubre de 1899.

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"En lo sucesivo, será de considerable utilidad mantener y fomentar un muestrario de productos bolivianos en el Museo Comercial de Filadelfia, satisfaciendo así, no sólo los intereses nacionales, sino propendiendo al desarrollo de aquella importante institución.

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"Existe establecida en Wáshington una oficina de publicidad y de propaganda americana titulada "Bureau of the American Republics." Para distribuir la cuota que ha de corresponder á cada una de estas Repúblicas, para el sostenimiento de dicha oficina, se ha aceptado una cifra de población de 124,837,686 habitantes para las 19 Repúblicas. Como el costo total de ese servicio es de $36,000, corresponde á $288.37 por cada millón de habitantes, lo que da para Bolivia un gravamen de $720.93, que ha sido puntualmente pagado y que debe ser mantenido en lo sucesivo en servicio del país.

"De conformidad con los acuerdos oficiales tomados por el Congreso y por el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos, la Junta de Directores de la Exposición Pan-Americana, que ha decidido instalarla en Búfalo el 1° de mayo de 1901, se ha dirigido á este Gobierno invitándolo á concurrir á esa fiesta de la industria y del trabajo americano, que pondrá de relieve los progresos alcanzados por este continente en el siglo que termina.

"El Gobierno de Bolivia ha aceptado esa invitación y considera de gran importancia su representación en aquella feria del comercio y de la industria.

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"En vista del desarrollo cada día mayor de las relaciones políticas y comerciales entre Bolivia y los Estados Unidos, el Gobierno ha decidido, conforme á lo autorizado por el presupuesto nacional, constituir una Legación de primera clase en Wáshington, que ha sido confiada al Señor Don FERNANDO E. GUACHALLA.

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"Han sido firmados tres tratados con el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos durante el año presente:

"De extradición con fecha 2 de abril.

"De giros postales en igual fecha.

"De encomiendas postales en 24 del citado mes.

"Corresponde á la actual Legislatura prestar su aprobación á esos tres pactos, que consultan intereses recíprocos.

"No terminaré esta parte de mi Memoria, sin hacer constar ante la Representación Nacional, que entra en los proyectos del Gobierno en conformidad con las aspiraciones del pueblo, cultivar relaciones políticas y comerciales más estrechas con la gran República y mantener con este objeto constantemente una representación diplomática en Wáshington. Aquella República tiende á extender su influencia en los Estados de América, haciendo prevalecer las doctrinas del derecho internacional y los medios pacíficos para la solución de las cuestiones internacionales, y es evidente que está en nuestros intereses y en nuestras miras colocarnos dentro de las corrientes de esta sana política."

YACIMIENTOS DE BÓRAX.

De "El Comercio" de La Paz, correspondiente al 19 de septiembre próximo pasado, se toma el siguiente artículo:

"Según el plano levantado por el ingeniere peruano LAPEROUSE, en servicio de industriales chilenos, concordante con los trabajos de ENRIQUE ROBLEDO y VÍCTOR SAEZ, chilenos que han residido en esos lugares, la laguna de Suriri ó Chilcaya mide una superficie de 12,000 hectáreas, ó sean 120,000,000 de metros cuadrados. De este total podría sustraerse 2,000 hectáreas, ó 20,000,000 de metros cuadrados, que representarían las orillas ó partes que contienen poco bórax relativamente á la masa enorme que se atesora en el llano.

"Sobre 10,000 hectáreas, ó 100,000,000 de metros cuadrados, teniendo una capa de un metro de espesor—es decir, un metro cúbico por metro de superficie—se explotarían 100,000,000 de metros cúbicos. Cada metro cúbico daría cuando menos 4 quintales españoles, ó 184 kilogramos, y el total sería de 400,000,000 de quintales, igual á 18,000,000 de toneladas. Vendida esta cantidad á £12 en Londres, se obtendría la suma de 216,000,000, que, á 11 bolivianos por libra esterlina, asciende á 2,376,000,000 de pesos bolivianos.

"Mas como la explotación, fletes, comisiones, etc., importan considerables sumas, debemos tener en cuenta un fuerte quebranto, que sería por la explotación y por cada tonelada £1, por fletes hasta Londres £2, por comisión, etc., £1, quedando una ganancia de £8 por tonelada, y en 18,000,000 de toneladas £72,000,000, que, á 11 pesos cada una, produciría 792,000,000 de bolivianos. Deducido un 20 por ciento por el empleo de capitales, maquinaria y labor de gerencia, el total neto sería de 604,000,000 de pesos bolivianos, ó £54,100,000. De suerte que corto ha quedado aun el que ha apreciado en 400,000,000 el valor total, á que quizá pudiera reducirse en su última expresión, descontando las eventualidades, baja de ley de la sustancia ó diminución del espesor.

"En cuanto á capacidad con relación á pedimentos y adjudicaciones, es importante también la apreciación, tanto para evidencia de los adjudicatarios como para que el Gobierno, sepa cuál es el verdadero interés, susceptible de impuestos.

"Siendo la total superficie de 12,000 hectáreas y las concesiones por estacas, que son cuadrados de 800 metros por lado, ó de 64 hectáreas, el total adjudicable con más las orillas sería de 187 estacas y 32 hectáreas."

COSTA RICA.

CONVENCIÓN DE GIROS POSTALES.

El Gobierno de Costa Rica ha celebrado con el de la República francesa una convención para el cambio de giros postales, cuyo tenor es el siguiente:

"ARTÍCULO I. Establécese entre Costa Rica y la República de Francia el cambio de dinero por órgano del Correo y por medio de giros postales en las condiciones previstas en la presente Convención.

"ARTÍCULO II. En principio el valor de los giros debe ser consignado por el enterante y abonado al que lo cobra en numerario; pero eso no obsta para que una y otra Administración puedan recibir y emplear, á ese efecto, el papel moneda de curso legal, en su respectivo país, con tal que tome en cuenta, en su caso, la diferencia de cambio.

"Ningún giro puede exceder de 500 francos. Las Administraciones de los dos países contratantes podrán, de común acuerdo, elevar ese máximum hasta 1,000 francos.

"Los giros serán librados por una y otra parte en francos y céntimos.

"Á cargo de la Dirección de Correos de Costa Rica corresponde efectuar la conversión según el tipo de cambio corriente, á saber: en moneda costarricense del monto de los giros emitidos en Francia con destino á Costa Rica, y en moneda francesa de los enteros hechos en las oficinas de Costa Rica; en monedas de este país, para su conversión en giros postales cobrables en Francia.

"ARTÍCULO III. Por la expedición de giros postales estipulada en el artículo anterior, se cobrará el siguiente impuesto general; por los primeros 100 francos pagará el enterante en metálico, 25 céntimos por cada 25 francos ó fracción de esa suma y por el excedente de los primeros 100 francos, abonará 25 céntimos por cada 50 francos ó fracción de esa suma, ó el equivalente en la moneda respectiva de los países contratantes, con la facultad de redondear, llegado el caso, las fracciones.

"Quedan exentos de derecho postal los giros oficiales, es decir, los giros que para atender á las exigencias del servicio de correos libren las dos Administraciones ó las oficinas de su dependencia.

"La Administración que haya emitido los giros reconocerá á la Administración que los haya pagado un derecho de ½ por ciento sobre los primeros cien francos y de ¼ por ciento sobre el excedente, excepción hecha de los giros oficiales.

"Los giros postales y las constancias de su pago, así como los resguardos librados á los enterantes, no pueden ser gravados, en perjuicio de los remitentes ó de los destinatarios de los fondos, con otros impuestos ó derechos que los que determina el inciso 1° de este artículo, salvo, sin embargo, el corretaje cuando el pago del giro se haga á domicilio. Este derecho de corretaje será á cargo del que percibe el giro.

"El que despacha un giro postal puede obtener aviso del pago de ese giro, satisfaciendo anticipadamente, en beneficio exclusivo de la Administración del país de su origen, un derecho fijo igual al que en ese país se cobre por los avisos de recepción de la correspondencia certificada.

"El librador de un giro postal puede retirarlo ó modificar su dirección en las condiciones y bajo las reservas que en lo relativo á la correspondencia ordinaria se han estipulado en el artículo IX de la Convención principal, mientras al destinatario no le haya sido entregado el título ó su importe.

"Artículo IV. Cuando el beneficiario mude de domicilio, los giros ordinarios pueden serle reexpedidos, sin recargo de gastos, sea al interior del país del destino, sea del país del destino al país de la procedencia.

"Cuando el beneficiario haya fijado su residencia fuera del territorio de los dos Estados contratantes, él volverá á la oficina de origen para que reembolse su importe al enterante.

"Artículo V. Las Administraciones de Correos de ambos países contratantes harán corte en las épocas fijadas por el Reglamento de esta Convención de sus respectivas cuentas, y harán la recapitulación de las cantidades satisfechas por las oficinas de su jurisdicción.

"Estas cuentas, una vez discutidas y hechos los reparos á que dieren lugar, por una y otra parte, serán saldadas en francos de oro.

"En caso de demora en el pago del saldo de una cuenta dentro del plazo estipulado, el monto de ese saldo devengará intereses desde la fecha en que expiró el plazo hasta el día del pago.

"Este interés se fija en 5 por ciento anual, y será cargado al abrirse la nueva cuenta al debe de la Administración que dejó de pagar.

"Artículo VI. Las sumas empleadas en giros postales se garantizan á los enterantes hasta el momento en que sean pagadas debidamente á los destinatarios ó sus apoderados.

"Las sumas percibidas por cada Administración en pago de giros postales, cuyo importe no haya sido reclamado por quien tenga derecho, en los plazos que fijen las leyes ó Reglamentos del país de su origen,

quedarán definitivamente en beneficio de la Administración que expidio los giros.

"Todo reclamo referente al pago de un giro á persona no autorizada sólo es admisible dentro del plazo de un año, contado desde la fecha en que expiró la validez normal del giro. Después de ese término la responsabilidad de las Administraciones por pagos indebidos cesa completamente.

"ARTÍCULO VII. En circunstancias extraordinarias, bastantes á justificar esta medida, puede una Administración suspender temporalmente el servicio de giros internacionales, ora total, ora parcialmente, bajo la condición de dar aviso inmediatamente por cable, si es necesario, á la otra Administración.

"ARTÍCULO VIII. Las Administraciones de Correos de ambos países contratantes designarán, cada una por su parte, las oficinas habilitadas para la expedición y el pago de giros postales que se libren, en virtud de los artículos que preceden. Reglamentarán asimismo el modo y manera de transmitir los giros y la forma de las cuentas de que habla el artículo 5°, y dictarán cualesquiera otras disposiciones accesorias ó de orden que consideren necesarias para facilitar la ejecución del presente Convenio.

"ARTÍCULO IX. Esta Convención entrará en vigor desde la fecha que, de común acuerdo, señalen las Administraciones postales de ambos países, una vez promulgada, según las leyes particulares de cada Estado. Será obligatoria en tanto que una de las partes contratantes no notifique á la otra, con un año de anticipación, su intención de separarse del acto."

El Presidente de Costa Rica ratificó esta convención el 26 de junio de este año, y el canje de las ratificaciones se verificó en París el 4° de agosto de 1900.

DECRETO SOBRE MONEDA.

"La Gaceta," diario oficial del Gobierno de Costa Rica, publica con fecha 1° de septiembre de este año el decreto que fué emitido por el Presidente IGLESIAS el 31 de agosto próximo pasado, y cuyo tenor es el siguiente:

ARTÍCULO 1°. La Casa de Moneda verificará el rescate de la antigua moneda nacional de oro y la compra de pastas del mismo metal que se le presenten en la proporción de precio de un colón por cada 778 miligramos de oro de 900 milésimos de fino.

ARTÍCULO 2°. El rescate se hará por cantidades no menores de 100 gramos de peso, sea cual fuere su fineza.

ARTÍCULO 3°. En las operaciones del rescate se procederá en la forma establecida en el capítulo III, título XV, del Código Fiscal.

ARTÍCULO 4°. Mientras se completa el personal de empleados en la Casa de Moneda las pastas de oro que se rescaten, una vez fundidas y con anotación de sus respectivos ensayos y de su peso, se pondrán á la

orden de la Secretaría de Hacienda para su debida exportación por cuenta del Fisco.

ARTÍCULO 5°. El Director de la Casa de Moneda, al propio tiempo que expida el giro á favor del interesado en pago de las pastas de oro presentadas al rescate, comunicará por nota á la Secretaría de Hacienda el resultado de la operación, especificando el peso y fineza del metal, el nombre del interesado y la fecha, valor y número del giro expedido en pago.

ARTÍCULO 6°. La exportación de las pastas debidamente fundidas y marcadas se hará acompañando el ensayo de las mismas verificado para su rescate, y su equivalencia en gramos de oro de 900 milésimos de fino.

EL SALVADOR.

PROTECCIÓN Á LA AGRICULTURA.

El "Diario del Salvador," en su número correspondiente al 9 de agosto próximo pasado, publica un decreto legislativo fechado á 2 de junio de este año, que dice así:

"ARTÍCULO 1°. Los primeros que exporten por cualquier puerto de la República desde 100 hasta 30,000 quintales de algodón de buena calidad tendrán derecho á un peso plata por cada quintal, que se abonará en las aduanas de la República en derechos de exportación.

"ART. 2°. El Poder Ejecutivo queda encargado de instruir y ayudar convenientemente á los que se dediquen á este cultivo, proporcionándoles al principio las semillas é instrucciones que fueren necesarias para obtener un buen resultado, y haciendo venir al país instructores prácticos para dicho cultivo.

"También queda facultado para reglamentar en la forma que lo crea conveniente todo lo relativo á la siembra, cultivo y fomento de esa planta."

CONDICIÓN DE LOS BANCOS.

El "Diario del Salvador," en su número correspondiente al 21 de septiembre de 1900, publica un artículo sobre la condición de los bancos de la República, del cual tomamos los siguientes párrafos:

"Los bancos pueden servir de termómetro para conocer la vitalidad de un país, la situación de sus negocios, su estado económico.

"Tiene el Salvador cuatro establecimientos de esta clase, y todos hacen buenos negocios, á pesar de la crisis económica que hemos atravesado.

* * * * * * *

"Hagamos una ligera reseña del estado de los cuatro bancos que existen, y conoceremos á fondo la situación verdadera de cada uno de ellos.

"Según el estado semestral últimamente publicado, la situación de cada uno, el 30 de junio anterior, era ésta:

"El Banco Salvadoreño, establecido en 1885, tiene un capital autorizado de $6,000,000, suscritos $4,200,000 y llamados $2,520,000. Su fondo de reserva asciende á $887,346.40. Sus billetes en circulación montan á $526,990; utilidades netas en el semestre, $44,346.44, y corresponde el dividendo á $10 por acción.

"El Banco Occidental, fundado en 1890 con un capital suscrito de $2,000,000, del que ha llamado la mitad, tiene un fondo de reserva de $151,000. Sus billetes en circulación montan á $369,833. Las ganancias del último semestre fueron $52,888.78; pero deducidos los gastos, la utilidad neta quedó reducida á $21,103.23 y correspondió el dividendo $16 sobre mil acciones.

"El Banco Agrícola Comercial, fundado en 1895 con el capital autorizado de $5,000,000, tiene suscritos $2,500,000, de los que fueron llamados $922,500; tiene un fondo de reserva de $26,000 y sus billetes en circulación montan á $120,004. Su dividendo del último semestre ascendió á $20,500.

"Del *London Bank* existe aquí una sucursal. No tenemos su estado del último semestre, para dar detalles como respecto de los otros; pero por el balance general publicado el 13 del corriente, comprendemos que su posición es buena y el estado de sus negocios debe ser lo mismo. Según el balance, el capital en la oficina principal es de $500,000, el fondo de reserva $339,586.95 y sus billetes en circulación ascienden á $385,570. Metálico y billetes de otros bancos en caja $567,110.60. Sus inmuebles valen $167,966.54 y su mobiliario $42,744.82.

* * * * * * *

"La confianza que el público tiene en los bancos es completa; y si alguna duda puede alguien tener, hé aquí unos hechos que la disiparán:

"El Banco Salvadoreño tiene actualmente en caja $1,004,578.10 y el total de sus depósitos á la vista y á plazos monta á $2,135,837.45; sus inmuebles valen $685,552; su mobiliario $41,694 y sus acciones y bonos ascienden á $248,161.63.

"El Occidental tiene en caja $275,287.44; en acciones de varias empresas $83,772.32 y sus inmuebles y mobiliario valen $364,633.58.

"El Agrícola Comercial tiene en caja $316,265.82; en bienes raíces $96,058.74; en acciones de empresas $74,762.04 y en casa y mobiliario $74,188.

"Y el *London Bank* tiene $567,110.60 en caja; $27,100 in acciones y bonos; $167,966.54 en inmuebles; $42,714.82 en mobiliario y $4,165 en su depósito á plazo."

UN IMPORTANTE DECRETO LEGISLATIVO.

Con este lema publica el "Diario del Salvador" el siguiente interesante artículo:

"El Diario Oficial publicó el decreto legislativo fecha 2 de junio

último, por el cual se reglamenta la propiedad literaria en el Salvador, con el fin de garantizar los derechos del autor ó autores.

"Tiempo ha se hacía sentir una disposición análoga. Por falta de espacio no reproducimos textualmente tan importante decreto; pero damos unos ligeros apuntamientos de su contenido.

"Los autores de todo género de escritos ó de composiciones de música, pintura, dibujo, escultura, y en fin, de aquellos á quienes pertenezca la primera idea, tendrán exclusivo derecho, durante su vida, de vender, hacer ó distribuir sus obras, por cualquier medio.

"Los herederos del autor ó autores gozarán, por veinticinco años, del mismo derecho; salvo que el Fisco sea el heredero, entonces será de propiedad común. Los autores ó sus herederos podrán transmitir á cualquiera persona sus derechos literarios.

"Los extranjeros que publiquen sus obras en el Salvador, tendrán análogos derechos á los salvadoreños.

"Las obras teatrales tendrán, además, el privilegio de no poder representarse en ningún teatro del Salvador, sin autorización escrita de su autor ó herederos.

"Los traductores de cualquiera obra latina ó griega y sus herederos, tendrán igual derecho que sus autores. Y para el goce de todos los derechos arriba mencionados, no se necesita de título alguno del Gobierno: bastará depositar un ejemplar anunciando su autor, en el Ministerio de Fomento. Si la obra fuere inmoral ó contra el orden público, se prohibirá su circulación en la República.

"Si alguno reimprimiese, grabase, ó imitase una obra ajena, ó que de cualquier manera contraviniere la ley, podrá el interesado denunciarlo ante el juez respectivo, quien lo juzgará conforme al Código de Instrucción Criminal, condenando al culpable á la pérdida de la edición, multa de 100 á 1,000 pesos é indemnización de perjuicios.

"Además, habrá libertad para reimprimir las publicaciones de los periódicos.

"Las disposiciones anteriores se entienden sin perjuicio de los tratados vigentes."

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

COMERCIO CON LA AMÉRICA LATINA.

IMPORTACIONES Y EXPORTACIONES.

En la página 1025 aparece la última relación del comercio entre los Estados Unidos y la América latina, tomada de la compilación hecha por la Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Hacienda de los Estados Unidos. Estos datos se refieren al valor del comercio arriba mencionado. La estadística corresponde al mes de setiembre de 1900, comparada con la del mes correspondiente del año anterior, y también comprende los

datos referentes á los nueve meses que terminaron en setiembre de 1900 comparados con igual período de 1899. Debe explicarse que las estadísticas de las importaciones y exportaciones de las diversas aduanas referentes á un mes cualquiera no se reciben en el Departamento de Hacienda hasta el 20 del mes siguiente, necesitándose algún tiempo para su compilación é impresión; de suerte que los datos estadísticos correspondientes al mes de setiembre, por ejemplo, no se publican hasta noviembre.

CONDICIÓN DE LA AGRICULTURA.

Según los cálculos hechos por el Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos, la cosecha de maíz en 1900 será como de 25.3 *bushels* por acre, contra 25.31 *bushels* en 1899, y contra un promedio de 24.1 *bushels* durante diez años. En cuanto á la calidad el promedio es de 85.5 por ciento, contra 87.2 por ciento en 1899.

El promedio de la producción de trigo sarraceno es de 15 *bushels*, contra un promedio de 16.36 *bushels* en 1899, y contra un promedio de 16. 8 *bushels* durante diez años.

En cuanto á las patatas, la producción por acre es de 80.8 *bushels*, contra un promedio de 76.6 *bushels* durante diez años. Por lo que toca á la calidad de este producto, el promedio es de 88.1 por ciento.

La producción de heno por acre es de 1.28 toneladas, lo cual es igual al promedio durante diez años. Por lo que hace á la calidad, el promedio es de 89.7 por ciento.

CULTIVO Y MANUFACTURAS DE TABACO.

Un estudio del cultivo de tabaco en los Estados Unidos durante el siglo XIX demuestra los portentosos adelantos que se han hecho en dicha industria. Durante los primeros cuarenta años del siglo pasado el cultivo del tabaco se hacía principalmente en los estados de Virginia, Maryland, Kentucky, Tennessee, Carolina del Norte, Missouri, Ohio, é Indiana. En 1839 cada uno de estos estados produjo millones de libras de dicho artículo. En 1890 los estados de Connecticut, Nueva York, Pennsylvania, y Wisconsin fueron agregados á la lista de los productores de tabaco, y la cosecha total de estos últimos ascendió en aquel año á 488,256,646 libras, siendo Kentucky el estado que produjo mayor cantidad.

La publicación conocida con el nombre de "The United States Tobacco Journal," en su edición correspondiente á fines del siglo pasado, da algunos datos muy interesantes con respecto á las manufacturas de tabaco y al capital invertido en ellas. En 1873 el número de fábricas de cigarros era de 15,322, con una producción anual de 1,779,946,596 cigarros, sobre los cuales se pagaron impuestos al Gobierno por valor de $8,899,732. En 1898 había en el país 30,856

fábricas de cigarros, y la producción había subido á 4,910,937,307 cigarros, sobre los cuales se pagaron impuestos por valor de $14,031,726.

El capital invertido en los negocios de cigarros en 1890 se calculaba en $59,517,827; el número de personas empleadas era de 98,156; los salarios pagados ascendieron á $44,767,989, y el valor de la producción fué $129,693,275.

POBLACIÓN SEGÚN EL ÚLTIMO CENSO.

La población de los Estados Unidos, según el censo que se levanta en la actualidad, es de 76,295,220, incluyendo 45 Estados, 5 Territorios, el Distrito de Columbia y Hawai. El censo de 1890 dió una población total de 63,069,756, lo cual muestra que en diez años ha habido un aumento de 13,225,564 habitantes.

La tabla comparativa de la población publicada por la Oficina del Censo es como sigue:

	1900.	1890.	Indios libres de impuestos, 1900.
Los Estados Unidos	76,295,220	63,069,756	134,158
ESTADOS.			
Alabama	1,828,697	1,513,017	.....
Arkansas	1,311,564	1,128,179	.....
California	1,485,053	1,208,130	1,549
Colorado	539,700	412,198	597
Connecticut	908,355	746,258	.....
Delaware	184,735	168,493	.....
Florida	528,542	391,422	.....
Georgia	2,216,329	1,837,353	.....
Idaho	161,771	84,385	2,297
Illinois	4,821,550	3,826,351	.....
Indiana	2,516,463	2,192,404	.....
Iowa	2,251,829	1,911,896	.....
Kansas	1,469,496	1,427,096	.....
Kentucky	2,147,174	1,858,635	.....
Louisiana	1,381,627	1,118,587	.....
Maine	694,366	661,086	.....
Maryland	1,189,946	1,042,390	.....
Massachusetts	2,805,346	2,238,943	.....
Michigan	2,419,782	2,093,889	.....
Minnesota	1,751,395	1,301,826	1,768
Mississippi	1,551,372	1,289,600	.....
Missouri	3,107,117	2,679,184	.....
Montana	243,289	132,159	10,746
Nebraska	1,068,901	1,058,910	.....
Nevada	42,334	45,761	1,665
New Hampshire	411,588	376,530	.....
New Jersey	1,883,669	1,444,933	.....
New York	7,268,009	5,997,853	4,711
North Carolina	1,891,992	1,617,947	.....
North Dakota	319,040	182,719	4,692
Ohio	4,157,545	3,672,316	.....
Oregon	413,532	313,767	.....
Pennsylvania	6,301,365	5,258,014	.....
Rhode Island	428,556	345,506	.....
South Carolina	1,340,312	1,151,149	.....
South Dakota	401,559	328,808	10,932
Tennessee	2,022,723	1,767,518	.....
Texas	3,048,828	2,235,523	.....
Utah	276,565	207,905	1,472
Vermont	343,641	332,422	.....
Virginia	1,854,184	1,655,980	.....
Washington	517,672	349,390	2,531
West Virginia	958,900	762,794	.....
Wisconsin	2,068,963	1,686,880	1,657
Wyoming	92,531	60,705	.....
Total de los 45 Estados	74,627,907	62,116,811	44,617

	1900.	1890.	Indios libres de impuestos, 1900.
TERRITORIOS, ETC.			
Alaska	44,000	32,052	.....
Arizona	122,212	59,620	24,644
District of Columbia	278,718	230,392	.....
Hawai	154,001	89,990	.....
Indian Territory (Territorio Indio)	391,960	180,182	56,033
New Mexico	193,777	153,593	2,937
Oklahoma	398,245	61,834	5,927
Personas en el servicio de los Estados Unidos residentes en el extranjero	84,400	.....	.....
Indios, etc., en reservas indias, con excepción del Territorio Indio	.....	145,282	.....
Total de los 7 Territorios, etc	1,667,313	952,945	89,541

DESARROLLO DE LA INDUSTRIA DE HOJA DE LATA.

Ningún ramo de la industria nacional ha sido mirado con tanto interés en este país y en el extranjero como la industria de hoja de lata. En un informe del Secretario de la Asociación denominada "British Iron Trade Association," referente á la exposición de objetos de hierro y acero en París, se dice que una compañía americana fué la única que presentó una exhibición importante de artículos de hoja de lata. Esta exhibición incluyó muestras de hoja de lata y tablas estadísticas, poniendo de manifiesto la producción de los Estados Unidos por cierto número de años. Por esto se ve que dicha producción fué en 1892 de 18,803 toneladas, y que en 1899 había subido á 397,767 toneladas, mientras que en el mismo período la importación de hoja de lata de Inglaterra en los Estados Unidos descendió de 268,472 toneladas á 58,915 toneladas. El citado informe declara que la industria de hoja de lata está ya firmemente establecida en los Estados Unidos, y que los objetos exhibidos en París son de excelente calidad para el mercado.

En la actualidad los Estados Unidos no pueden competir todavía con la Gran Bretaña en cuanto á la exportación de este artículo, pero la exhibición en París ha dado por resultado que se reciben numerosos pedidos, introduciendo de esta manera la hoja de lata americana en los mercados del mundo.

LADRILLOS DE POLVO DE CARBÓN.

El arte de hacer ladrillos de polvo de carbón para usarlos como combustible ha sido practicado por largo tiempo en Europa, y la industria ha tomado grandes proporciones, especialmente en los países del continente. Estos ladrillos de carbón se usan mucho en los ferrocarriles de Francia y Bélgica, y también se exportan grandes cantidades al Brasil, á la República Argentina y á otras partes de la América del Sur. Se emplea también este combustible en los vapores transatlánticos, y se anuncia que el Gobierno francés ha hecho un contrato para proveerse de este artículo en Inglaterra. Hace dos años se pro-

ducían en Vestfalia 1,800,000 de estos ladrillos, y se calcula que la producción total de Europa en 1900 pasará de 20,000,000 toneladas.

En América se han hecho varias tentativas para seguir el ejemplo de Europa, utilizando el valioso material que queda como desperdicios cerca de las bocas de las minas, pero hasta el día todos los esfuerzos han sido inútiles, tanto desde el punto de vista científico como desde el comercial. Sin embargo, un establecimiento fundado en la ciudad de Chicago parece haber resuelto ventajosamente el problema.

La fábrica de dichos ladrillos es en teoría un procedimiento muy sencillo, pues consiste principalmente en valerse de alguna substancia que conserve unidas las partículas de carbón, y esto se efectúa en Europa por medio del alquitrán que queda como residuo en los hornos en que se prepara el coque. Esta clase de material es mucho más cara en los Estados, y el plan que últimamente se ha adoptado es usar una pequeña cantidad de cal á fin de reducir la proporción de alquitrán que se necesita para formar los ladrillos. Según el procedimiento empleado en Chicago, solamente se necesita un 5 por ciento de alquitrán con un 2 por ciento de cal. Este último artículo se ha usado para la fabricación de ladrillos de diferentes minerales pulverizados, y el resultado ha sido muy satisfactorio. El uso de la cal da mayor consistencia al ladrillo, lo cual hace que se consuma con menos rapidez al ser usado como combustible y que la merma sea menor durante la transportación. Se asegura que estos ladrillos se merman menos que la antracita, y que, debido á la poca cantidad de alquitrán que contienen, producen muy poco humo durante la combustión. Los ladrillos de carbón fabricados en los Estados Unidos son superiores á los que se hacen en otros países y su costo es suficientemente bajo para reportar ganancias al productor.

La producción total de la fábrica mencionada es como de 200 toneladas al día, ó sea cosa de 60,000 toneladas al año.

El periódico "New York Tribune," correspondiente á 7 de octubre de este año, da una relación detallada sobre el procedimiento empleado para la fabricación de dichos ladrillos.

CULTIVO Y COMERCIO DE FRUTAS.

Para tener una idea del inmenso capital invertido en los Estados Unidos en el cultivo de frutas, basta decir que de un solo estado—el de California—se enviaron á diferentes partes pasas en cantidad de 103,000,000 libras, valoradas en $26,000,000. Se calcula que la cosecha de manzanas del país en el año corriente ascenderá á 48,000,000 de barriles. Las manzanas ocupan el primer lugar en cuanto al valor de la cosecha entre las frutas del país, pues se considera que en este año dicha cosecha representará más de $200,000,000. Las naranjas, limones, uvas y otras frutas son factores importantes en el gran total de $1,000,000,000, á que monta la consecha de frutas.

Se cree que dentro de dos años California proveerá de naranjas á todos los mercados del país.

La cosecha de melocotones en el estado de Delaware fué de 4,000,000 de cestas en la última estación, y otro tanto fué la de Maryland y Connecticut; la de Michigan superó á todas estas.

El centro principal del cultivo de la uva es el estado de California, donde se encuentra el viñedo más grande del mundo. Cubre un área de seis millas cuadradas y cada acre contiene 680 vides.

Se calcula que se consumen en los Estatos Unidos durante cada estación fresas por valor de $80,000,000. El periódico "Harper's Magazine," correspondiente al mes de noviembre y del cual se han tomado los datos anteriores, opina que la industria de frutas en los Estados Unidos está al principio de su desarrollo, y que antes de mucho años excederá á todos los cálculos posibles.

TRÁFICO DE TEJIDOS DE LANA.

En el tráfico de tejidos de lana entre los Estados Unidos y otros países la balanza está á favor de los primeros, y esta condición se hace cada día más notable. En el año económico que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900 la importación de dichos tejidos fué una tercera parte menor en cuanto al valor que en el año económico que terminó el 30 de junio de 1895, mientras que en la década de 1890–1900 la exportación del mismo artículo se ha más que triplicado. Durante los ocho meses que terminaron el 31 de agosto de 1990 la importación de tejidos de lana representó un valor de $12,084,928, contra $40,667,044 en los ocho meses de 1895 y contra $29,544,094 en el mismo período de 1896. Por término medio la importación de tejidos de lana durante la década de 1890 á 1900 ha tenido un valor como de $25,000,000, habiendo sido mayor en 1895 que en cualquiera otro año. Las importaciones continuaron en alta escala durante los dos años subsiguientes, pero desde entonces han disminuido constantemente hasta que en los años de 1898, 1899 y 1900 representaron en el espacio de ocho meses durante cada año un promedio de valor de $11,000,000. Por esto se verá que la importación de esta clase de efectos es por término medio solamente la mitad de lo que había sido desde 1890. Por otra parte las exportaciones han aumentado lenta pero constantemente. En 1890 tuvieron un valor de $268,094; en 1895 de $470,725; en 1896 de $614,678; en 1897 de $144,512; en 1898 de $717,689, y en ocho meses del año corriente han subido á $886,030.

Aun no es posible decir de una manera definitiva á qué países se han exportado en el año actual los efectos de lana fabricados en los Estados Unidos, porque aun no se tienen los datos necesarios, pero examinando el informe oficial correspondiente al año económico de 1899 se ve que las alfombras americanas van principalmente á Inglaterra, el Canadá, México y el oriente; los géneros para vestidos á Inglaterra y México;

las franelas y frazadas á Hawai, China, Hong-Kong, el Canadá y Chile; la ropa hecha al Canadá y Chile, y otros artículos al Canadá, Inglaterra, Australia, las Antillas, Alemania, Francia y Dinamarca.

CLASE DE MERCANCÍAS EXPORTADAS.

En vista del gran aumento en el valor de las manufacturas exportadas de los Estados Unidos, según se ve por las cifras correspondientes á los primeros nueve meses de 1900, es interesante conocer qué clase de mercancías han contribuido á dicho aumento, que ascendió durante los nueve meses del actual año civil, en comparación con el mismo período de 1899, á cosa de $127,000,000. De este aumento, corresponden á las manufacturas como $61,000,006, á los productos agrícolas $52,000,000 y á las minas $6,500,000.

La siguiente tabla muestra las fluctuaciones que ha habido en las principales manufacturas exportados de los Estados Unidos durante los nueve meses que terminaron en septiembre de 1899 y 1900:

Artículos.	1899.	1900.
Instrumentos de agricultura	$12,276,808	$14,396,787
Libros, mapas, etc	1,136,020	1,585,829
Carruajes, carros, etc	3,652,667	5,567,298
Bicicletas y partes de estas	4,147,354	2,647,383
Relojes de pared y de bolsillo	1,309,188	1,485,170
Lingotes de cobre	27,245,575	44,606,915
Géneros de algodón teñidos	3,958,826	3,729,708
Géneros de algodón sin teñir	10,770,207	8,181,685
Manufacturas de fibras	3,136,530	3,286,593
Vidrio y sus manufacturas	1,248,886	1,483,946
Pólvora y otros artículos explosivos	1,205,852	1,383,462
Efectos de goma elástica	1,504,548	1,931,042
Aparatos eléctricos y científicos	4,101,014	4,849,789
Rieles de acero	4,072,447	8,806,861
Hierro y acero para construcciones	1,579,528	2,851,262
Alambre de acero	3,846,374	3,566,725
Ferretería para constructores	6,553,458	7,362,472
Maquinaria eléctrica	2,090,737	3,987,405
Maquinaria para elaborar metal	4,995,708	5,086,372
Bombas y maquinaria para las mismas	2,290,711	2,151,500
Máquinas de coser y partes de estas	2,891,894	3,456,434
Locomotoras	3,992,452	3,616,697
Máquinas de escribir	2,115,558	1,994,867
Maquinaria de diversas clases	14,125,344	17,606,831
Tubos de hierro y accesorios	4,868,496	4,818,271
Calzado	2,710,813	3,358,978
Instrumentos de música	1,356,573	1,318,247
Aceite mineral refinado	42,229,157	51,522,899
Pinturas y colores	1,252,584	1,567,263
Papel y sus manufacturas	4,246,311	5,155,915
Tabaco manufacturado	3,749,943	4,348,306
Muebles	2,869,603	3,139,545
Manufacturas de lana	926,910	1,029,310

Un hecho interesante con relación al tráfico de los Estados Unidos es que en los últimos cuatro años la importación de artículos manufacturados ha aumentado el 50 por ciento, y la exportación el 80 por ciento.

GRAN CONSUMO DE DURMIENTES.

En el Boletín Mensual del mes de octubre de este año se hizo mención del uso de quebracho para durmientes de ferrocarril, y no puede menos de ser interesante á los países donde crece este árbol el saber

que en los Estados Unidos hay mucha demanda para dicha madera. Un durmiente de ferrocarril dura por término medio cinco años, lo cual significa que en diez años se emplean como 9,000 durmientes por cada milla de vía férrea, puesto que se sabe que cada milla de ferrocarril necesita 4,500 durmientes. La compañía del ferrocarril de Pennsylvania ha menester de 2,500,000 durmientes cada año para la parte de su sistema ferroviario que queda al este de Pittsburg; la compañía el "New York Central" necesita cerca de 2,700,000 durmientes entre Nueva York y Búfalo, y el ferrocarril del Erie consume como 2,000,000 cada año entre Jersey City y Salamanca. Se considera que bajo las mejores condiciones posibles, y sin tomar en cuenta los incendios y otros accidentes, se requiere una extensión de terreno de 2,000 acres y no menos de treinta años para obtener 1,000,000 de durmientes.

Se calcula que en cada 30 pies de vía férrea hay cerca de una tonelada de acero, pero el costo de los durmientes en la misma distancia es mayor que la del metal. La cuestión de los durmientes continúa siendo de vital interés en la construcción de ferrocarriles, y parece que el quebracho está llamado á resolver el problema debido á su gran consistencia y duración.

VALOR DEL TRABAJO.

Asegura el Hon. CARROLL D. WRIGHT, Comisionado del Trabajo, que los salarios que se pagan en la actualidad á los operarios en los Estados Unidos son mayores que los que se han pagado en cualquiera otra época. Esta afirmación ha sido hecha después de una investigación minuciosa en todos los establecimientos del país. De dicha investigación resulta que los salarios pagados cada año desde 1890 hasta 1900 figuraron en la siguiente proporción: 1891, 100; 1892, 100.30; 1893, 99.32; 1894, 98.06; 1895, 97.88; 1896, 97.93; 1897, 98.96; 1898, 98.79; 1899, 101.54, y 1900, 103.43. Los datos que han servido de base para este informe fueron obtenidos directamente de establecimientos situados en diferentes partes del país y abrazan todas las industrias, con excepción de la minería.

EXPORTACIÓN Á LA REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA.

La exportación de varios productos de los Estados Unidos á la República Argentina ha aumentado mucho últimamente. Durante una semana del mes de octubre se enviaron de Nueva York á aquella República los siguientes artículos: bramante por valor de $123,367; maquinaria é instrumentos de agricultura por valor de $100,000; rieles de acero por valor de $34,000; máquinas de coser por valor de $10,648; ferretería por valor de $10,000 y bocoyes abatidos por valor de $7,000.

NUEVA LÍNEA DE VAPORES Á PUERTO RICO.

En el mes de octubre próximo pasado se verificó el primer viaje de la nueva línea de navegación denominada "New York and Porto Rico Steamship Company." El vapor que hizo este viaje fué el *Arkadia*, que tiene un porte de 2,000 toneladas, y llevó un cargamento de arroz, harina, maíz, madera, melaza, mercancías de varias clases y salazones. Por ahora los viajes van á ser mensuales, pero se espera que serán más frecuentes á medida que lo exijan las necesidades del comercio. Los vapores tocarán en Mayagüez, Ponce y San Juan.

ESTADÍSTICA SOBRE INSTRUCCIÓN PÚBLICA.

Los últimos datos estadísticos relativos á la instrucción pública en los Estados Unidos alcanzan hasta el 1° de junio de 1899. Según las cifras contenidas en el informe anual del Comisionado de Educación, había en aquella fecha 16,738,362 alumnos que asistían á todas las escuelas públicas y privadas. Esto muestra un aumento de 50 por ciento sobre el año económico anterior. El número de niños en las escuelas públicas era de 15,138,715.

Se ve por dicho informe que había 35,458 alumnos en los colegios de agricultura y artes mecánicas establecidos según una ley del Congreso Nacional, emitida con el objeto de favorecer instituciones de esta clase. La renta total de estos colegios ascendía á $6,193,016, de cuya suma $1,769,716 representaban la cantidad suministrada por el Gobierno, y $2,570,427 provenían de otras fuentes.

El informe trata minuciosamente de las condiciones de la instrucción pública en Puerto Rico, Hawai y las Filipinas. Atendían á las escuelas de Manila el 30 de setiembre de 1899, 5,706 alumnos, aunque había como 25,000 niños que debían recibir instrucción. En Puerto Rico, durante el primer período escolar de 1899–1900, concurrían á las escuelas 24,392 alumnos, y de estos 15,440 eran varones y 8,952 hembras. La asistencia diaria era de 20,103 por término medio. El número de niños matriculados en las escuelas de Hawai era de 15,490, y el número total de escuelas públicas y privadas ascendía á 169. El informe trata también de Cuba desde el punto de vista de la instrucción pública y prueba que ésta ha recibido notable impulso en aquella isla.

DESARROLLO DE CONSTRUCCIONES NAVALES.

El informe trimestral de Lloyd, publicado á principios de octubre de este año, demuestra que las construcciones navales en los Estados Unidos han alcanzado un alto grado de desarrollo, debido en parte á la baratura de la materia prima y en parte á la mayor demanda de tonelaje, pero más todavía al consumo del carbón americano en el extranjero.

Según la autoridad arriba citada, los Estados Unidos tenían á fines del último trimestre más buques en construcción que todas las otras naciones, con excepción de la Gran Bretaña. El porte total de los

buques mercantes, que era de 154,712 toneladas, sobrepujaba al de Francia en 36,000 toneladas y al de Alemania en 42,000. Hasta la fecha no se han tomado en consideración los buques que se construyen en los grandes lagos, cuando se trata del tonelaje total del mundo; pero en lo futuro será preciso hacerlo, porque con haber profundizado los canales canadenses y aumentado el tamaño de las esclusas, barcos de grandes dimensiones, aunque de poco calado, podrán pasar fácilmente al río San Lorenzo y de allí al océano. Una prueba de esto se dió en el mes de octubre próximo pasado, cuando cuatro buques de acero de 3,000 toneladas cada uno pasaron, por medio del canal Erie, á Nueva York, á fin de ser utilizados en el servicio de cabotaje de la costa del Atlántico. En Cleveland y en Detroit van á construirse diez ó más grandes vapores de alta mar durante el invierno, y lo mismo sucederá en Chicago y otros puertos de los lagos.

Todos los astilleros en la costa del Atlántico trabajan con actividad, según se manifestó en nuestro Boletín Mensual del mes de octubre próximo pasado, y hay un número considerable de vapores ventureros en construcción para competir con los ingleses y los de otras naciones en todas partes del mundo. En New London, Connecticut, está para terminarse la construcción de un nuevo astillero, donde se construirán vapores para una línea de navegación entre la costa del Pacífico y el oriente, en conexión con los ferrocariles "Great Northern" y "Northern Pacific," y con los vapores de la "Great Northern Company." En otro astillero en las inmediaciones de Boston se está construyendo para la armada de los Estados Unidos el buque más grande que se ha hecho en Nueva Inglaterra desde la época de los clípers. Es un crucero de 3,200 toneladas de desplazamiento. En Richmond, Virginia, un astillero, donde hasta hace poco solamente se construían embarcaciones pequeñas, acaba de ser ensanchado de modo que puedan construirse en él los buques más grandes. En la costa del Pacífico se están haciendo preparativos por el establecimiento de un astillero que pueda competir con la "Union Iron Works" en la construcción de navíos para el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos.

Un periódico de Nueva York anunció últimamente que la compañía denominada el "New York Central Railroad" estaba para establecer un servicio regular de vapores en conexión con su sistema de ferrocarril, y que el término de la línea sería la bahía de Weehawken. Se dice también que la compañía titulada "Baltimore and Ohio Railroad" se dispone á establecer una línea de navegación transatlántica.

Tres cruceros blindados, cuya construcción fué autorizada por el último Congreso, serán construidos por compañías particulares. Cada uno de estos barcos tendrá un desplazamiento de 9,000 toneladas, y costará como $2,500,000. Á principios de este año había 49 buques de guerra en construcción para la armada federal. Al mismo tiempo se construyen un crucero de 6,500 toneladas y un barco de batalla de 12,700 toneladas para la armada rusa.

AUMENTO DEL TRÁFICO CON EL PERÚ.

El Hon. Irving B. Dudley, Ministro de los Estados Unidos en el Perú, dice que el tráfico de aquella República con los Estados Unidos se ha duplicado en los últimos dos años. Opina Señor Dudley que esto se debe en gran part al hecho de que el azúcar del Perú, que antes se embarcaba directamente para Liverpool, se envía ahora al mercado de Nueva York.

El cuanto al tráfico con los estados del Pacífico, asegura el mencionado diplomático que los principales artículos importados al Perú de aquella sección de los Estados Unidos son trigo y madera, que van principalmente de California y Oregon. Casi toda la maquinaria para minas que se usa en el país viene del puerto de San Diego, y á medida que se desarrollen las minas del Perú aumentará la demanda de maquinaria. El Ministro Dudley recomienda que se establezcan mejores comunicaciones entre los puertos del Pacífico de la América del Norte y del Sur.

CARGAMENTOS DE CIGARROS DE TAMPA.

Los cargamentos de cigarros de Tampa, Florida, han aumentado de una manera extraordinaria en este año en comparación con el anterior. Desde el 1° de enero de 1900 se han enviado 19,506 cajas de cigarros, contra 13,193 en el mismo período de 1899. Como cada caja contiene 5,000 cigarros, se puede ver que los cargamentos durante diez meses de este año ascendieron á 97,530,000 cigarros, contra 65,695,000 durante el mismo período del año anterior, lo cual muestra una diferencia á favor de 1900 de 31,835,000 cigarros.

Para tener una idea de lo que es este tráfico, basta decir que se han enviado más cajas de cigarros de Tampa en este año hasta el mes de octubre que en todos los meses del año pasado. En 1899 se pagaron más de $3,000,000 por salarios en esta industria, y dicha cifra ha aumentado en los diez meses del año en curso.

INSTRUMENTOS AGRÍCOLAS EN AUSTRALIA.

El hecho de que los Estados Unidos pueden competir con la Gran Bretaña en las colonias de esta última se manifiesta de una manera evidente en la importación á Australia de instrumentos agrícolas de fabricación americana. Según datos oficiales, la exportación de maquinaria para agricultura, etc., de Inglaterra á Australia en 1891 representó un valor de $243,865, y en 1899 fué por valor de $363,345, mientras que los Estados Unidos exportaron en 1891 á aquella colonia inglesa la misma clase de artículos por valor de $351,997, y en 1899 por valor de $912,223.

El periódico "Farm Implement News," en su número de 25 de octubre próximo pasado, llama la atención á este hecho, y agrega que de-

bido al desarrollo industrial y agrícola en aquella parte del mundo, cada día habrá mayor demanda de instrumentos agrícolas de los Estados Unidos.

RECURSOS FLORESTALES DE LAS FILIPINAS.

De conformidad con la política del Gobierno federal de desarrollar los recursos florestales de las Filipinas, el Colegio de Selvicultura del estado de Nueva York ha recibido de Manila una solicitud para que envíe media docena de personas competentes que cooperen en dicho trabajo. La solicitud proviene de la Oficina Florestal de Manila, y es la intención de ésta organizar un sistema perfecto de administración á fin de desarrollar los 20,000,000 de acres de bosques nacionales que producen hoy una renta de $100,000 anualmente. Bajo una dirección competente esta cantidad puede aumentarse notablemente. Se ha pensado también en que para hacer más eficaz el proyecto en referencia conviene enviar jóvenes graduados en los colegios de las Filipinas á tomar cursos especiales de selvicultura en la Universidad de Cornell.

IMPORTACIONES DE MÉXICO.

Según dice el periódico "The Two Republics," correspondiente al 16 de octubre próximo pasado, el promedio anual de la importación de productos agrícolas de México en los Estados Unidos de 1895 á 1899 fué de $13,600,110, ó sea un total de $68,000,552. Los principales artículos que se importan de México son fibras vegetales, café, pieles, cueros y ganado. El henequén ocupa el primer lugar, pues se calcula que la cantidad que de este artículo se importa anualmente representa un valor de $4,778,000 por término medio. También se importa una cantidad considerable de ixtle y de fibra de Tampico. El café importado cada año tiene un valor de $4,178,000.

PEDIDOS DE RIELES DEL EXTRANJERO.

Cada día se demuestra de un modo más evidente el hecho de que los rieles para ferrocarril fabricados en los Estados Unidos dan completa satisfacción en el extranjero. Últimamente el Gobierno de Holanda ha pedido á una fábrica de Pittsburg 12,000 toneladas de rieles de acero para la construcción de ferrocarriles en las colonias holandesas, de los cuales 3,000 millas se construirán en la isla de Java. Se cree que más tarde se harán nuevos pedidos. Todo esto es el resultado de investigaciones especiales hechas en los Estados Unidos por comisionados del Gobierno de Holanda.

Otras fábricas han recibido también grandes pedidos de Inglaterra é Irlanda, lo cual se explica por el hecho de que los rieles de ferrocarril pueden comprarse un 10 por ciento más baratos en los Estados Unidos que en la Gran Bretaña.

ALEMANIA COMO EXPORTADORA DE MANUFACTURAS AMERICANAS.

Es un hecho curioso relacionado con los mercados donde Alemania predomina que aquella nación es la que compra la mayor cantidad de productos acabados de los Estados Unidos, siendo estos productos destinados á ser reembarcados para aquellos puertos donde el comercio alemán es más floreciente. Últimamente se han recibido de Berlin pedidos por valor de $62,000, todo lo cual debe ser enviado á uno de los principales mercados de la América del Sur. Para formarse un idea de la variedad de objetos que constituyen dichos pedidos, basta manifestar que el mayor de ellos no alcanza á un valor de $6,000, y que incluyen casi todo clase de ferretería, herramientas pequeñas, máquinas de escribir, material para carruajes, etc. Se calcula que habrá necesidad de tres meses para despachar todos estos pedidos.

MAQUINARIA PARA PATATAS.

Á este respecto dice "El Progreso de México" lo siguiente:

"La maquinaria para el ahorro del trabajo en el cultivo de la patata ha presentado muy serios obstáculos al inventor de la moderna maquinaria agrícola. Los cereales merecieron desde un principio la atención de los fabricantes de instrumentos de labranza, mientras que muy poco se ha hecho para acabar con los primitivos procedimientos manuales del cultivo de la patata. La razón es muy sencilla; la dificultad de producir máquinas prácticas se presentó desde muy temprano, y los capitales eran escasos para emplearse en este campo, que ofrecía pocas seguridades de éxito.

"Pero el genio no es egoísta como el capital, y por lo menos una persona vió las dificultades que se presentaban como un incentivo. Los resultados de sus trabajos fueron una serie de máquinas para la siembra de la patata perfectamente prácticas, y las cuales los agricultores americanos, después de rudas pruebas, han reconocido tan eficaces é indispensables como cualquiera otra clase de maquinaria agrícola mejorada.

"El primero de los productos citados es la célebre plantadora de patatas automática. Con este aparato se ahorra mucho trabajo. Un hombre y un par de caballos pueden hacer más y mejor labor que diez hombres sembrando según el método antiguo.

"Sabido es que nada ofrece al agricultor una ganancia tan segura en cambio de su tiempo y trabajo como la cosecha de patatas. Con el uso de la sembradora de patatas aludida se ha levantado este cultivo á la altura del trigo y del maíz, además de dar mayor y más segura ganancia en el número de acres de siembra.

"Una de las cualidades principales de esta máquina es que está dotada de accesorios, por los cuales se convierte en una máquina de

uso general para el agricultor. Un accesorio para fertilizador que asegura un abono perfecto es una ventaja que aprecia todo agricultor práctico. El accesorio para sembrar maíz transforma la sembradora de patatas en una máquina para sembrar maíz á la profundidad necesaria, en hileras de 10, 13, 15, 17, 21, y 26 pulgadas entre sí, y está construida con correderas, por las cuales se ajusta fácilmente para sembrar frijoles, arvejas, etc."

ESTADÍSTICA URBANA.

El 25 de octubre de este año la Oficina del Censo publicó un boletín que trata de las ciudades que tienen 25,000 habitantes ó más. El número de éstas es de 159, y el boletín muestra que el aumento en su población de 1890 á 1900 fué de 32.5, contra 49.5 en la década anterior. La población de todas estas ciudades asciende en la actualidad á 19,694,625, contra 14,855,489 en 1890, ó sea un aumento de 4,839,136 durante la década.

Ocupa el primer lugar entre dichas ciudades Nueva York, con una población de más de 3,000,000 de habitantes. Vienen á continuación Chicago y Filadelfia con más de 1,000,000, San Luis, Boston y Baltimore con más de 500,000, Cleveland, Búfalo, San Francisco, Cincinnati, y Pittsburg con no menos de 300,000 habitantes, y Nueva Orleans, Detroit, Milwaukee, Wáshington, Newark, Jersey City, Louisville y Minneápolis, cuya población es de 200,000 á 300,000 habitantes.

La población de estas 19 ciudades en 1900 es de 11,795,809 habitantes, contra 8,879,105 en 1890, lo cual representa un aumento de 2,916,704, ó sea el 32.8 per ciento.

SECCIÓN DE LA PRENSA LATINO-AMERICANA EN LA EXPOSICIÓN DE BÚFFALO.

Mr. Mark Bennett, Superintendente de la Sección de la Prensa en la Exposición Pan-Americana de Búffalo, ha dirigido una carta á la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas, en la cual manifiesta que la sección de la Prensa Latino-Americana está á cargo de Mr. John Vavasour Noel, á quien deben dirigirse todas las comunicaciones de la prensa latino-americana.

ESTADÍSTICA DE CALIFORNIA.

El aumento en la población de California durante medio siglo, según se ve por el censo de 1900, ha sido maravilloso. Hoy tiene aquel estado dieciseis veces más habitantes que en 1850. En la última década la población ha aumentado 22.9 por ciento, pues en 1890 era de 1,208,130 habitantes, y en la actualidad es de 1,485,053. La extensión total de California es como de 155,980 millas cuadradas, y el promedio de habi-

tantes por cada milla, que en 1890 era de 7.7, es ahora de 9.5. De los 57 condados que hay en el estado, tres muestran un aumento de más de 50 por ciento. De las 116 ciudades y pueblos, 46 tienen más de 2,000 habitantes; 19 cuentan con más de 5,000 habitantes; 10 con más de 10,000, y 4 con más de 25,000. Estas últimas ciudades son San Francisco, con 342,782 habitantes; Los Ángeles, con 102,479; Oakland, con 66,960, y Sacramento, con 29,282.

LA COSECHA DE PATATAS.

Calcula el "American Agriculturist" que la cosecha de patatas en los Estados Unidos durante este año será como de 239,000,000 de *bushels*, lo cual es como 5,000,000 de *bushels* menos que la del año pasado. La extensión total de terreno sembrado de patatas es aproximadamente de 2,897,000 acres, con una producción media de 83 *bushels* por acre.

El Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos envió últimamente á Wilmington, Carolina del Norte, un agente con el objeto de despachar un cargamento de batatas á Inglaterra, Francia y Alemania. Esto se debe á que una cantidad de este artículo enviado el año pasado á Londres y á París dió muy buenos resultados. Se cree que las suculentas batatas que se dan en la Carolina del Norte tendrán muy buena aceptación en el exterior, y que puede hacerse con este artículo un tráfico considerable.

NOTABLE BUQUE DE GUERRA.

El crucero que acaba de ser construido en los Estados Unidos para el Gobierno ruso es el más rápido y más perfecto de cuantos existen de su clase en el mundo. El periódico "Nautical Gazette" dice que el *Variag* es un modelo como buque de guerra, y no sin razón es mirado como una muestra de los adelantos que han hecho los Estados Unidos en construcciones navales. Dicho crucero tiene una velocidad de más de 24 nudos por hora.

EL ALGODÓN Y SUS TEJIDOS.

Debido á que la cosecha de algodón de los Estados Unidos en 1899–1900 no fué suficiente para abastecer á las fábricas del país, la exportación de este artículo sufrió gran diminución. Á la Gran Bretaña solamente se enviaron 2,295,358 pacas, mientras que en el año anterior se exportaron para aquel país 3,471,252 pacas. Á Alemania se mandaron 163,959 pacas menos que en el año precedente, y en cuanto á Francia, la diminución fué de 93,838 pacas. Los informes obtenidos de México muestran que la importación de algodón de los Estados Unidos bajó de 32,437 pacas en el año fiscal que terminó el 30 de junio de 1899, á 18,391 pacas en el que terminó en el mismo día y mes de 1900, lo cual muestra una diminución de 14,046 pacas. La exportación á Japón,

Bélgica y la América inglesa aumentó, siendo el aumento en el primer caso de 116,213 pacas, en el segundo de 14,212 y en el tercero de 8,068.

Otro factor que sin duda alguna ha contribuido considerablemente á la diminución de la cantidad de algodón exportada de los Estados Unidos, es el desarrollo de la industria de tejidos de algodón en este país durante los últimos diez años. Muchos de los estados donde se cultiva dicha planta se han convertido en centros de manufacturas de géneros de algodón y de esta manera se ha reducido la cantidad de materia prima que puede exportarse. El "Textile World," periódico que se publica en Boston, calcula el aumento de husos y telares en los Estados Unidos como sigue:

	1900.	1890.	Aumento.
			Por ciento.
Husos	21,057,983	14,188,103	48.4
Telares	490,398	324,866	50.9

De estos husos 15,243,000 se encuentran en los estados del norte y 5,815,000 en los estados del sur. En 1890 los husos en operación estaban divididos así: 1,828,000 en el sur y 12,721,000 en el norte, de suerte que el aumento en la primera de estas secciones es de 3,987,000, ó sea 217 por ciento, y en la segunda de 2,522,000, ó sea 19.8 por ciento.

En la Exposición de París se otorgó el gran premio por algodón y otras fibras exhibidas al Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos, lo cual pone en manifiesto lo notable de dicha exhibición.

LA CIUDAD DE BÚFFALO.

El periódico "La América Cientifica é Industrial" publica el siguiente interesante artículo sobre la ciudad de Búffalo:

"La Exposición Pan-Americana se celebrará al próximo verano en la ciudad de Búffalo. Esta ciudad, del Estado de Nueva York, está situada en la extremidad oriental del Lago Erie. Se halla á 352 millas al oeste de la capital del Estado, Albany, y á 300 de Nueva York, por la gran vía ferroviaria denominada "New York Central." Búffalo tiene como unas 5 millas de frente, como 2½ en el lago y como otras tantas en el Río Niágara. Parte de esta ciudad es preciosísima. Sus calles son anchas y rectas, cortándose, por la mayor parte, en ángulos rectos. Son dignas de especial mención las llamadas Main y Niágara, lo mismo que la avenida Delaware. Las dos primeras tienen, respectivamente, 6 y 5 millas de extensión, y 3 la avenida. Las calles de las partes elevadas están profusamente llenas de árboles. Más de 100 millas de asfalto aumentan la importancia de sus calles. Árboles frondosos se encuentran también en sus plazas públicas y en sus parques pequeños, que son 15. En cuanto al desarrollo de su población, alcanza el undécimo rango entre las ciudades de la Unión.

"Su policía y su sistema de bomberos cuentan con 70 millas de alambres eléctricos para comunicar sus órdenes y noticias. Tres compañías de gas y una de electricidad la alumbran profusamente. Otras dos compañías la abastecen de gas natural para combustible y calefacción. Líneas telefónicas y de caminos eléctricos la cruzan por todas partes. Tiene buenos edificios públicos, un hospital general, varios más bajo la dirección de asociaciones laicas y religiosas, un magnífico asilo de locos, muchos de huérfanos y otras clases, 167 iglesias, y una buena biblioteca pública, con más de 68,000 volúmenes. Son muchísimas sus instituciones de caridad. Cuenta con sociedades de ciencias naturales, médicas y literarias. Su magnífico sistema de enseñanza pública se compone de una escuela normal, de 50 escuelas públicas, que tienen 850 profesores y más de 38,000 alumnos. Dos colegios de medicina, academias y escuelas particulares aumentan sus elementos de enseñanza. El valor de la propiedad de las escuelas públicas asciende á $1,774,725 y el mantenerlas cuesta $775,000 anuales. La ciudad tiene un soberbio parque público de 442 acres. En sus suburbios está el precioso cementerio llamado "Forest Lawn," que tiene 75 acres de terreno. Su prensa cuenta con 7 diarios en inglés y 3 en aleman, y 20 semanarios, de los cuales 4 son sectarios. También tiene publicaciones mensuales y trimestrales, ascendiendo todas al número de 100.

"Búffalo es un importante y próspero centro comercial y tiene extensas manufacturas. Su comercio viene aumentando anualmente, á causa de su situación al pie de la gran cadena de lagos, y por ser el término del gran Canal del Erie y de varias líneas de ferrocarriles, que son 11 principales con 7 ramales. Esas vías la comunican fácilmente con Nueva York, Filadelfia, Chicago y otros puntos importantes. Su principal comercio es el de granos. También tiene gran comercio de antracita y carbón bituminoso. Es el centro de distribución de la harina del oeste, habiendo recibido en 1891 más de 7,260,072 barriles. Solamente Chicago le aventajó en el comercio de ganado. Es grande también el de madera; en 1887 llegó á 390,656,988 pies. En cuanto á manufacturas de hierro y de acero sólo Pittsburg la aventaja.

"Búffalo fué fundada por una compañía holandesa en 1801, y pasó á ser puesto militar en 1812. En diciembre de 1813 fué destruida por un incendio, cuando de sus 200 casas sólo quedaron 2 de pie. En abril de 1832 se le incorporó como ciudad. Su población pasa de 286,000 habitantes.

FABRICACIÓN DE BOTONES DE NÁCAR.

En esta industria va á consumirse gran cantidad de algunas conchas que antes se consideraban inútiles. El centro de dicha industria es al pueblo de Muscatine, Iowa, donde hay 25 fábricas de botones que emplean 1,200 personas. La producción semanal de estas fábricas es de 98,000 gruesas de botones, y se calcula que se consumen cada semana

175 toneladas de conchas. La sencillez del procedimiento para la manufactura de botones y su poco costo ha llamado la atención de capitalistas en diferentes partes del país.

VALOR DE ARTÍCULOS DE COMERCIO.

Un hecho que revela la prosperidad de los Estados Unidos en el momento actual es que, mientras que ha disminuido el valor de toda clase de efectos manufacturados, comparando este año con el anterior, ha habido un aumento notable en toda clase de productos agrícolas. Según el informe oficial de la Oficina Estadística del Ministerio de Hacienda, últimamente publicado, la reducción en el valor de las manufacturas desde el principio del año civil de 1900 hasta el 1° de octubre ha sido de 10 á 40 por ciento. En la hoja de lata la reducción ha sido de 24 por ciento; en el petróleo refinado, de 21 por ciento; en el vidrio para ventanas, de 12 por ciento; en los clavos de alambre, de 30 por ciento; en el alambre de púas, de 26 por ciento; en el hierro en lingotes de Bessemer, de 46 por ciento; en los rieles de acero, de 26 por ciento; en el cuero, de 10 por ciento; en calzado de varias clases, de 7 á 10 por ciento; en géneros de lana de diversas calidades, de 5 á 12 por ciento.

Por otra parte el maíz ha avanzado de 39½ centavos por *bushel* á 48½ centavos; el trigo, de 73.8 centavos por *bushel* á 79.7 centavos; la cebada, de 45 centavos á 59 centavos por *bushel;* los cerdos, de $4.50 por 100 libras á $5.30; el algodón, de 7$\frac{11}{16}$ centavos por libra á 10.8 centavos, y la semilla de algodón de $12 por tonelada á $17.35.

NUEVO MÉTODO PARA CURTIR.

Se ha descubierto hace poco un procedimiento para curtir pieles mediante la acción de una solución de bicromato de potasio sobre el cuero limpio de pelos. Cuando se ha limpiado el cuero completamente, se le sumerge en una solución de sal común; después se le lava en salmuera y se procede á curtirlo en un licor caliente que se obtiene disolviendo como un 5 por ciento de bicromato de potasio en agua y mezclándolo con ácido hidroclórico. Cuando ha estado en este baño por espacio de tres horas, el cuero se pone de color amarillo. Después se le lava bien, y se le prepara en la forma acostumbrada. Este procedimiento ha sido patentado en los Estados Unidos y se cree que es muy útil para curtir cueros en un corto tiempo y á poco costo.

INFLUENCIA QUE LA DISTANCIA Á QUE SE PLANTAN LOS ÁRBOLES EJERCE SOBRE SU CRECIMIENTO.

En este país se hicieron recientemente experimentos con pinos y alerces colocándolos á distancia de 1 metro, 1.5 y 2 metros. Cuando se plantaron tenían los árboles 4 años de edad y se midieron doce á catorce años después; se midió el desarrollo de los diferentes árboles, su

circunferencia y altura. Resulta que la distancia de 2 metros da los mejores resultados, especialmente para los abetos. Esta distancia parece favorecer especialmente el aumento del diámetro. El efecto sobre la altura no se pudo determinar en definitiva.

UNA CLASE VALIOSA DE CAÑA DE AZÚCAR.

El Profesor William C. Stubbs, Director de la Estación Experimental del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos para el estudio de la caña de azúcar en el estado de Luisiana, la única que existe en este país, anuncia que después de varios años de experimentos ha obtenido una clase de caña de azúcar que produce 30 por ciento más de azúcar que cualquiera de las otras que se dan en Luisiana, en Texas ó en los otros estados del sur, y dice que esta caña va á causar una revolución en la industria azucarera.

Dicha caña es originaria de la isla de Trinidad, y es una de las varias clases importadas hace seis años. El Profesor Stubbs ha elegido una clase que se adapta especialmente para el cultivo en los estados del sur, y que aumentará la producción de azúcar con relación á la extensión de terreno sembrado de caña.

Hay en la actualidad dos clases de caña que producen 38 toneladas de azúcar por acre, y cuyo jugo contiene 16 por ciento de azúcar, mientras que la caña que hasta ahora se ha usado no produce más de 30 á 35 toneladas por acre, conteniendo su jugo solamente 12 por ciento de azúcar.

La estación experimental de Luisiana tiene suficiente caña de azúcar para proveer á los plantadores del estado, y asimismo á los de otras partes de los Estados Unidos.

NUEVAS MINAS DE AZOGUE.

La escasez de azogue en el mundo ha dado por resultada que se hagan exploraciones en busca de este metal en el estado de California, dando por resultado que se hayan encontrado varias minas nuevas, lo que parece indicar que la producción de azogue en aquel estado va á ser mayor que lo había sido hasta ahora. El condado de San Luis Obispo tiene varias minas que prometen mucho, y se están dando pasos para explotar una gran mina de dicho mineral en el condado de Modesto.

AUMENTO DEL COMERCIO CON LA CHINA.

Según datos oficiales publicados por el Gobierno chino, las importaciones de los Estados Unidos en la China se han más que cuadruplicado de 1895 á 1899, lo cual no ha ocurrido con ninguno de los países europeos. El valor de las importaciones durante esos cuatro años ha sido en *taels*, de 72 centavos cada uno, como sigue: en 1895 de 5,093,182 *taels;* en 1896 de 11,929,853 *taels;* en 1897 de 12,440,302 *taels;* en 1898 de 17,163,312 *taels*, y en 1899 de 22,288,745 *taels*. La importa-

ción de la Gran Bretaña durante el mismo período aumentó por término medio en un 18 por ciento; la de otros países europeos en 35 por ciento, mientras que la de los Estados Unidos aumentó en la enorme cantidad de 337 por ciento.

El Comisionado en Tientsin dice que ha habido un gran aumento en la importación de géneros blancos para sábanas, habiendo sido la de los Estados Unidos de 90,000 piezas más en 1899 que en 1898. Los driles americanos muestran un aumento de 6 por ciento en cuanto al valor, mientras que la maquinaria, material para ferrocarril, etc., muestran un gran aumento sobre 1897 y 1898. De Shanghai se han recibido informes relativos á que la importación de telas de algodón americanas aumenta constantemente, y de Cantón se anuncia que la importación de harina de los Estados Unidos supera más y más cada día á la de otros países.

RECURSOS DE ALASKA.

Parece ser la impresión general que los recursos de Alaska se limitan á la producción de oro, pero, según el Coronel P. H. Ray, del ejército de los Estados Unidos, aquella parte de la nación ofrece tantas ventajas para la actividad industrial como cualquier otro punta de la República. En un discurso pronunciado ante la Sociedad Geográfica de Alaska en Seattle, estado de Wáshington, el Coronel Ray expresó la opinión de que los recursos de Alaska, sin incluir el oro, son mayores que los de los Estados de la costa del Pacífico, excepción hecha de la madera. En casi todo el valle de Yukon se dan la avena, el trigo y toda clase de granos. Agregó el Coronel Ray que según su experiencia personal 1,400 *bushels* de patatas se habían producido en cuatro acres de terreno, y que el heno conocido con el nombre de *timothy hay* crece silvestre hasta la altura de cuatro pies. En cuanto á la pesca, Alaska ofrece oportunidades incalculables, muy superiores á las que presentan Terranova y el Mar del Norte juntos. En su informe al Departamento de la Guerra, el Coronel Ray recomienda que se ofrezcan alicientes á los escandinavos para que emigren á Alaska, porque ese pueblo está muy familiarizado con las condiciones de la vida en aquella latitud. El clima de Alaska no es más riguroso que el de las grandes planicies de Wyoming, Montana y algunas partes de Nevada.

EXAMEN QUÍMICO OFICIAL DE SUBSTANCIAS ALIMENTICIAS.

En el laboratorio químico del Departamento de Agricultura se hacen toda clase de exámenes para los otros departamentos del Gobierno. Antes de que el de la Guerra ordene una cantidad considerable de provisiones para el uso del ejército se envían muestras á dicho laboratorio á fin de que sean examinadas en cuanto á sus propiedades nutritivas é higiénicas. Otro tanto se hace con todos los materiales usados para vestidos y equipos.

Á solicitud del Secretario del Interior, el Dr. WILEY, jefe del laboratorio químico, últimamente dió principio á un análisis minucioso de las aguas de Hot Springs, en al estado de Arkansas, donde el Gobierno mantiene un establecimiento para soldados inválidos que padecen de reumatismo y de otros enfermedades semejantes. En estas famosas fuentes hay de 70 á 80 diferentes clases de aguas y todas van á ser examinadas cuidadosamente por los peritos de Gobierno. Los puntos que hay que determinar son los siguientes: la cantidad de gases en solución; la temperatura; la cantidad de materia orgánica; el número y carácter de los gérmenes, y la composición química de cada una. El laboratorio médico é higiénico del Departamento del Ejército en Hot Springs ha sido puesto á la disposición de los químicos del Departamento de la Guerra. El examen que se está haciendo de aquellas aguas va á ser de importancia nacional, puesto que demostrará las propiedades curativas de las mencionadas fuentes.

En un análisis sobre las causas que producen la fiebre tifoidea, últimamente publicado, el Dr. WILEY expresa la opinión de que los beneficios que se obtienen con el uso de las llamadas aguas minerales no se deben tanto á las propiedades curativas de estos últimos, sino al hecho de que se encuentran libres de toda clase de gérmenes. Al mismo tiempo, asegura el autor de dicho análisis que la leche es el medio más aparente para la producción del germen de la tifoidea.

GRAN CONTRATO PARA CARROS DE ACERO.

El contrato más grande que se ha hecho para carros de acero fué celebrado últimamente por una compañía americana, y comprende 6,000 carros, con una capacidad de 100,000 libras cada uno. Desde el punto de vista del tonelaje, así como del valor del pedido, este contrato es el más notable de que hay recuerdo en cuanto á equipos para ferrocarril. Además de este pedido la misma compañía ha recibido otros de consideración.

VAPORES PARA EL TRÁFICO CON LA CHINA.

Como resultado del creciente tráfico con la China se ha comprendido la necesidad de establecer inmediatamente un buen sistema de transportación entre la costa oriental de los Estados Unidos y la costa occidental de Asia. Es imposible que las líneas de navegación que parten de Vancouver den abasto á todas las necesidades del comercio del Pacífico. Mr. J. J. HILL, del "Great Northern Railroad," se propone establecer una línea de vapores para pasajeros y carga entre Seattle, estado de Wáshington, y los puertos de la China, en conexión con las vías férreas de la Compañía del "Great Northern Railroad." El hecho de que la transportación por tierra y por agua estará bajo el dominio de una sola corporación dará por resultado necesariamente la reducción en los fletes, reducción que no bajará de $3 á $4 por tonelada.

CULTIVO DE LA ALFALFA EN EL ESTADO DE WÁSHINGTON.

La alfalfa se cultiva hoy en gran escala en algunas partes del estado de Wáshington, y se calcula que en este año la cosecha de una sola sección de dicho estado dejará á los cultivadores cerca de $1,000,000. Una gran cantidad de este forraje ha sido enviada ya á diferentes partes, y aun queda mucho para almacenar. Los que se dedican al cultivo de esta planta pretenden que produce más con relación al dinero invertido en su cultivo que cualquiera otra, y que se pueden obtener tres ó cuatro cosechas al año. No solo mejora de año en año la calidad de la planta, sino que también sirve como abono de la tierra. El gasto total del cultivo de la alfalfa, incluyendo el riego y la cosecha, varía de 10 á $15 por acre, y el precio es de $4 á $6.50 y $7.50 la tonelada, según la manera como es entregada. Como la cosecha produce de 6 á 10 toneladas por acre y se recoge tres y cuatro veces durante el año, se ve claramente que una producción de $30 á $50 por acre deja al cultivador una buena ganancia. La alfalfa se introdujo primitivamente en California hace como cincuenta años, y de allí fué elevada á Utah, donde hoy se obtiene casi toda la semilla para el cultivo, la cual se vende por término medio á 7 centavos por libra.

INDUSTRIA DE LECHERÍA.

Entre las grandes industrias del país la de lechería ocupa un lugar prominente. Según el Anuario del Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos, había en este país el 1° de enero de 1900, 16,292,360 vacas, contra 15,952,883 en el mismo período de 1890. El estado de Nueva York, que es el gran centro de la manufactura de queso, tiene el mayor número de vacas, á saber: 1,487,000. Vienen á continuación Ohio, Illinois, Wisconsin y Pennsylvania..

La exportación total de mantequilla de los Estados Unidos en 1899 ascendió á 20,000,000 libras, más de las mitad de la cual fué á la Gran Bretaña. El comercio de queso es de gran importancia. En el año corriente, desde el 1° de mayo hasta el 22 de septiembre, se han exportado 8,240,000 libras de este artículo más que en el mismo período del año anterior.

CULTIVO DE MOSTAZA.

Casi toda la cosecha de mostaza del país se produce en el condado de Santa Bárbara, estado de California, donde hay 2,500 acres dedicados á dicho cultivo. No se ha pedido averiguar científicamente qué es lo que esta planta extrae del suelo, pero se sabe que es imposible obtener dos cosechas sucesivas en la misma tierra. La mostaza silvestre, que se encuentra en abundancia en el condado de Santa Bárbara, fué la que despertó interés en el cultivo de esta planta, y durante diez y ocho años aquella localidad ha tenido una especie de monopolio de dicho cultivo, que requiere considerable humedad. La mostaza morena

se siembra en el mes de enero y la amarilla en marzo. La ciudad de San Francisco es el punto de distribución de este producto para los diversos mercados del país.

PRODUCCIÓN DE PETRÓLEO EN CALIFORNIA.

El informe anual del Director de la Oficina de Estudios Geológicos de los Estados Unidos muestra que la producción de petróleo en California durante el año de 1899 aumentó en 384,888 barriles sobre la del año anterior. La producción total de petróleo crudo durante el año fué de 2,624,095 barriles, valorados en $2,508,751. La demanda principal de petróleo en California es para combustible, pues se le usa en las refinerías de azúcar, en los establecimientos de luz eléctrica y fuerza motriz, etc. También se le emplea en gran escala en las locomotoras y en las manufacturas de hierro y acero.

TRABAJOS DE LA OFICINA METEOROLÓGICA.

Se calcula que el mantenimiento de las 150 estaciones meteorológicas en los Estados Unidos cuesta como $1,000,000 al año. De esta cantidad $180,000 se gastan en despachos telegráficos. El resultado de las observaciones meteorológicas se recibe en Wáshington una hora después de haber sido obtenido en las diferentes estaciones, y en el curso de dos horas, después de haberse examinado los instrumentos en la mañana, las noticias relativas al tiempo son enviadas á más de 1,000 centros de distribución, y de allí por teléfono ú otros medios de comunicación á más de 73,000 direcciones. La mayor parte de estas noticias se comunican en la primer parte del día y ninguna después de las 6 de la tarde. Se dice que Alemania se propone á seguir el mismo sistema de observaciones meteorológicas que se observa en los Estados Unidos.

LÍNEAS FERROVIARIAS.

Por los datos estadísticos sobre los ferrocarriles de los Estados Unidos contenidos en el manual de Poor, se ve que la construcción de vías férreas en este país durante el año de 1899 supera á la de cualquier otro país del mundo. El 31 de diciembre de 1899 había en los Estados Unidos 190,833 millas de vías férreas. Estos ferrocarriles condujeron durante el año 538,000,000 de pasajeros y 978,000,000 toneladas de carga. El producto total de este tráfico se calcula en $1,336,000,000.

La publicación atrás mencionada da algunos datos interesantes sobre la cantidad de rieles de acero usados en los ferrocarriles de los Estados Unidos de 1880 á 1899. En 1880 solamente el 29 por ciento de los rieles era de acero, mientras que á fines de 1899 el 91.7 por ciento de los rieles era de dicho metal. El número total de locomotoras al terminar el año de 1899 ascendía á 37,245.

DEPÓSITOS DE ORO EN LA TESORERÍA.

En la semana que terminó el 27 de octubre próximo pasado había en la tesorería de los Estados Unidos la extraordinaria cantidad de $451,477,404 oro, que es el depósito más grande de este metal que existe en el mundo. El segundo está el Banco de Francia, y se calcula que asciende á $446,000,000. El Banco Imperial de Rusia tiene en depósito $350,000,000, lo cual representa una diminución de cerca de $75,000,000 en el curso de un año. Los bancos de Viena y de Berlin han aumentado sus depósitos desde el año pasado en $35,000,000 y $10,000,000, respectivamente. En España é Italia se han observado pocos cambios, mientras que la cantidad de oro en el Banco de Holanda ha aumentado en unos $10,000,000, y asimismo ha habido algún aumento en Bélgica. Á fines de octubre la cantidad de oro en el Banco de Inglaterra era de £32,802,492, ó sean $160,000,000, siendo esta suma $5,000,000 menos que la que existía en el mismo período de 1899.

Dice "The Journal of Finance," después de hacer los cálculos que preceden, que la producción de oro en 1899 ascendió á $322,000,000, y que la cuarta parte de esta cantidad fué producida por las minas de los Estados Unidos. Agrega este periódico que casi todo el oro que sale de dichas minas se queda en los Estados Unidos, y que además dicho metal se hace venir de otras fuentes.

UN NUEVO CONTRATO AMERICANO EN EUROPA.

Dice el periódico "Cleveland Plain Dealer" lo siguiente:

"Un nuevo contrato ha sido agregado á la lista de los que han celebrado en Londres ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos. Una compañía de Pittsburg, en competencia con fabricantes europeos, recibió un pedido por valor de $5,000,000 de material rodante para los ferrocarriles del África Austral. La compañía americana ofreció hacer el trabajo por una tercera parte menos que cualquier compañía europea, y en cuanto al tiempo para terminarlo, se comprometió á entregar dicho material ocho meses antes de la época en que prometían hacerlo los fabricantes de Europa. El hecho de que los ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos continúen obteniendo grandes contratos al otro lado del Atlántico no puede sino causar una impresión poco favorable en el ánimo de los fabricantes europeos, especialmente los ingleses.

PAPEL PARA AMÉRICA LATINA.

Por informes obtenidos últimamente se ve que el mercado de papel en la América latina no recibe por parte de los comerciantes de los Estados Unidos la atención que merece. En la ciudad de Monterrey, México, la escasez de este artículo llegó á ser tal, que se creyó que no era posible continuar la publicación de los diarios. La ciudad de Buenos Aires ofrece también excelente mercado para la venta de papel de

todas clases. Durante una semana en el mes de octubre se embarcó en Nueva York papel para la República Argentina por valor de $3,000. Se encuentra en aquel país toda la materia prima necesaria para la fabricación de papel, y los periódicos argentinos recomiendan con interés que se establezcan fábricas de este importante artículo.

Los datos estadísticos del Ministerio de Hacienda correspondientes al mes de septiembre próximo pasado, muestran que la exportación de papel durante dicho mes representó un valor de $652,149, contra $458,896 en el mismo mes de 1899. Durante los nueve meses que terminaron en septiembre último, la exportación total ascendió á un valor de $5,155,915, contra $4,246,311 en 1899. Se calcula que el valor total de la exportación durante el año civil corriente montará al $6,000,000. Durante la semana que terminó el 3 de este mes se remitió al puerto de Callao papel por valor de $2,009, y á los puertos mexicanos por valor de $1,673. Á Australia se exportó dicho artículo por valor de $80,000. El valor total de la exportación durante la semana en referencia ascendió á $103,183.

LA INDUSTRIA DE LINAZA.

Para formarse una idea de lo que ha aumentado el valor de la linaza, basta saber que el más valioso cargamento de granos que se ha llevado en los grandes lagos salió del puerto de Duluth á principios de noviembre, y que este cargamento consistía en 260,000 *bushels* de linaza, con un valor total de $468,000. En los últimos años se ha disminuido un poco la cosecha anual de linaza, pues en un tiempo ascendía á 25,000,000 de *bushels*, y en la actualidad no pasa de 18,000,000. Cada *bushel* de linaza produce cerca de dos galones de aceite, y como en los Estados Unidos se consumen anualmente cerca de 40,000,000 de galones, es claro que hay que importar cierta cantidad de este artículo.

Aun no se tienen informes relativos á la cosecha de la República Argentina, pero la producción de este grano es siempre muy considerable en aquel país, y es posible que este año ejerza gran influencia sobre el tráfico general en este producto.

GRAN CARGAMENTO DE ALGODÓN.

Escriben de Nueva Orleans que el 31 de octubre próximo pasado salió para Inglaterra á bordo del vapor *Mechanician* el cargamento de algodón más grande que se ha despachado de los Estados Unidos en un solo buque. Consistía dicho cargamento en 26,000 pacas de algodón, llevando además el mencionado vapor 32,000 *bushels* de trigo y 8,000 pies de madera de nogal. Se dice que el valor total de todos los cargamentos despachados del puerto de Nueva Orleans en la fecha arriba citada ascendió á cerca de $3,000,000.

DESCUBRIMIENTO DE PETRÓLEO.

En el estado de Wyoming se han descubierto depósitos de petróleo que, según parece, van á rivalizar con los que hay actualmente en explotación. Se anuncia que los depósitos de Wyoming, que quedan cerca del pueblo de Douglas, cubren una gran extensión de territorio. El aceite que de ellos se saca sirve para lubricar, y su precio en el mercado es de $8 por barril. Una compañía con un gran capital y que dispone de una extensión de 40,000 acres ha comenzado á explotar dichos depósitos en grande escala. Son tan grandes las esperanzas que se tienen en la riqueza de los depósitos de petróleo de Wyoming, que se está tratando de construir una cañería que pueda conducir el producto hasta algunos puntos por donde pasan líneas de ferrocarril.

HONDURAS.

EL BEJUCO DE HULE.

Con este lema publica "El Pabellón de Honduras," periódico semioficial, el artículo que á continuación se reproduce por considerarle de interés general:

"Parece que un buen hado hubiera dotado nuestro suelo de casi todo lo mejor, de casi todo lo más bello que adorna la fecunda zona tórrida.

"Hoy que la actividad y el trabajo inician con energía sus labores en la tierra hondureña, se descubren con más frecuencia nuevas fuentes de riqueza, que nos llaman á ocupar uno de los más importantes puestos entre las naciones ricas del continente americano.

"Es indudable que el hule, por las múltiples aplicaciones que tiene en la industria, se mantendrá firme en las cotizaciones que actualmente tiene, y será uno de los productos más valiosos de la selvicultura.

"Algunos departamentos de Honduras, y pudiéramos decir que la mayor parte de ellos, tienen terrenos excelentes para el cultivo de esa planta; pero la falta de iniciativa, ó quizá por el largo tiempo que tarda el hule en producir, ha hecho que no tengamos grandes empresas de esta clase.

"En el África occidental se conoce un bejuco que produce una excelente goma, muy superior á cualquiera otra clase de hule, pues teniendo magníficas condiciones de elasticidad, la leche se cuaja inmediatamente, consistiendo la única dificultad en que por lo espeso no mana fácilmente de las heridas que se abren en la planta.

"En el departamento de Yoro, en el cerro de 'El Pijul,' acaba de descubrirse un bejuco muy semejante, probablemente de la misma clase y familia del africano.

"El explorador que hizo tan valioso hallazgo dice lo siguiente, al referirse á dicha planta: 'Los bejucos son de una altura de 20, 25, 30 y

más metros de largo, siendo hasta de media vara de grueso los más robustos; la hoja es diminuta, y por lo regular están enrollados en los corpulentos árboles de los bosques.' Hemos visto el hule que produce, y es de excelentes cualidades. Creemos que se presenta con esto una magnífica ocasión para explotar esa nueva riqueza que nos ofrece nuestro próvido suelo.

"Parece que el sistema que han empleado hasta la vez los descubridores, ha consistido en hacer incisiones en la corteza de la planta, teniendo el defecto este procedimiento de que, por lo espeso de la goma, no puede salir toda la sustancia que contiene; pero creemos oportuno ensayar el método de que se valen en el África occidental, el cual consiste en cubrirse la palma de las manos con defensas de cuero crudo, y por medio de fricción arrancar la parte carnosa ó cáscara que cubre las guías ó renuevos del bejuco; en seguida se corta el renuevo desde donde se frotó, el cual contiene la goma en hebras que, mezcladas á los filamentos leñosos de la planta, la hacen fácilmente rajable para poderse enrollar en ovillos más ó menos grandes para la exportación.

"De todas las clases de hule que se conocen, quizá está llamado el bejuco recién descubierto á ocupar puesto preferente en el territorio hondureño."

MÉXICO.

MARCAS DE FÁBRICA.

Se publica á continuación el tratado celebra entre México y Francia respecto á la protección de marcas industriales y mercantiles en ambos países:

"Artículo I. Los ciudadanos de cada una de las dos Altas partes contrayentes tendrán, en el territorio de la otra, los mismos derechos que los nacionales, en lo que mira tanto á los privilegios de invención, marcas de fábrica, etiquetas, rótulos, nombres de comercio y de fábrica, razones sociales, dibujos y modelos de fábrica, cuanto á las indicaciones y nombres de los lugares de origen.

"Art. II. Para asegurarse la protección garantida en el artículo anterior, los solicitantes de uno y otro Estado no necesitan de establecer su domicilio, su residencia, ó su representación mercantil en el país cuya protección reclamen; pero sí deberán observar las demás condiciones y formalidades prescritas en las leyes y reglamentos de ese país.

"Art. III. La presente Convención es aplicable á las marcas que en ambos países se adquieren legítimamente por los industriales y negociantes que usan de ellas, es decir, que el carácter de una marca francesa debe apreciarse en México según la ley francesa, así como el carácter de una marca mexicana debe apreciarse en Francia según la ley mexicana.

"Queda entendido, sin embargo, que cada uno de los dos Estados se reserva el derecho de rehusar el depósito y de prohibir el uso de cualquiera marca que en sí misma fuere contraria al orden público, ó á la moral y las buenas costumbres.

"ART. IV. Los nombres mercantiles, las razones de comercio y los rótulos, no necesitan de depósito para quedar protegidos en los dos Estados.

"ART. V. El hecho de estampar ó de hacer estampar sobre algunos productos una falsa indicación de origen, en la que uno de los Estados contratantes ó un lugar situado en cualquiera de ellos resulte directa ó indirectamente indicado como país ó como lugar de origen, se castigará conforme á la legislación de cada Estado. Si alguna de las legislaciones no lo ha previsto, este hecho quedará sujeto á que se le apliquen las disposiciones prescritas para la falsificación de marca.

"ART. VI. Cualquier producto que tenga falsa indicación de origen en el que uno de los Estados contrayentes, ó un lugar situado en cualquiera de ellos resulte indicado directa ó indirectamente como país ó como lugar de origen, será decomisado al importarse en cada uno de dichos Estados.

"También podrá realizarse el comiso en el Estado en que haya sido estampada una falsa indicación de origen, ó en el país en que haya sido introducido el producto marcado con esa falsa indicación.

"Si la legislación de uno de los dos Estados no admitiere el decomiso con motivo de la importación, se reemplazará éste con la prohibición de importar.

"Si la legislación de uno de los dos Estados no admite ni la prohibición de importar ni el decomiso en el lugar de la importación ó en el interior, se reemplazará ese decomiso ó esa prohibición con las acciones y los medios que las leyes de ese Estado franquean al Ministerio Público ó á los nacionales para casos semejantes.

"ART. VII. Los artículos 3, 5 y 6 se aplicarán á instancias del Ministerio Público ó de parte interesada, individuo ó sociedad, conforme á la legislación de cada Estado.

"Se considerará parte interesada á cualquier fabricante, comerciante ó productor que contribuya á la fabricación, al comercio ó á la producción del producto de que se trate y que se halle establecido en la ciudad, localidad, región ó país falsamente indicados como lugar de origen.

"En los casos de tránsito las autoridades no quedarán obligadas á realizar el comiso.

"ART. VIII. Estas disposiciones no impiden al vendedor indicar su nombre y dirección en los productos que provengan de un país distinto del de la venta; pero en tal caso, á la dirección y nombre se acompañará la indicación precisa, y en caracteres legibles, del país ó del lugar de fabricación ó de producción.

"ART. IX. Los tribunales de cada país decidirán cuáles denominaciones, por su carácter genérico, quedan excluidas de lo dispuesto en la presente Convención. Sin embargo, las denominaciones regionales de origen y de productos vinícolas no quedan comprendidas en la reserva que este artículo establece.

"ART. X. La presente Convención será ratificada y las ratificaciones se canjearán tan luego como se hayan llenado las formalidades prescritas por las leyes constitucionales de los Estados contratantes.

"Surtirá efectos desde el día en que se efectúe dicho canje y será obligatoria hasta tanto que una de las dos partes contratantes anuncie á la otra, con seis meses de anticipación, su intención de hacerla caducar."

El canje de las ratificaciones de este tratado se efectúo en la ciudad de México el 11 de septiembre próximo pasado.

NICARAGUA.

DECRETO SOBRE GANADO VACUNO.

La Asamblea Nacional Legislativa de la República de Nicaragua ha decretado lo siguiente:

"ARTICULO 1°. Se prohibe la exportación y el destace de ganado vacuno hembra para la venta pública.

"ART. 2°. Se permitirá como excepción el destace de dicho ganado cuando sea incapaz para la crianza por vejez ó defecto.

"ART. 3°. Se prohibe también el destace para la venta pública y la exportación del ganado vacuno menor de tres años.

"ART. 4°. Queda exceptuado de las disposiciones de los Artículos 1° y 3° el destace que para consumo propio se haga en las fincas y criaderos de ganado.

"ART. 5°. La infracción del presente decreto se castigará con multa que ingresará al Tesoro Nacional.

ART. 6°. Se faculta al Poder Ejecutivo para que reglamente las disposiciones contenidas en los anteriores artículos de conformidad con este decreto."

Este decreto fué ratificado por el Presidente de la República el 22 de septiembre próximo pasado.

INMIGRACIÓN.

De "El Comercio" correspondiente al 20 de octubre próximo pasado, se toma la siguiente importante noticia:

"En días pasados pusimos en conocimiento de nuestros lectores el contrato celebrado entre el Doctor CARLOS BOVALLINS y el Señor Ministro de Fomento.

"Ahora, mejor informados, damos algunos detalles sobre el particular.

"El mencionado doctor se compromete á traer cien inmigrantes, ya sean de Suecia, Noruega é Islandia, ó de cualquiera otra raza del norte de Europa.

"Traerá el primer año diez familias que conozcan de agricultura y ganadería; el resto de los colonos deberá estar á los cuatro años de la fecha en que sea aprobado por el Congreso el respectivo contrato, el cual lo fué por el que acaba de recesar.

"También queda comprometido á establecer una escuela de agricultura y ganadería, en la que se estudiará especialmente el cultivo del hule y su preparación científica, el cultivo del café, del cacao, de la vainilla y de otros productos agrícolas.

"En el ramo de la ganadería traerá toros y vacas de las mejores razas para mejorar las del país.

"Asimismo implantará un sistema de elaboración de quesos y preparaciones de mantequilla al estilo europeo.

"En la escuela de que hablamos admitirá cada año, por orden del Gobierno, 20 jóvenes á quienes dará los alimentos y la instrucción gratuita, teórica y prácticamente.

"El Gobierno, entre otras concesiones que hace al Doctor BOVALLINS es la de darle en venta, en caso de que sean cumplidas todas las estipulaciones del contrato, 30,000 manzanas de terreno baldío, en la cabecera del río Tepenaguasana, jurisdicción de Chontales, 6 leguas al norte del pueblo de San Miguelito, por el módico precio de $30,000 en moneda corriente."

Asegura "El Comercio," de Managua, en su número correspondiente al 13 de octubre de 1900, que el Gobierno ha resuelto construir el tramo de ferrocarril de la capital á La Paz, en el departamento de León, con lo cual se hará directa la comunicación entre el Puerto de Corinto, en el Pacífico, y la ciudad de Granada, sobre el lago de Nicaragua. Se cree que esta obra será muy benéfica para el comercio de importación y exportación de la República.

URUGUAY.

LAS OBRAS DEL PUERTO.

La "Revista de la Unión Industrial Uruguaya," en su número de 6 de setiembre de 1900, publica el siguiente artículo:

"El 21 de agosto próximo pasado tuvo lugar la licitación para las obras del puerto de Montevideo.

"El primer paso en la senda de los hechos prácticos está dado ya; y el Gobierno y el país deben felicitarse de ello, pues tratándose de iniciativas de tanta magnitud y tantas proyecciones, ese primer paso representa un verdadero triunfo.

"Cinco son las propuestas, y las cinco abonadas por firmas de alta autoridad en las plazas de Inglaterra y de Francia; circunstancia que habla elocuentemente en favor de una solución ventajosa para los intereses públicos.

"Hé aquí el detalle de ellas:

"Número 1. Walker y C^{a}. ofrecen ejecutar las obras por la suma de $12,218,617.22.

"Número 2. Forges et Chantiers de la Mediterranée no fijan total.

"Número 3. John Jackson & Co., por la suma de $12,630,310.30.

"Número 4. Pearson Sons, limited, por £3,163,131, comprometiéndose á rebajar hasta $12,500,000.

"Numero 5. Allard, Coiseau Correaux establecen ½ por ciento menos que el presupuesto fijado por el ingeniero GUÉRARD, que calcula el costo de las obras proyectadas en 60,000,000 de francos. Esta rebaja sería de 300,000 francos sobre la suma antedicha. Por consiguiente, el costo total de las obras quedaria fijado en $12,000,000 oro.

"Además los proponentes comprométense á ejecutar todas las obras y entregarlas terminadas al Estado en el término de dos años, en vez de cinco, como fija la ley de la materia, mediante condiciones favorables de pago, creándose al efecto una deuda especial, cuya amortización é interés serían estipulados de común acuerdo entre los proponentes y el Gobierno.

LA PRÓXIMA CONFERENCIA PAN-AMERICANA.

La notable revista denominado "The Forum," correspondiente al mes en curso, trae, bajo el título que encabeza estas líneas, un artículo de Mr. WILLIAMS C. FOX, Oficial Mayor de la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas, que en las actuales circunstancias es de interés, por no estar lejana la época en que reunirá en la capital de México otra Conferencia Internacional Americana. De dicho artículo se han traducido los siguientes párrafos que contienen una reseña histórica del desarrollo de la idea que BOLÍVAR concibió é inició con el Congreso de Panamá en 1826 y BLAINE llevó á cabo con éxito en 1889:

* * * * * * *

"Es á HENRY CLAY, principalmente, á quien la historia concede la paternidad del pensamiento de la solidaridad de los intereses de la América entera; su deseo era que tomase forma definitiva y concreta en el Congreso de Panamá de 1826, que fué el primero que se reunió, aun cuando la idea de estrechar las relaciones de las colonias españolas de Centro y Sud América entre sí nació en 1821, durante la guerra de independencia contra el poder de España. Después que los Estados Unidos reconocieron la independencia de dichas colonias, se negoció un tratado entre Colombia y Chile (1822) con el objeto de establecer un

'sistema continental para la América.' El Presidente de los Estados Unidos aceptó la invitación al Congreso de Panamá, y al comunicar instrucciones á nuestros delegados, Mr. CLAY, Secretario de Estado, dijo que el Congreso marcaría nueva época en los anales de la humanidad, y añadía más adelante: 'Sea cual fuere el resultado de las labores de este Congreso, el hecho mismo de reunirse no puede menos que llamar la atención del mundo civilizado de hoy, así como de la posteridad.' Esto no obstante el Senado de los Estados Unidos no ratificó el nombramiento de los delegados.

"El Congreso de Panamá se ha tenido como un fiasco y á las minutas y protocolos de sus labores sólo se les ha concedido valor histórico. En parte puede ser así, pero no en todo. El Congreso no levantó sus sesiones indefinidamente, sino para reunirse otra vez en Tacubaya, ciudad vecina á la capital de México. Durante sus trabajos se celebraron un tratado de 'Unión Perpetua,' varios convenios complementarios y otras convenciones que sólo aguardaban para entrar en vigor la aprobación de los gobiernos respectivos. * * *

"Los Estados Unidos enviaron sus delegados á Tacubaya, pero la reunión del Congreso nunca se llevó á efecto. La razón á que esto obedeció no fué que se hubiese abandonado la idea fundamental que tan calurosamente abrigaba BOLÍVAR y que había manifestado en su invitación dirigida á todas las naciones hispano-americanas, sino á que los Gobiernos representados en aquella asamblea, especialmente México, Guatemala y el Perú, no aprobaron el tratado y los apéndices correspondientes hechos en Panamá. BOLÍVAR mismo se oponía á ciertas cláusulas, así como á cambiar el lugar de reunión por Tacubaya; esto no obstante, sometió dicho tratado al Congreso colombiano y cuando este cuerpo lo aprobó, él lo ratificó. * * * Fué BOLÍVAR quien hizo la invitación al Congreso de Panamá, que sólo fué enviada á Colombia, México, Centro América, las Provincias Unidas de Buenos Aires, Chile y el Brasil. Colombia y México, sin embargo, invitaron á los Estados Unidos, porque decían que ellos habían concebido la idea de dicha Conferencia más ó menos al mismo tiempo que BOLÍVAR trataba de formar el Congreso de Panamá con el objeto de unir á la América española contra España. BOLÍVAR convocó el Congreso como plan militar y político. En la parte militar ninguna ingerencia podían tener los Estados Unidos, y cuando la doctrina de Monroe dió á comprender todo su alcance cesó desde luego aquel objeto. * * * Los extractos siguientes, tomados de la obra titulada 'Notes upon Foreign Treaties of the United States,' arrojan mucha luz sobre el asunto:

"'Cuando después del transcurso del tiempo volvemos la mirada hacia el Congreso de Panamá, es fácil comprender por qué no tuvieron éxito los esfuerzos de los patriotas denodados que trataron de hacer un sistema americano para el continente. Una de las cuestiones sometidas á la deliberación de la Conferencia fué "estudiar los medios que

se han de adoptar para la completa abolición del tráfico de negros africanos," á lo cual la Comisión del Senado de los Estados Unidos contestó: "Los Estados Unidos no tienen ciertamente el derecho, ni deberían jamás sentir la inclinación de imponer su dictamen á otros cuyas opiniones difieren en la materia: tampoco ve la Comisión la conveniencia de insultar á otros países con los cuales mantenemos relaciones de perfecta amistad, haciendo cátedra de moral y proclamando desde su altura principios meramente abstractos, de cuya rectitud cada nación tiene el perfecto derecho de decidir por sí misma.

"La misma Comisión aludió también á la posibilidad de que en el Congreso de Panamá se discutiera la condición de las islas de Cuba y Puerto Rico, entonces posesiones españolas y pueblos donde existía la esclavitud. Con este motivo se expresó como sigue:

"'Si alguna vez los Estados Unidos se permiten asociarse con estas naciones en un Congreso General, reunido para discutir planes de interés común que de alguna manera afecten intereses europeos, bastará esto para que no solamente pierdan la facultad que hoy tienen de ayudar á los otros países de América, sino para producir otros efectos perjudiciales á sus intereses.'

"El ningún éxito del Congreso de Panamá ni apagó la llama ni abatió el espíritu de americanismo que sus promotores trataban de inculcar en el corazón de los habitantes de este hemisferio. El segundo país en seguir la iniciativa fué México y el 13 de marzo de 1831, invitó á las repúblicas americanas á reunirse nuevamente en congreso, lo cual no se llevó nunca á efecto. Cinco años más tarde, en 1836, México repitió sus esfuerzos, presentando un programa que abarcaba los siguientes puntos: 'Unión y alianza más estrechas entre los nuevos Estados con el objeto de defenderse contra la invasión extranjera, aceptar la mediación amistosa de los países neutrales para el arreglo de todas las desavenencias y disputas, sea cual fuere su índole, que puedan suscitarse entre las repúblicas hermanas, y la preparación y promulgación de un código de derecho público que sirva para reglamentar sus relaciones entre sí.'

"En 1839 y 1840 volvió México á hacer nuevas invitaciones con el mismo fin, pero no fué sino en 1847 que las repúblicas de Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, Nueva Granada y el Perú decidieron poner en práctica la idea, y en la primera reunión de este Congreso en Lima fué que se resolvió invitar á los Estados Unidos. * * *

"Las repúblicas del Perú, Chile y el Ecuador celebraron en Santiago de Chile el 'Tratado continental de 1856,' quedando autorizado el gobierno peruano para dirigirse á los otros gobiernos solicitando su adhesión á las estipulaciones convenidas. El Perú invitó otra vez á las repúblicas hispanoamericanas del continente á reunirse en Lima en 1864, abriéndose los trabajos de esta Conferencia el 14 de noviembre de dicho año. * * * En 1880 el Gobierno de Colombia dirigió una

nota circular á otras repúblicas hispanoamericanas, basada en las disposiciones contenidas en el Artículo 3 del tratado proyectado entre Colombia y Chile, que disponía celebrar en Panamá en 1881 una reunión de plenipotenciarios de todos los países hispanoamericanos.

"El objeto de esta reunión era convenir las naciones entre sí en un tratado ó convención internacional semejante al celebrado entre Colombia y Chile, el cual 'no sólo establecía principios de representación internacional para determinar cualesquier disputas que pudieran suscitarse entre los países signatorios, como parte del derecho público de este continente, sino que también establecía la obligación de someterse á estos principios, constituyendo al Presidente de los Estados Unidos en árbitro permanente.' El Ministro de los Estados Unidos en Bogotá, refiriéndose á esta materia, decía así:

"'La correspondencia no indica que se invita un plenipotenciario de los Estados Unidos á tomar parte en la celebración del propuesto tratado ó convención. Esto obedece, probablemente, á que la posición que el propuesto tratado concede al Gobierno de los Estados Unidos es la de conservar y ejercer una imparcialidad amistosa y judicial en las diferencias que puedan suscitarse entre las potencias de la América española.'

"No tuvo lugar el propuesto Congreso de 1881 por haber estallado una guerra en Sud América en los días fijados para su reunión. El 29 de noviembre de 1881 Mr. BLAINE, á la sazón Secretario de Estado, dirigió una circular á los representates de los Estados Unidos en las naciones de Centro y Sud América solicitando la participación de aquellos países en un Congreso General que se reuniría en la ciudad de Wáshington en 1882. Mr. BLAINE manifestó entonces que se había notado entre ciertos países de Centro y Sud América una disposición creciente á someter al arbitramento más bien que á las armas la decisión de graves cuestiones de carácter internacional y de límites, y que en muchas ocasiones había sido materia de profunda satisfacción para el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos ver que este país era tenido por todas las naciones de América como amigo y mediador. * * *

"Complicaciones de índole internacional intervinieron por segunda vez en Sud América y no se reunió el Congreso de 1882. Mr. FREYLINGHUYSEN recogió las invitaciones, no sin haber recibido antes numerosas aceptaciones concebidas en los término más amistosos. La circunstancia de que todas las naciones de América, sin exclusión alguna por motivo de la forma particular de su gobierno ó de superioridad en poseer elementos de fuerzo, estarían representadas en este Congreso, fué la causa principal que obró favorablemente en que la invitación fuera aceptada. Más aun, todas esas naciones estarían en la obligación de asumir idénticos compromisos sobre la base de perfecta igualdad. En el sentir de muchos esto dió al proyecto de Mr. BLAINE la importancia práctica que faltaba á las conferencias anteriores. La circun-

stancia de que los Estados Unidos no hacían especificaciones ni proponían medios de impedir la guerra, sino que dejaban al Congreso que determinara estos puntos, creó tal confianza que la proposición, puede decirse, fué recibida con entusiasmo. Se creyó entonces que la sola convocatoria de ese Congreso no dejó de producir beneficios, desde luego que se había logrado despertar la atención del pueblo de los Estados Unidos y de las repúblicas de Sud América á la importancia de tener una política definida que les sirviera de guía en sus relaciones internacionales y que fuera satisfactoria para todos.

"La Conferencia Sud-Americana que tuvo lugar en Montevideo en 1888–89, no puede considerarse como puramente política; fué más bien una convención de jurisconsultos hispanoamericanos.

"No obstante su interés, apenas merecen citarse las diversas tentativas hechas desde 1880 con el objeto de conseguir que el Congreso de los Estados Unidos dispusiese la celebración de una Conferencia Internacional Americana. Por fin ambas Cámaras votaron la ley que autorizaba dicha Conferencia el 10 de mayo de 1888, y que fué aprobada el 24 del mismo mes. Desgraciadamente algunos historiadores han cometido el error de suponer que el 28 de marzo se anunció que el proyecto había sido declarado ley por el Congreso sin la sanción del Presidente. El examen de los archivos originales demuestra que el Presidente CLEVELAND firmó el documento, dándole así toda la fuerza de su aprobación, y que no dejó pasar, como lo indica la creencia arriba expresada, los diez días constitucionales, permitiendo que quedara erigido en ley sin su aprobación. Es justo llamar la atención hacia este error, tanto más desgraciado cuanto que de él parece desprenderse que el Presidente CLEVELAND no simpatizaba con la idea de reunir la Conferencia. * * *

"Mr. BAYARD dirigió la invitación á los gobiernos de México, la América Central y la del Sur, Haití y Santo Domingo. La ley disponía que el Presidente de los Estados Unidos hiciera constar que el Congreso era llamado á estudiar:

"'Primero. Medidas que tiendan á conservar la paz y fomentar la prosperidad de los diversos Estados americanos.

"'Segundo. Medidas encaminadas á la formación de una unión aduanera americana que fomente, en cuanto sea posible y provechoso, el comercio recíproco entre las naciones americanas.

"'Tercero. El establecimiento de comunicaciones frecuentes y regulares entre los puertos de los diferentes Estados americanos.

"'Cuarto. La adopción por cada uno de los Estados independientes de América de un sistema uniforme de disposiciones aduaneras que deban observarse para la importación y exportación de mercaderías y para el pago de los derechos é impuestos de puerto, estableciendo método igual en todos los países para la clasificación y avalúo de las mercaderías y para la forma en que deban hacerse las facturas, así como también idénticos preceptos en materias de sanidad y cuarentena.

"'Quinto. La adopción de un sistema uniforme de pesas y medidas y de leyes que protejan los derechos adquiridos bajo patentes ó privilegios de invención, y marcas de fábrica y la propiedad literaria, de modo que los derechos de los ciudadanos de cada país sean respetados en todos los demás, así como también de disposiciones idénticas sobre extradición de criminales.

"'Sexto. La adopción por cada uno de los Gobiernos de una moneda común de plata que sea de curso forzoso en las transacciones comerciales recíprocas de los ciudadanos de todos los Estados de América.

"'Séptimo. Un convenio sobre un plan definitivo de arbitraje para todas las cuestiones, disputas y diferencias que existan ó puedan suscitarse entre los diferentes Estados americanos, á fin de que todas las dificultades y cuestiones entre tales Estados puedan terminarse pacíficamente y evitarse guerras, y la recomendación á los Gobiernos respectivos para que lo adopten.

"'Octavo. Y las demás materias relacionadas con la prosperidad de los diversos Estados representados en la Conferencia, que cualquiera de ellos estime oportuno someter á discusión.'

"El día miércoles 2 de octubre de 1889 fué el escogido para la reunión de la Conferencia. Mr. BLAINE abrió sus trabajos con un discurso de bienvenida que será tenido siempre como modelo en su clase, y en el cual palpitaba el espíritu del más puro americanismo, que llegó á su mayor altura cuando anunció que aquella era 'una Conferencia, en fin, que no buscará nada, no formulará ni tolerará nada sino lo que, según el sentir de todos los delegados, sea oportuno y prudente y encamine á la paz.'

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"Las sesiones de la Conferencia duraron, con algunas intermitencias, hasta el 19 de abril de 1890.

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"La gran cuestión de arbitramento fué tema de debates elocuentes, llegando al acuerdo, cuya adopción fué recomendada por los diferentes gobiernos, de formar un plan definido para el arbitraje de todas las cuestiones, disputas y diferencias que existan ó puedan existir entre ellos. También se recomendó un sistema semejante para el arreglo de todas las dificultades que puedan existir entre las repúblicas de América y las naciones de Europa. * * * En pocas palabras, la Conferencia fué un paso hacia la integración de América según lo concibieron BOLÍVAR y CLAY, puesto en práctica y perfeccionado por el genio de BLAINE y sus compañeros.

"No sería errado suponer que la reunión comercial que tuvo lugar en Filadelfia en 1897, conocida con el nombre de 'Congreso Comercial Pan-Americano,' fué resultado directo de la reunión política que le precedió en 1890. Diez y seis países tuvieron allí representados por sus cámaras de comercio ú otras agrupaciones comerciales, mientras

que México y el Brasil enviaron representantes nombrados por sus jefes ejecutivos. El Presidente McKinley pronunció el discurso de apertura. La Exposición Pan-Americana que se efectuará en Búffalo en 1901 no es sino otro eslabón en la cadena de los acontecimientos cuyo fin último es cordialidad de sentimientos, mutuo aprecio y beneficios para todos.

"Después de cuanto dejamos apuntado, el Congreso de México habrá de reunirse bajo los auspicios más favorables. Su programa abarca muchos de los puntos que fueron objeto de estudio en la Conferencia anterior, y otros nuevos que le serán sometidos. Pero, ante todo, será una fiesta internacional de primera importancia, dedicada á la amistad, la paz y la prosperidad intercontinental. Muy bien se expresó el Señor Mariscal, Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores de México, cuando dijo que, 'no olvidando que la civilización nos vino de Europa y que los grandes intereses de la humanidad son unos, nos permitiremos reconocer que en América hay intereses especiales y vínculos más estrechos entre sus habitantes, con menos complicaciones internacionales para alcanzar el bien de los pueblos.'

"Á los umbrales del siglo veinte nada puede ser más apropriado que ese nuevo esfuerzo para conservar los intereses que con tanta verdad ha hecho resaltar el distinguido estadista mexicano."

ANÁLISIS DE LA HARINA DE BANANO.

Durante los últimos dos ó tres años se ha escrito mucho sobre la harina de banano, pero los informes que se tienen sobre este particular no son muy fidedignos. La Estación Experimental del Departamento de Agricultura en Connecticut ha publicado el análisis de esta clase de harina hecha de tres especies de bananos, según se ve en la tabla que viene á continuación. Con el objeto de hacer comparaciones, se pone también en dicha tabla la composición de banano fresco, la de la harina de trigo, la del arroz y la de la manzana fresca y seca:

	Agua.	Proteína.	Grasa.	Hidrocarbonatos.	Fibra.	Ceniza.
	Por ciento.	*Por ciento.*	*Por ciento.*	*Por ciento.*	*Por ciento.*	*Por ciento.*
Harina de banano:						
De Puerto Rico	13.43	3.50	0.47	79.82	0.54	2.24
De Florida	5.34	2.81	.66	87.45	.84	2.90
De Honduras	10.33	2.87	.50	87.02	.73	2.55
Bananos frescos, parte comestible	75.30	1.30	.60	21.00	1.00	.80
Manzanas frescas, parte comestible	84.60	.40	.50	13.00	1.20	.30
Manzanas secas	28.10	1.60	2.20	66.10	.....	2.00
Harina de trigo, procedimiento denominado "patent roller"	11.50	11.40	1.00	75.40	.20	.50
Arroz	12.30	8.00	.30	78.80	.20	.40

Los bananos secos molidos contienen, según se ve, más sustancia nutritiva que los frescos, debido á que al secarlos se les quita una gran parte del agua que contenían. Los bananos y las manzanas frescas tienen una composición química muy parecida, y otro tanto puede decirse de dichas frutas en el estado seco, aunque las manzanas secas contienen más agua que los bananos en el mismo estado, y por lo mismo estos últimos son más nutritivos. La harina de banano contiene menos proteina que la de trigo. Según se ve en el análisis ya citado, las tres clases de harina de banano son casi idénticas en su composición. Hace algunos años se publicaron en Inglaterra algunos tratados sobre el banano y su harina, como artículos de alimentación, y en dichos trabajos se decía que este último artículo había sido preparado desde los tiempos primitivos por los habitantes de los países tropicales.

CAPITAL ALEMÁN INVERTIDO EN LA AMÉRICA LATINA.

Asegura un periódico extranjero que de una investigación últimamente hecha, resulta que hay invertidos en Venezuela 200,000,000 de marcos, 190,000,000 en Colombia, 100,000,000 á 120,000,000 en el Perú y Ecuador, y 200,000,000 á 300,000,000 en Chile. La República Argentine entra en la lista por 600,000,000.

Los ferrocarriles tienen una gran parte de estos capitales. Toda la América del Sur, sobre la costa oriental, emplea de 1,000,000,000 á 1,600,000,000 de marcos. Las casas de comercio alemanas tienen un capital de 200,000,000 de marcos en la República Argentina. En la ciudad y provincia de Buenos Aires se cuentan 500 firmas alemanas con 154,000,000 marcos de capital. La industria alemana trabaja en Buenos Aires con 6,500,000. Las propiedades están valuadas en 160,000,000.

En el Paraguay, sobre 17,000 extranjeros hay 12,500 alemanes. Las propiedades alemanes en el Uruguay y Paraguay valen 13,000,000.

En Río Janeiro y San Paulo y Río Grande hay 117 casas alemanas con 150,000,000 de marcos.

En México hay invertidos 200,000,000, y en la América Central (Guatemala, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, el Salvador y Honduras) 200,000,000, en las Antillas 250,000,000 y en Cuba 140,000,000.

LA MARINA MERCANTE DEL MUNDO.

Según el "Lloyd's Register," la marina mercante del mundo está representada por 28,422 buques, con un porte total de 29,043,728 toneladas. Pertenecen á la Gran Bretaña 10,838 buques, con un porte total de 14,261,254. Vienen en segundo lugar los Estados Unidos, con 3,135 buques y un total de 2,750,271 toneladas. Alemania tiene 1,710 buques y 2,650,033 toneladas. Después viene Noruega con 2,380 buques, con un porte de 1,640,812. Francia cuenta con 1,214 buques cuyo porte total monta á 983,655 toneladas. Suecia tiene más buques que Francia (1,433), pero como son relativamente de pequeño tamaño el porte total es solamente de 637,272. El Japón tiene 1,066 buques: porte 574,557. Holanda 406 buques: porte total 530,277. Dinamarca 802 barcos: tonelaje 416,084. Grecia, el Brasil, Bélgica, Portugal y Chile son países cuyo tonelaje pasa de 100,000 toneladas.

BIBLIOGRAFÍA.

En esta sección del Boletín Mensual se tratará de los libros y folletos enviados á la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas, que se refieren á asuntos relacionados con los países de la Unión Internacional de Repúblicas Americanas.

El canje de publicaciones de Centro y Sud América puede efectuarse por conducto de la "Smithsonian Institution," Wáshington, D. C., por medio de las agencias de distribución que tiene en aquellos países, y que son las siguientes:

Argentina: Museo Nacional, Buenos Aires.

Bolivia: Oficina Nacional de Inmigración, Estadística y Propaganda Geográfica, La Paz.

Chile: Universidad de Chile, Santiago.

Colombia: Biblioteca Nacional, Bogotá.

Costa Rica: Oficina de Depósito, Reparto y Canje Internacional, San José.

El Salvador: Museo Nacional, San Salvador.

Guatemala: Instituto Nacional de Guatemala, Guatemala.

Honduras: Biblioteca Nacional, Tegucigalpa.

México: Todos los envíos gozan de la franquicia del correo.

Nicaragua: Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Managua.

Paraguay: Oficina General de Informaciones y Canje y Comisaría General de Inmigración, Asunción.

Perú: Biblioteca Nacional, Lima.

Uruguay: Oficina de Depósito, Reparto y Canje Internacional, Montevideo.

Venezuela: Museo Nacional, Caracas.

Con el título de "A Century of American Diplomacy" (Un Siglo de Diplomacia Americana), Mr. JOHN W. FOSTER acaba de publicar un libro verdaderamente notable. Mr. FOSTER figura en primera línea entre los diplomáticos americanos y ha representado á los Estados Unidos en varios países extranjeros. Á fines de la administración del Presidente HARRISON fué Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos, cargo que desempeñó con distinción. Últimamente Mr. FOSTER ha tenido á su cargo la cátedra de diplomacia en la Universidad de Columbia en Wáshington. Su obra comienza con la época revolucionaria, y contiene la historia diplomática del país hasta el año de 1876. El capítulo XII es una exposición muy instructiva de lo que se ha llamado la doctrina de Monroe y merece ser leido con atención en todos los países de América. Mr. FOSTER llama la atención á las numerosas obligaciones que acompañan al cargo de Secretario de Estado, no solamente desde el punto de vista político, sino también desde el punto de vista social, obligaciones que, propiamente hablando, no tienen los otros miembros del gabinete. No dudamos que la obra de Mr. FOSTER será traducida á las diversas lenguas que se hablan en América, pues es muy digna de ser conocida en todos los países de este continente.

Con el título de "El problema del idioma nacional" el Doctor ERNESTO QUESADA, conocido literato argentino, ha publicado una monografía de 150 páginas.

Se plantea el Dr. QUESADA este problema: ¿Debe propenderse en Hispano América á conservar la unidad de la lengua castellana, ó es acaso preferible favorecer la formación de dialectos ó idiomas nacionales en cada república? La solución á que llega es resueltamente contraria á la formación de dialectos nacionales, actitud que cuadra bien al Dr. QUESADA como uno de los escritores más castizos y correctos de nuestro país.

El estudio está desarrollado con la erudición que nadie desconoce al autor en estas materias y no obstante el carácter un tanto restringido del tema, está revestido en su exposición de un interés que se sostiene sin esfuerzo á través de todo el volumen.

Conocidas como son las dotas literarias del Sr. QUESADA, es inoficioso agregar que su obra está escrita en vigorosa y robusta lengua castellana, con una claridad y elegancia de estilo que es la mejor defensa del libro en favor de las tesis que sustenta.

Un libro muy interesante para todos los amantes de las bellas letras acaba de publicarse en la ciudad de San Luis, Missouri, con este título: "The World's Best Orations" (Los Mejores Discursos del Mundo). Los

discursos contenidos en los tomos III, IV, V, VI y VII han sido examinados críticamente por el Honorable DAVID J. BREWER, Magistrado del Tribunal Supremo de los Estados Unidos, y abrazan una cantidad de materias. Hay obras maestras de oratoria de todas las naciones. El objeto que se ha tenido en mira es dar á conocer en toda su extensión los discursos de los oradores más notables del mundo, y también figuran en la colección producciones de oradores de menor nota, pero que revisten verdadera importancia histórica. De los discursos de estos últimos se reproducen solamente aquellas partes que sirven para dar una idea de la posición que les corresponde en la historia, en la religión, ciencia, artes ó literatura.

El primer número de una nueva revista titulada "The World's Work" contiene un artículo de Mr. FREDERIC EMORY, Jefe de la Oficina de Comercio Extranjero del Departamento de Estado de los Estados Unidos, cuyo título es el siguiente: "Our Growth as a World Power." Mr. EMORY llama la atención al inmenso desarrollo que ha tenido el comercio exterior de los Estados Unidos. Á su modo de ver, hay en esto algún peligro para los fabricantes americanos que pueden cometer el error de creer que los productos de sus fábricas se venderán sin el menor esfuerzo por parte de ellos, y cita la conducta observada por la Gran Bretaña, Alemania y Francia, que luchan siempre con energía para conservar los mercados que han logrado dominar.

Uno de los artículos más importantes que contiene la revista "The Forum," correspondiente al mes de octubre próximo pasado, es el que lleva por título "Is a Timber Famine Imminent?" El autor de este escrito es el conocido geógrafo Mr. GANNETT, de la Sección de Estudios Geológicos de los Estados Unidos. Calcula el Señor GANNETT que si continúa el consumo actual de maderas, los bosques de los Estados Unidos solamente podrán dar abasto durante cincuenta años. Opina el autor que la madera existente en los bosques de la parte oriental del país no pasa probablemente de 1,500 pies por acre, y que en todo el país es como de 1,380,000,000 pies.

"La Imprenta y la Prensa en el Uruguay desde 1807 á 1900" es el título de un folleto que ha publicado en Montevideo el Señor Don BENJAMÍN FERNÁNDEZ Y MEDINA. Es este folleto una reseña histórica de los progresos hechos por la prensa y la imprenta en el Uruguay, y á este respecto véase como se expresa el autor en el primer capítulo de su obra:

"Dos títulos lleva esta capítulo, porque en el Uruguay la Prensa y la Imprenta, aparte de las grandes vinculaciones generales, tuvieron asiento y principio á un tiempo, y los progresos de la una y de la otra han sido paralelos."

Se han recibido en esta Oficina dos obras notables de la pluma del distinguido antropólogo Mr. A. H. KEANE, miembro de la Sociedad Real de Geografía de Londres. Una lleva por título "Ethnology" (Etnología), y la otra "Man—Past and Present" (El Hombre en lo Pasado y en lo Presente). Son trabajos científicos dignos de cuidadoso estudio, y que vienen á rivalizar con los de HUXLEY, DARWIN, TYLER, y otros sabios del siglo XIX. Las obras del Señor KEANE se recomienden desde luego á todos aquellos que se interesan en hacer investigaciones acerca del origen de la especie humana.

Ha aparecido "El Anuario Pillado" correspondiente á 1900. Contiene esta publicación argentina numerosos informes de interés. La edición de este año es tan importante como la de 1899. Forma el libro un volumen de 500 páginas y contiene, además de informes relativos á la República Argentina, datos acerca del Uruguay. El volumen actual es casi dos veces más grande que el anterior, y se nota desde luego el esmero y acierto con que el Sr. PILLADO se ha aplicado á ampliar las informaciones de su interesante guía, haciendo honor así á la acogida que mereció su primer número.

"Tierra de Promisión" se titula un interesante folleto que ha dado á luz en Montevideo el Señor Don CARLOS M. MAESO, y que contiene un descripción general de la República Oriental del Uruguay, su comercio, industrias, rentas, riquezas, educación y progresos, narraciones históricas, rasgos biográficos, etc. También trata en su obra el Señor MAESO de la situación de los extranjeros en el Uruguay. La obra está llena de numerosos datos estadísticos é históricos y es uno de los mejores trabajos que hemos visto sobre los países latino-americanos.

Con el título de "Clearing Houses: Their History, Methods and Administration," el vicepresidente del *Fourth National Bank of New York*, Mr. CANNON, ha dado á luz un trabajo sobre esta clase de instituciones. El autor conoce á fondo el asunto de que se trata, y los capítulos que versan sobre las principales *clearing houses* (bancos de liquidación) han sido sometidos á los que están al frente de dichas instituciones á fin de que los examinen y den su opinión acerca de ellos.

Muy digno de llamar la atención es el folleto que con el título de "El Perú en Europa" ha publicado el Señor Don CARLOS B. CISNEROS, Secretario de la Sociedad Geográfica de Lima. La lectura de este pequeño trabajo da una idea exacta de los adelantos alcanzados en los últimos años por la República del Perú. Es una obra muy útil para todos los que deseen ir á establecerse en aquel rico país sudamericano.

Se ha recibido en la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas un volumen que contiene todos los trabajos de la Cámara de Comercio de París

durante el año de 1899. Es una obra importante destinada á llamar la atención de todas las cámaras de comercio de este continente. Agradecemos, como se debe, el envío de este interesante libro de consulta.

Se ha recibido en la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas la última Memoria presentada por el Ministro de la Guerra y Colonización de Bolivia al Congreso ordinario de 1900. Es un folleto que contiene en forma concisa datos de interés relativos á los asuntos sobre que trata.

Hemos leído la Memoria presentada por el Ministro de Justicia é Instrucción Pública de Bolivia al Congreso Ordinario de 1900. Se ve por este documento que son grandes los progresos que ha hecho la instruccion pública en aquella República sudamericana.

Ha llegado á esta Oficina otro número de la revista ilustrada "La Evolución Americana" que publica en París la Señora Doña M. Antonia Z. de Blanco. Contiene lectura amena é interesante.

BOLETIM MENSAL

DA

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REPUBLICA ARGENTINA.

IMMIGRAÇÃO ESTRANGEIRA.

Segundo o "London Times," o Governo da Republica Argentina tem concedido uma area de grande extensão na provincia de Formosa para o estabelecimento alli de uma colonia japoneza. A região destinada a esses novos colonos está na parte central do grande Chaco, perto da fronteira septentrional da Republica, entre os rios Bermejo e Pilcomayo. Nesta região, que é coberta de vegetação tropical e abunda em florestas, o solo é de grande fertilidade. A parte desta região que está actualmente sob cultivo produz abundantes colheitas de milho, tabaco e canna de assucar.

O movimento de immigração para a Republica Argentina tem sido um factor importante no desenvolvimento material do paiz e toda nação de Europa está representada nesta immigração. A maior parte dos immigrantes francezes, inglezes e allemães estabeleceram-se nas cidades e grandes centros de população, onde dominam muitas industrias e occupam um lugar importante no commercio. Os italianos teem-se occupado principalmente na navegação fluvial, ao passo que os irlandezes que affluiram em grande numero para o paiz ha alguns annos, foram empregados na agricultura e no serviço das docas e estaleiros. Immigrantes suissos, allemães e francezes estabeleceram colonias agricolas na provincia de Santa Fe, e os russos e polacos constituem hoje a maior parte da população rural nas margens do Paraná em Entre-Rios. Ha uma prospera colonia de immigrantes de Galles na região remota do valle Chubut, Patagonia; os chilenos teem-se estabelecido em grandes numeros nas provincias do oeste, e milhares de judeos russos teem encontrado asylo nesta parte do Novo Mundo desde o anno de 1891. O Governo favorece a immigração e recebe com acolhimento todos os

elementos que servirão para desenvolver os immensos recursos da Republica.

Em um artigo sobre este assumpto o "Buenos Ayres Herald" diz que os immigrantes que vêm para este paiz devem saber a lingua castellana como é de modo preeminente a lingua do paiz, e chama a attenção para o facto de que os costumes e as leis, assim como os methodos de negociar são radicalmente differentes dos da Europa e dos Estados Unidos. Accrescenta o periodico que os que querem exercitar as profissões de medicina, de dentista, architectura ou direito teem de submetter-se a severos exames na lingua hespanhola porque nenhum diploma estrangeiro admitte ao exercicio destas profissões na Republica Argentina. Segundo este periodico o colono desejando estabelecer-se neste paiz deve ter um capital minimo de $2,000, porque ainda que as terras são distribuidas nas condições mais favoraveis, deve se lembrar que os negocios na Republica Argentina são attendidos das mesmas difficuldades que em outras partes e que seu bom exito depende principalmente do individuo.

CONVENIO SOBRE LIMITES.

O "Boletim Official" da Republica Argentina, em sua edição de 2 de Agosto de 1900, publica as instrucções para o governo da Commissão Mixta, que, de accordo com os protocollos de 9 de Agosto de 1895 e 1° de Outubro de 1898 e do tratado de 6 de Outubro do mesmo anno de 1898, deve proceder á demarcação dos limites entre a Republica Argentina e o Brazil. As ditas instrucções são as seguintes:

1. Os Commissarios terão a representação dos seus respectivos Governos para resolver os incidentes da demarcação, procedendo de accordo: em uma parte com os protocollos de 9 de Agosto de 1895 e 1 de Outubro de 1898, que se referem á collocação de marcos de conformidade com o laudo arbitral do Presidente dos Estados Unidos da America relativo á fronteira, comprehendida entre os rios Uruguay e Iguassú, que deve correr pelos rios Pepiry-guassú e Santo Antonio e pela linha do mais alto terreno que une no interior as cabeceiras principaes destes rios; e na outra parte de accordo com o tratado de 6 de Outubro de 1898, que se refere ás zonas do rio Uruguay, desde a desembocadura do rio Quaraim até á do rio Pepiry-guassú, affluentes do Uruguay, o primeiro pela margem esquerda e o segundo pela direita; e do rio Iguassú desde a bocca do rio Santo Antonio até á daquelle no Paraná.

2. Na primeira parte a Commissão terá presente que os rios Pepiry-guassú e Santo Antonio, declarados como limites no referido laudo, são os que figuram com esses nomes na planta geral da Commissão Mixta argentino-brazileira de 1887 a 1888, fechando pelo Oeste o territorio que antes do laudo era litigioso entre os dous paizes; e que como cabeceiras principaes serão consideradas as que assim foram reconhecidas e declaradas pela mesma Commissão Mixta.

3. Na segunda parte—isto é, na demarcação sobre os rios Uruguay e Iguassú—a Commissão se conformará com o tratado de 6 de Outubro de 1898 e determinará a linha divisoria pela direcção do *thalweg* do respectivo rio de maneira que, excluida a ilha que está proxima á foz do Quaraim e na qual se acha o derradeiro marco dos limites entre o Brazil e a Republica do Uruguay, as outras ilhas, aguas e terras adjacentes, que fiquem a um e outro lado do *thalweg*, sejam argentinas ou brazileiras, conforme fiquem comprehendidas entre essa direcção divisoria e a costa firme respectivamente argentina ou brazileira.

4. O *thalweg* será determinado pelo canal principal, de maior fundo e mais facil e franca navegação, apreciando-se estas condições no momento da demarcação e segundo os estudos que forem necessarios para o seu conhecimento. Si houver difficuldade, os Commissarios procurarão resolvel-a amigavelmente, dando em ultimo caso conta da dissidencia aos seus Governos respectivos.

Si occorrer o caso de convir a troca de ilhas previsto no artigo 4 do tratado de 6 de Outubro de 1898, os Commissarios o submetterão á approvação dos Governos com a informação motivada e illustrativa para a resolução que estes julguem conveniente adoptar.

5. A demarcação será feita no terreno por meio de marcos cujo material e forma serão determinados pelos Governos. Alem dos mencionados nos protocollos de 1895 e 1898, os Commissarios porão dous em pontos convenientes e proximos á foz do Iguassú, um na lingua de terra formada pelos Rios Quaraim e Uruguay e outro em frente na margem argentina do Uruguay. Correrá por conta de ambos os Governos o custo dos que forem collocados em divisa commum e do Governo respectivo o dos que forem postos nas ilhas, conforme a adjudicação que dellas se fizer.

6. Si for necessario dividir a Commissão em turmas, em cada uma dellas serão representados os dois paizes.

7. As actas principaes relativas á demarcação serão tres: Uma concernente ao trecho completo do rio Uruguay desde a foz do Quaraim até ao Pepiry-guassú, descrevendo-se nella circumstanciadamente a linha divisoria e as ilhas e canaes ou braços que fiquem para cada paiz; outra relativa ao trecho entre o Uruguay e o Iguassú, que contenha as particularidades que convenha apontar para a melhor determinação da linha divisoria; e a terceira relativa ao trecho do rio Iguassú desde a bocca do Santo Antonio até ao rio Paraná com as especificações já ditas a respeito do Uruguay. Cada acta será acompanhada do respectivo plano firmado por ambos os Commissarios.

As duvidas ou casos que occorrerem e exigirem resoluções especiaes dos Commissarios ou dos Governos serão expostos em actas separadas, em que constem os antecedentes e a resolução tomada.

8. As Commissões deverão reunir-se em Buenos Aires antes de expirarem os seis mezes estipulados no artigo 6 do tratado de 1898

para a troca e o reconhecimento dos seus poderes e para a resolução do que convier.

Feito na cidade do Rio de Janeiro em dous exemplares aos dous dias do mez de Agosto de mil e novecentos.

CEREAES.

Este é o titulo de um interessante artigo que apparece na notavel revista argentina "La Industria Molinera," no numero correspondente a 31 de Agosto deste anno, e o qual dá uma idea do grande desenvolvimento que tem alcançado na Republica Argentina o cultivo de cereaes. Dá-se em seguida o dito artigo:

"Ainda que o movimento dos mercados da capital tenha sido de pouca importancia durante as ultimas semanas, o que se refere ao commercio de cereaes nas praças principaes demonstra que o *stock* de trigo não se tem esgotado. As entradas deste cereal aos portos de embarque sommam 22,470 toneladas, para o que corresponde a semana anterior, e 1,913,500 toneladas desde o primeiro de Janeiro até o 18 do mez de Agosto, distribuidas na proporcão seguinte:

	Semana.	Total.	Por cento.
	Toneladas.	*Toneladas.*	
Rosario	11,299	803,710	42
Buenos Aires	4,190	409,520	21
Santa Fe	100	170,440	8
Bahia Blanca	4,200	160,670	8
Villa Constitución	2,010	149,730	7
San Nicolás	390	74,190	5
La Plata	90	36,470	3
San Lorenzo	.....	36,080	2
Outros portos	200	72,690	4
Total	22,470	1,913,500	.....

"A exportação da penultima semana somma 26,365 toneladas, e a de todo o anno, de 1° de Janeiro a 18 de Agosto, 1,730,378 toneladas.

"*Preços.*—Em Janeiro proximo passado os preços variavam, segundo qualidade, de 4.40 a 5.20 pesos por 100 kilos, em Buenos Aires, e de 4.50 a 5.15 sobre vagão, em Rosario; dadas as condições pecuniarias da agricultura, é muito provavel que a principios do mez de Março a maior parte do trigo haverá passado a mãos do commercio de maneira que a alta que começou a notar-se em Abril não ha de ter aproveitado muito os productores.

"*Milho.*—Teem-se exportado até a data 420,090 toneladas, contra 380,000 toneladas durante o mesmo periodo do anno de 1899.

"A procura para exportação e a escassez relativa das chegadas durante a ultima semana, teem dado em resultado uma alta de 15 a 20 centavos sobre os preços da semana anterior. O anno passado, nesta mesma data, os preços oscillavam entre 2.20 e 2.30 os 100 kilos; hoje o preço superior alcança a 5 pesos e segundo dados consignados na

revista DEVOTO, BALBIANI E CIA., a exportação opera a 4.65 pesos sobre a base de entrega dentro do corrente mez.

"A exportação de milho, durante o ultimo quinquennio, foi como se segue:

	Toneladas.
1896	1,570,517
1897	374,342
1898	717,105
1899	1,116,276
1900 (até 18 de Agosto)	420,000

"Estas cifras demonstram que a producção deste cereal soffre grandes fluctuações, e esta mesma incerteza, em que se acham tanto os productores como o commercio, faz maior o empenho de uns e outros por conhecer opportunamente a extensão semeada cada anno, a quantidade da colheita e o *stock* que fica disponivel entre uma e outra colheita.

"É possivel determinar o numero de hectares semeados de trigo e ter a cifra exacta da quantidade colhida, porque o cultivo deste cereal tem regiões determinadas, epoca fixa para a semeadura e a colheita e meios de comprovar muito approximadamente as quantidades colhidas, exportadas e disponiveis.

"Mas o milho é cultivado em quasi todo o territorio argentino, desde as latitudes do extremo sul até Jujuy, e das provincias andinas até o Chaco, Formosa e Missões. As epocas de semeadura e colheita variam segundo as latitudes e, com frequencia, segundo as variedades cultivadas, de maneira que quasi se poderia dizer que aqui o milho se semeia ou se recolhe durante todo o anno.

* * * * * * *

"O trigo se cultiva em grandes areas e todo o recolhido se destina ao moinho ou á exportação, emquanto que o milho pode ser cultivado em pequenas extensões para o consumo da chacara, e, muitas vezes, dado aos animaes no mesmo rastolho.

"Tem-se procurado determinar a extensão semeada, para de ahi deduzir por um termo médio de rendimento a quantidade da colheita provavel; mas aparte de que isto requer uma investigação continua, são tantas as pequenas parcellas que escapam á estatistica, que o resultado obtido tem sido, até agora, completamente deficiente.

"Não é possivel tomar por base a quantidade exportada para calcular o total da colheita, porque não se pode determinar a quantidade que se consome annualmente no paiz, dadas as diversas applicações que tem este cereal e que, por outra parte, as quantidades exportadas pertencem, com frequencia, á colheita do anno anterior.

"Faz-se necessario remover as difficuldades apontadas, contando com o concurso das autoridades de todas as provincias e territorios, e sobretudo com o da commissão central da extincção dos gafanhotos, que, por meio de suas subcommissões, poderia obter dados precisos tão indispensaveis para o bom cumprimento da missão que lhe tem

sido encommendada, como necessarios para a producção e o commercio.

"*Linho.*—As chegadas desta semente aos portos de embarque não teem passado, durante a semana, de 600 toneladas. A quantidade chegada ás praças desde o 1° de Janeiro até a data somma 198,000 toneladas, e a exportação total 196,600 toneladas, contra 198,000 toneladas dentro do mesmo periodo do anno de 1899 e 150,000 toneladas em 1898. A comparação destas cifras induz a crer que a exportação total do anno alcançará difficilmente á de 1899, que sommou 210,000 toneladas.

Os preços actuaes são os mais altos conhecidos desde o anno de 1892–93, em que as cotisações do mercado inglez chegaram a 46.6 o *quarter* e em nossos mercados a 13.25 pelos 100 kilos (a média do anno nos mercados da Capital).

Hoje o linho se cota em Liverpool a 51½ schillings o *quarter*, e em nossa praça os preços teem subido em proporção.

Sem duvida esta situação favoravel incitará nossos agricultores a augmentar este anno as plantações de linho, e que a exportação do anno proximo será superior á maior dos annos anteriores, si náo sobrevem contratempos.

Eis aqui as cifras da exportação desde o anno de 1890:

Anno.	Toneladas.	Anno.	Toneladas.
1890	30,721	1895	276,444
1891	12,213	1896	229,675
1892	42,987	1897	162,477
1893	72,199	1898	158,904
1894	104,435	1899	217,513

"Com estas cifras a Republica Argentina occupa o quarto lugar entre os paizes productores de semente de linho, segundo estatistica da producção universal do anno de 1898, e na seguinte forma:

	Toneladas.
Russia	776,000
Estados Unidos	503,000
India	485,000
Argentina	218,000
Outros paizes	119,000
Total	2,101,000

"O termo 'outros paizes' comprehende Austria, Roumania, Belgica, França, Mexico, Paizes Baixos, Manitoba, Hungria e Suecia, de maneira que não são mais que quatro os paizes provedores do mercado universal e, sendo assim, se comprehende que pode haver grandes fluctuações nos preços de um anno para outro, segundo seja a colheita mais ou menos abundante nestes quatro centros, maxime si se tem em conta que as proporções da offerta e a demanda deste producto se reduzem a uns dous milhões de toneladas. Esta circumstancia e as pro-

priedades que tem o linho para empobrecer as terras deveriam bastar para que os agricultores procedessem com prudencia na extensão dada ao cultivo desta planta; mas sabemos de antemão que emquanto os preços sejam lisongeiros, pregariamos no deserto si insistissemos sobre a conveniencia de procedimentos methodicos."

BOLIVIA.

NOVO MINISTRO ACREDITADO NOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

No dia 22 de Outubro proximo passado o Presidente McKinley recebeu o Senhor Don Fernando E. Guachalla como Enviado Extraordinario e Ministro Plenipotenciario de Bolivia junto ao Governo dos Estados Unidos.

Ao apresentar as suas credenciaes ao Presidente, o Senhor Guachalla pronunciou o seguinte discurso:

"Exmo. Senhor: A união e confraternidade de todos os povos de America, sob os auspicios da Justiça e do respeito ao direito, constitue o programma internacional do Governo de Bolivia.

"Para alcançar este fim, e com o proposito de estreitar as relações politicas que ligam a Bolivia e os Estados Unidos de America e de vincular de uma maneira positiva e util para ambos os paizes os interesses do seu commercio e industrias, meu Governo me tem acreditado junto ao de V. Ex. com o caracter de Enviado Extraordinario e Ministro Plenipotenciario, dando, ao mesmo tempo, por terminada a missão do meu Honrado predecessor, como o manifestam as cartas autographas, que tenho a honra de pôr em mãos de V. Ex.

"Dispensa-me, Senhor, vossa benevola confiança e aceita os sinceros votos que faço por vossa felicidade e pelo crescente prosperidade de vossa patria."

O Senhor Presidente McKinley respondeu do modo seguinte:

"Senhor Ministro: Ao receber de vossas mãos as cartas pelas quaes Sua Excellencia o Presidente Constitucional da Republica de Bolivia me notifica a retirada de vosso estimavel predecessor e vós acredita em seu lugar com o caracter de Enviado Extraordinario e Ministro Plenipotenciario cerca deste Governo, me dá muita satisfação saber que vossa missão terá por objecto estreitar mais os laços que ligam a Bolivia e os Estados Unidos de America, como convem a membros da familia de republicas americanas, e fomentar de uma maneira util e pratica seus interesses commerciaes e industriaes. Inspirado nos mesmos sentimentos e desejos, este Governo trabalhará gostoso para chegar ao mesmo resultado.

"Espero, Senhor Ministro, que vossa permanencia entre nós vós será agradavel, e que contribuirão a fazer mais gratas vossas relações officiaes e sociaes nesta capital, as sympathias que grangeáram os vossos predecessores.

"Estou animado de desejos tão amistosos como os que haveis expressado e confio em que a Republica de Bolivia continuará gozando de prosperidade, de paz e de progresso."

O Senhor Don Fernando E. Guachalla é um notavel homem publico de Bolivia, que tem desempenhado em seu paiz cargos importantes. É doutor em sciencias politicas e advogado. Servio com distincção durante a guerra do Pacifico e obteve o gráo de capitão. Tem sido Secretario de Legação no Peru e em Chile, e alem disto Encarregado de Negocios no primeiro destes paizes. Tem figurado no Congresso boliviano como Senador e Deputado. É um periodista muito conhecido de ideas avançadas. Fundou a Camara de Commercio de La Paz e sempre se tem feito notar por seu espirito progressivo. Quando foi nomeado Ministro em Washington, tinha a seu cargo o Ministerio de Relações Exteriores de seu paiz.

MENSAGEM ESPECIAL DO PRESIDENTE.

Com data de 27 de Agosto deste anno, o Senhor Presidente da Republica de Bolivia dirigio á Camara de Deputados, por meio do Presidente da mesma, a seguinte mensagem:

"Tenho a honra de submetter á consideração da Camara os estudos do ferrocarril do Lago Titicaca á cidade de La Paz, com o projecto de lei referente á sua construcção.

"Assim a mensagem da Presidencia, como a Memoria do ramo de Fomento, teem-se referido a este projecto, manifestando sua necessidade e suas vantagens.

"O trafico entre o lago e La Paz augmenta de dia em dia, como o demonstram os dados estatisticos tomados de diversas fontes, que estarão á disposição da Commissão de Industria, quando no seio d'ella se estude o assumpto.

"Os rendimentos provenientes de alcohóes e aguardentes estrangeiros, que em sua maior parte se consomem no departamento de La Paz, e o imposto que grava a exportação das gommas do mesmo departamento, produzirão cerca de 700,000 bolivianos annuaes; com a applicação destes rendimentos á construcção da estrada de ferro, pelo espaço de tres annos, a partir do 1° de Setembro proximo, será possivel executar o projecto por administração directa e na forma que passo a manifestar:

"1. Compra do material em Europa por intermedio de um agente de confiança ou de uma casa commercial acreditada, estipulando-se o pagamento do importe por prestações.

II. Preparação do terreno e construcção do ferrocarril por um engenheiro competente e pratico neste genero de trabalhos e mediante uma somma de £4,000 por toda remuneração.

III. Administração dos fundos destinados á obra por uma "Sociedade impulsora do ferrocarril," que será constituida com pessoal selecto nesta cidade e sem onus para o fisco.

IV. Negociação sobre antecipação de fundos, para levar a termo a obra em vinte mezes, em vez de tres annos.

O Governo, si por esta vez se faz empresario, não pretende assumir a administração da estrada de ferro, uma vez que esta se ache entregue ao serviço publico. Seu pensamento é entregar a exploração e administração da linha, com suas dependencias, a uma Companhia seria que emprehenda a construcção da estrada de ferro a Oruro. Neste caso, a secção do lago a La Paz, entregue com uma renda liquida calculada em 8 por cento annual, servirá de garantia á secção de La Paz a Oruro, que não promette as mesmas utilidades, com mais alguma parte da renda total por Estanco de alcohóes e aguardentes, e imposto sobre gommas do departamento.

Desta maneira a estrada de ferro do Lago a La Paz facilita a construcção da desta cidade a Oruro e abre caminho á de Oruro a Cochabamba, para constituir um systema via-ferreo completo e equilibrado em seu rendimento geral, pela compensação do producto de suas distinctas secções. Toda estrada de ferro construida em territorio boliviano é estrada de ferro nacional, e esta, que arrancará de um porto boliviano no Lago Titicaca, para ligar de prompto a tres departamentos e facilitar a connexão desta linha com outras estradas de ferro, a considera o Governo de caracter eminentemente nacional.

Em virtude desta, tenho a honra de propor o seguinte projecto de lei:

O Congresso Nacional decreta:

Artigo 1. Todo o rendimento do Estanco de alcohóes e aguardentes e o que provem do imposto que grava as gommas do departamento de La Paz se applicará, pelo prazo de tres annos contados desde o 1° de Setembro proximo, á construcção de uma estrada de ferro do Lago a La Paz, conforme os estudos approvados pelo Supremo Governo.

Artigo 2. Dá-se autorisação ao Executivo para estipular as condições de um contrato de construcção das estradas de ferro de Viacha a Oruro (em connexão com os ramaes de Guaqui e La Paz), e de Oruro a Cochabamba, offerecendo em garantia a primeira secção da estrada de ferro que deve construir-se e a subsidiaria do producto do Estanco de alcohóes, pelo tempo que for necessario, ao juro de 6 por cento annual, de conformidade com a lei de estradas de ferro e varias disposições legislativas.

DEPOSITOS DE BORAX.

De "El Comercio," de La Paz, correspondente a 19 de Setembro proximo passado, se toma o seguinte artigo:

"Segundo o plano levantado pelo engenheiro peruano Laperouse, em serviço de industriaes chilenos, concordante com os trabalhos de Enrique Robledo e Victor Saez, chilenos que teem residido nesses lugares, a laguna de Suriri ou Chilcaya mede uma superficie de 12,000 hectares, ou sejam 120,000,000 de metros quadrados. Deste total

poderia subtrahir-se 2,000 hectares, ou 20,000,000 de metros quadrados, que representariam as bordas ou partes que conteem pouco borax relativamente á massa enorme que fica enterrado no pantano.

"Sobre 10,000 hectares, ou 100,000,000 de metros quadrados, tendo uma capa de um metro de espessura, é dizer, um metro cubico por metro de superficie, se explorariam 100,000,000 de metros cubicos. Cada metro cubico daria quando menos 4 quintaes hespanhóes, ou 184 kilogrammas, e o total seria de 400,000,000 de quintaes, igual a 18,000,000 de toneladas. Vendida esta quantidade a £12 em Londres, se obteria a somma de 216,000,000 que a 11 bolivianos por libra esterlina, ascende a 2,376,000,000 de pesos bolivianos.

"Mas como a exploração, fretes, commissões, etc., importam consideraveis sommas, devemos ter em conta que as despezas seriam pela exploração de cada tonelada £1, por fretes até Londres £2, por commissão, etc., £1, ficando um lucro de £8 por tonelada, e em 18,000,000 de toneladas £72,000,000, que a 11 pesos cada uma produziria 792,000,000 de bolivianos. Deduzido um 20 por cento pelo emprego de capitaes, machinas e labor de gerencia, o total liquido seria de 604,000,000 de pesos bolivianos, ou £54,100,000.

"Em quanto á capacidade com relação a petições e adjudicações, é importante tambem a apreciação, tanto para evidencia dos adjudicatarios como para que o Governo saiba qual é o verdadeiro interesse, susceptivel de impostos. Sendo a total superficie de 12,000 hectares e as concessões por estacas, que são quadrados de 800 metros por lado ou de 64 hectares, o total adjudicavel seria de 187 estacas e 32 hectares."

MEMORIA DO MINISTRO DE GOVERNO E FOMENTO.

A memoria do Ministro de Governo e Fomento apresentada ao Congresso de 1900, ao tratar das estradas de ferro do paiz, se exprime da maneira seguinte:

"Está-se considerando um projecto apresentado pelo Sr. KRUGGER, consul do Imperio Allemão em Cochabamba, para a construcção de uma estrada de ferro que, partindo da margem direita do rio Paraguay, se estenda até Santa Cruz, Sucre e outras cidades de Bolivia.

"A prolongação da estrada de ferro Central Norte Argentina, tem merecido a preferente attenção do Governo, o que, por meio do Senhor JOÃO C. CARRILLO, Enviado Extraordinario e Ministro Plenipotenciario de Bolivia junto ao Governo argentino, tem tomado os passos necessarios para os estudos que, em breve tempo, devem realizar-se na secção boliviana, por dous engenheiros nacionaes e um argentino, conforme ao acordado.

* * * * * * *

"Tem-se estipulado com o Senhor MARIANO BUSTAMANTE E BARREDA o estudo da via ferrea de Guaqui a esta cidade, o qual se acha feito em

sua totalidade, inclusive a baixada do alto, e deve apresentar-se proximamente ao Governo para sua approvação. A extensão total desta linha entre o Lago e o alto é de 87 kilometros, e está presupposto o custo dessa secção em £174,000; a baixada do alto á cidade, por um systema especial de ascensor, em £36,000.

"O Governo considera de urgente necessidade a construcção desta via ferrea, pelas razões que passo a enumerar: 1ª, insufficiencia dos actuaes meios de transporte para traspassar a carga de Puerto Pérez a La Paz, importação que attinge hoje a cerca de 14,000 toneladas por anno, e que augmentará progressivamente pelo desenvolvimento do commercio e as emprezas mineiras do Departamento, sendo calculada a exportação annual de productos bolivianos em 4,000 a 5,000 toneladas; 2ª, escassez crescente de combustivel para o consumo da cidade, para a empreza de luz electrica e minas de estanho immediatas; a importação de carvão mineral augmentará o trafico da estrada de ferro com o transporte de não menos de 3,000 toneladas annuaes; 3ª, importação de machinas para minas, estabelecimentos industriaes, agricultura, etc.

"O Governo tem avançado negociações para assegurar a economia do transporte do material fixo e rodante destinado á obra da estrada de ferro, assim como a tarifa de transportes de carvão de pedra e mercadorias por vintecinco annos.

"Dadas as condições do credito boliviano nos mercados onde poderia collocar-se o capital necessario para esta estrada de ferro, o Governo, com criterio proprio e seguro, tem optado por sua construcção immediata com fundos nacionaes e proprios do Departamento. Deste modo, concluida que seja a primeira secção da estrada de ferro, na forma indicada e no prazo maximo de trinta mezes, servirá ella de garantia para as prolongações de Oruro e Cochabamba, que se obterão em condições favoraveis, entregue que seja a dita secção ao empresario que obtenha este direito, para sua administração e exploração.

"Deve ter-se em consideração que toda obra via-ferrea, situada em territorio boliviano, é obra nacional, pois pertence ao systema geral de vias ferreas que deve implantar-se para ligar os povos entre si e facilitar seu commercio e outras multiplas relações. A verdade desta affirmação se faz mais evidente si se considera que a estrada de ferro projectada parte de um porto boliviano no Lago Titicaca e que se unirá em Oruro com o ramal de Cochabamba e com outras linhas que atravessarem o territorio de Bolivia.

"Para a execução deste pensamento o Governo pede ao Soberano Congresso que se adjudiquem a esta importante obra pelo prazo de tres annos, as rendas provenientes do imposto de alcohóes que em quasi sua totalidade grava o consumo do departamento de La Paz, o imposto sobre distillação de aguardentes elaborados com materia prima estrangeira e o imposto sobre as gommas do departamento. Deste modo

effectuar-se-ha uma das mais felizes combinações ferroviarias desde o ponto de vista de economia, da garantia do credito nacional, e das seguranças de prolongação da via até outros centros que a necessitam e reclamam para seu desenvolvimento.

"Expostas as razões que antecedem, o Soberano Congresso espero que ha de occupar-se em dar a autorisação que assegure e facilite a construcção da estrada de ferro do Lago Titicaca á cidade de La Paz.

"Não deixarei de manifestar aqui que o Governo está negociando simultaneamente em Londres, com as emprezas das estradas de ferro do Sul do Peru e da de Antofagasta a Oruro, todo o concernente a fretes e transportes para optar por aquella via que dê mais facilidades aos projectos de construcção, seja que adiante a estrada de ferro de Oruro até o Lago Titicaca, seja que deste ponto se dirija a La Paz e Oruro. Sem preferencias, sem vacillação, o Governo optará por aquella empreza que offerecer mais vantagens, não só para o transporte de materiaes, mas para a fixação de tarifas de fretes por um prazo que não baixe de vintecinco annos."

BRAZIL.

AMAZON STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

Realisou-se em Londres a 28ª assembléa geral dos accionistas desta Companhia, sob a presidencia do Sr. ROBERT NORTON.

Ao propor a approvação do relatorio, o Presidente disse que a esperança que havia externado na ultima assembléa se havia realizado e a companhia havia tido um anno muito prospero.

Havia obtido do Governo Federal licença para augmentar as suas tarifas de fretes e de passageiros, e essa alteração entrou em vigor em 1° de Junho de 1899.

O Governo do Pará permittira tambem que se fizessem certas modificações nos contratos da companhia com o Estado e isto fora de vantagem para a companhia, embora a sua influencia nas contas em 1899 fosse limitada.

Mas o cambio, que havia descido a 5½d. em 1898, subira a 7⅜d. em Janeiro de 1899, e a taxa média para o anno foi de cerca de 7¼d.

A companhia não soffrera nenhum accidente sério durante o anno.

O resultado do funccionamento durante o anno foi que os lucros liquidos forão de facto o dobro do que forão em 1898, e que a Directoria podia recommendar a distribuição de um dividendo final de 3 por cento, perfazendo 5 por cento ao anno, contra 4 por cento pelos tres annos precedentes. Chegou-se a este resultado, depois de prover uma somma importante—seja £29,000—para depreciação dos seus vapores, pontões, saveiros, etc., bem como £5,000 reducção no valor em algumas propriedades da companhia.

Em vista do augmento que se estava fazendo a sua esquadrilha, a Directoria lançára no fundo de seguro £10,000, elevando-o a £100,000,

e lançára tambem no fundo de reserva £7,969, elevando-o assim a £60,000. Podia-se, pois, considerar como altamente satisfactorio o resultado do anno de 1899.

Passando ao balanço, chamava a attenção para os principaes pontos de differença comparado com o de 1898, mostrando que a verba "vapores e rebocadores," que era em 31 de Dezembro ultimo de £262,349, havia sido reduzido de £32,000 pela depreciação diaria referida, e que a verba "material, carvão, ferro, etc.," em Pará e Manáos, £48,680, accusava um augmento de cerca de £16,000.

A importancia devida por differentes devedores no Brazil, £40,974 era quasi inteiramente de sommas devidas por fretes, e quasi toda já fora liquidada.

A conta accusava um saldo de 1,417 contos, contra 709 no anno anterior, ou quasi o dobro.

Com referencia á conta de lucros e perdas, os accionistas devião ter notado que, em vez da differença de cambio, em sentido contrario, com que a companhia tem durante annos, tido de enfrentar, e que montára em 1898 a £4,837, teve este anno uma differença favoravel de £1,347.

Um dos quatro novos vapores que a companhia encommendára já estava prompto para partir, e a Directoria esperava que os outros tres partirião para o Amazonas antes de Novembro.

Os outros dous vapores que estavão sendo construidos pelos Srs. Laird Brothers serião maiores e mais velozes do que quaesquer outros que a companhia possuir.

Com relação á perspectiva para o corrente anno, as grandes remessas feitas para Londres fazião presagiar bons resultados. O cambio tinha se mantido bem, tendo sido a sua média nos primeiros seis mezes de 8d., e estava naquelle dia (a 10 de Julho) a 13⅝d. As despezas de custeio havião necessariamente de crescer este anno devido á alta no preço do carvão, mas a companhia estava acobertada por contratos—feitos a preços muito mais baixos do que os actuaes—que serião sufficientes para manter os seus *stocks* até o fim do anno.

As relações da companhia com o Governo Federal e com os Governos do Pará e Amazonas continuavão a ser satisfactorias. Os subsidios havião sido pagos pontualmente, e a Directoria acreditava que a posição da companhia se tinha plenamente mantido na concurrencia que havia para o commercio do Amazonas e dos seus tributarios.

NOVO VAPOR.

Laird Brothers, Limited, lançaram de seus estaleiros ultimamente o segundo vapor dos dous de duas helices, para passageiros, que construiram para a "Amazon Steam Navigation Company." O nome deste vapor é o *Justo Chermont* e tem 230 pés de comprimento e 7 pés e 6 pollegadas de calado, com a velocidade de 13 nós. Tem installação

completa de luz electrica e todos os modernos melhoramentos. Este é o decimo-oitavo navio construido para a "Amazon Steam Navigation Company."

COSTA RICA.

DECRETO SOBRE MOEDA.

"La Gaceta," diario official do Governo de Costa Rica, publica com data de 1° de Setembro deste anno o decreto que foi emittido pelo Presidente IGLESIAS o 31 de Agosto proximo passado, e cujo teor é o seguinte:

ARTIGO 1°. A casa de moeda verificará o resgate da antiga moeda nacional de ouro e a compra do mesmo metal em barra que se lhe apresente na proporção de preço de um colon por cada 778 milligrammas de ouro de 900 millesimos de fineza.

ARTIGO 2°. O resgate se fará por quantidades não menores de 100 grammas de peso, seja qual fôr sua fineza.

ARTIGO 3°. Nas operações do resgate se procederá na forma estabelecida no capitulo III, titulo XV do Codigo Fiscal.

ARTIGO 4°. Emquanto se completa o pessoal de empregados na Casa de Moeda as pastas de ouro que se resgatarem, uma vez fundidas e com annotação de seus respectivos ensaios e de seu peso, se porão á ordem da Secretaria da Fazenda para sua devida exportação por conta do Fisco.

ARTIGO 5°. O Director da Casa de Moeda ao mesmo tempo que expeda o giro a favor do interessado em pagamento das pastas de ouro apresentadas para o resgate, communicará por nota á Secretaria de Fazenda o resultado da operação especificando o peso e fineza do metal, o nome do interessado e a data, valor e numero do giro expedido em pagamento.

ARTIGO 6°. A exportação das pastas devidamente fundidas e marcadas, se fará acompanhada do ensaio das mesmas verificado para seu resgate, e sua equivalencia em grammas de ouro do 900 millesimos de fineza.

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

POPULAÇÃO SEGUNDO O ULTIMO RECENSEAMENTO.

A população dos Estados Unidos, segundo o recenseamento que se levanta na actualidade, é de 76,295,220, incluindo quarenta e cinco Estados, cinco Territorios, o Districto de Colombia e Hawaii. O recenseamento de 1890 deu uma população total de 63,069,756, o qual mostra que em dez annos tem havido um augmento de 13,225,464 habitantes.

O quadro comparativo da população publicado pela Repartição do Censo é como segue:

	1900.	1890.	Indios livres de impostos, 1900.
Os Estados Unidos	76,295,220	63,069,756	134,158
ESTADOS.			
Alabama	1,828,697	1,513,017	.....
Arkansas	1,311,564	1,128,179	.....
California	1,485,053	1,208,130	1,549
Colorado	539,700	412,198	597
Connecticut	908,355	746,258	.....
Delaware	184,735	168,493	.....
Florida	528,542	391,422	.....
Georgia	2,216,329	1,837,353	.....
Idaho	161,771	84,385	2,297
Illinois	4,821,550	3,826,351	.....
Indiana	2,516,463	2,192,404	.....
Iowa	2,251,829	1,911,896	.....
Kansas	1,469,496	1,427,096	.....
Kentucky	2,147,174	1,858,635	.....
Louisiana	1,381,627	1,118,587	.....
Maine	694,366	661,086	.....
Maryland	1,189,946	1,042,390	.....
Massachusetts	2,805,346	2,238,943	.....
Michigan	2,419,782	2,093,889	.....
Minnesota	1,751,395	1,301,826	1,768
Mississippi	1,551,372	1,289,600	.....
Missouri	3,107,117	2,679,184	.....
Montana	243,289	132,159	10,746
Nebraska	1,068,901	1,058,910	.....
Nevada	42,334	45,761	1,665
New Hampshire	411,588	376,530	.....
New Jersey	1,883,669	1,444,933	.....
New York	7,268,009	5,997,853	4,711
North Carolina	1,891,992	1,617,947	.....
North Dakota	319,040	182,719	4,692
Ohio	4,157,545	3,672,316	.....
Oregon	413,532	313,767	.....
Pennsylvania	6,301,365	5,258,014	.....
Rhode Island	428,556	345,506	.....
South Carolina	1,340,312	1,151,149	.....
South Dakota	401,559	328,808	10,932
Tennessee	2,022,723	1,767,518	.....
Texas	3,048,828	2,235,523	.....
Utah	276,565	207,905	1,472
Vermont	343,641	332,422	.....
Virginia	1,854,184	1,655,980	.....
Washington	517,672	349,390	2,531
West Virginia	958,900	762,794	.....
Wisconsin	2,068,963	1,686,880	1,657
Wyoming	92,531	60,705	.....
Total dos 45 Estados	74,627,907	62,116,811	44,617
TERRITORIOS, ETC.			
Alaska	44,000	32,052	.....
Arizona	122,212	59,620	24,644
Districto de Columbia	278,718	230,392	.....
Hawaii	154,001	89,990	.....
Territorio Indio	391,960	180,182	56,033
New Mexico	193,777	153,593	2,937
Oklahoma	398,245	61,834	5,927
Pessoas no serviço dos Estados Unidos residentes no estrangeiro	84,400	.....	.....
Indios, etc., em reservas indias, com excepção do Territorio Indio	.....	145,282	.....
Total dos 7 Territorios, etc	1,667,313	952,945	89,541

CONDIÇÃO DA AGRICULTURA.

Segundo o relatorio preliminario da Secção de Estatistica do Departamento de Agricultura, a producção média por geira de milho em 1900

foi de 25.3 *bushels*, comparada com 25.31 *bushels* em 1899, e 24.1 *bushels*, a producção média nos ultimos dez annos.

A producção média por geira de trigo mourisco é calculada em 15 *bushels*, comparada com 16.36 *bushels* em 1899, e 16.8 bushels, a producção média durante dez annos.

A producção por geira de batatas é de 80.8 *bushels*, contra 76.6 *bushels*, o promedio durante dez annos. A condição média desta colheita é de 88.1.

A producção média por geira de feno é de 1.28 toneladas, que é a mesma que a producção média durante os ultimos dez annos. Sua condição média é de 89.7.

POPULAÇÃO URBANA.

A Repartição do Recenseamento publicou no dia 25 de Outubro de 1900, um boletim que dá o summario da população das cidades que teem 25,000 habitantes ou mais. O numero destas cidades é de 159, e o boletim demonstra que o augmento de sua população no periodo de 1890 a 1900 foi de 32.5 por cento, contra 49.5 por cento, que é o augmento de população das mesmas cidades nos dez annos anteriores. A população total dessas cidades é de 19,694,625 habitantes, comparada com 14,855,489 em 1890, ou um augmento de população duranto os dez annos de 4,839,136.

A cidade de Nova York, com uma população de mais de 3,000,000, occupa o primeiro lugar, seguindo-se-lhe Chicago e Philadelphia, com mais de 1,000,000 habitantes cada uma; St. Louis, Boston e Baltimore, com mais de 500,000 habitantes cada uma; Cleveland, Buffalo, San Francisco, Cincinnati e Pittsburg, com de 300,000 a 400,000 habitantes; e Nova Orleans, Detroit, Milwaukee, Washington, Newark, Jersey City, Louisville e Minneapolis, com de 200,000 a 300,000 habitantes cada uma.

A população total dessas dezenove cidades da primeira classe foi de 11,795,809 em 1900, contra 8,879,105 em 1890, o qual representa um augmento durante os dez annos de 2,916,704 habitantes, ou seja 32.8 por cento. As mesmas cidades no periodo anterior de 1880 a 1890, mostraram um augmento de 2,567,452 habitantes ou 40.6 por cento.

SECÇÃO DE PUBLICIDADE PARA A AMERICA LATINA NA EXPOSIÇÃO DE BUFFALO.

Em uma communicação dirigida a esta Secretaria pelo Sr. Mark Bennett, Superintendente da Secção de Publicidade da Exposição Pan-Americana de Buffalo, se diz que a Secção de Publicidade para a America latina está a cargo do Sr. John Vavasour Noel, a quem devem dirigir-se todas as communicações da imprensa latina-americana.

ESTATISTICA DE CALIFORNIA.

O augmento na população de California durante meio seculo, segundo se vê pelo recenseamento de 1900, tem sido maravilhoso, Hoje tem aquelle estado 16 vezes mais habitantes que em 1850. Na ultima decada a população tem augmentado 22.9 por cento, pois em 1890 era de 1,208,130 habitantes e na actualidade é de 1,485,053. A extensão total de California é como de 155,980 milhas quadradas, e a média de habitantes por cada milha, que em 1890 era de 7.7, é agora de 9.5. Dos 57 condados que ha no Estado, tres mostram um augmento de mais de 50 por cento. Das 116 cidades e povoações, 46 teem mais de 2,000 habitantes; 19 contam com mais de 5,000 habitantes; 10 com mais de 10,000 e 4 com mais de 25,000. Estas ultimas cidades são San Francisco, com 342,782 habitantes; Los Angeles, com 102,479; Oakland, com 66,960, e Sacramento, com 29,282.

CLASSE DE MERCADORIAS EXPORTADAS.

Em vista do grande augmento no valor das manufacturas exportadas dos Estados Unidos, segundo se vê pelas cifras correspondentes aos primeiros nove mezes de 1900, é interessante conhecer que classe de mercadorias tem contribuido ao dito augmento, que ascendeu durante os nove mezes do actual anno civil, em comparação com o mesmo periodo de 1899, a cerca de $127,000,000. Deste augmento, correspondem ás manufacturas como $61,000,000, aos productos agricolas, $52,000,000, e ás minas $6,500,000.,

O seguinte quadro mostra as fluctuações que teem havido nas principaes manufacturas exportadas dos Estados Unidos durante os nove mezes que terminaram em Setembro de 1899 e 1900.

Artigos.	1899.	1900.
Instrumentos de agricultura	$12,276,808	$14,396,787
Livros, mappas, etc	1,136,020	1,585,829
Carruagens, carros, etc	3,652,667	5,567,298
Bicyclettas e partes destas	4,147,354	2,647,383
Relogios de parede e de bolso	1,309,188	1,485,170
Linguados de cobre	27,245,575	44,606,915
Generos de algodão tingidos	3,958,826	3,729,708
Generos de algodão sem tingir	10,770,207	8,181,685
Manufacturas de fibras	3,136,530	3,286,593
Vidro e suas manufacturas	1,248,886	1,483,946
Polvora e outros artigos explosivos	1,205,352	1,383,462
Effectos de gomma elastica	1,504,548	1,931,042
Apparelhos electricos e scientificos	4,101,014	4,849,789
Trilhos de aço	4,072,447	8,806,861
Ferro e aço para construcções	1,579,528	2,851,262
Arame de aço	3,846,374	3,566,725
Ferragens para constructores	6,553,458	7,362,472
Machinas electricas	2,090,737	3,987,405
Machinas para elaborar metal	4,995,708	5,086,372
Bombas e machinas para as mesmas	2,290,711	2,151,500
Machinas de coser e partes destas	2,891,894	3,456,434
Locomotivas	3,992,452	3,616,697
Machinas de escrever	2,115,558	1,994,867
Machinas de diversas classes	14,125,344	17,606,831
Tubos de ferro e accessorios	4,808,496	4,818,271
Calçado	2,710,813	3,358,978
Instrumentos de musica	1,356,573	1,318,247
Azeite mineral refinado	42,229,157	51,522,899
Pinturas e côres	1,252,584	1,567,263
Papel e suas manufacturas	4,246,311	5,155,915
Tabaco manufacturado	3,749,943	4,348,306
Moveis	2,869,603	3,139,545
Manufacturas de Lã	926,910	1,029,310

Um facto interessante com relação ao commercio dos Estados Unidos é que nos ultimos quatro annos a importação de artigos manufacturados tem augmentado o 50 por cento, e a exportação 30 por cento.

COMPARAÇÃO DE VALORES COMMERCIAES.

É indicação significativa da prospera condição economica dos Estados Unidos na actualidade o facto de que os valores de manufacturas de todas as classes teem diminuido, comparados com os do anno passado, ao passo que os preços de productos agricolas e de materias primas de todas as classes teem augmentado. Segundo estatisticas officiaes da Secção de Estatistica do Departamento da Fazenda, ultimamente publicadas, a diminuição no valor de manufacturas desde o dia 1° de Janeiro de 1900 até o 1° de Outubro tem variado de 10 a 40 por cento. Assim, o valor da folha de Flandres no dia 1° de Outubro foi 24 por cento menos que no dia 1° de Janeiro; petroleo refinado, 21 por cento; vidro de janella, de qualidade ordinaria, 12 por cento; pregos de arame, 30 por cento; arame farpado, 26 por cento; linguados de ferro de Bessemer, 46 por cento; trilhos de aço, 26 por cento; madeira de pinho amarello, 14 por cento; corda de sisal, 38 por cento; corda de Manilha, 32 por cento; couro, 10 por cento; calçado de differentes classes, de 7 a 10 por cento; fazendas de lã para vestidos, de 5 a 12 por cento.

Por outro lado, o milho mostra um augmento de 39½ centavos por *bushel* no 1° de Janeiro a 48½ centavos no dia 1° de Outubro; trigo, de 73.8 centavos a 79.7 por *bushel;* cevada, de 45 centavos a 59 centavos por *bushel;* porcos, de $4.50 a $5.30 por 100 libras; algodão, de 7 1/16 centavos a 10.8 centavos a libra; semente de algodão, de $12 a $17.35 por tonelada.

ESTATÍSTICA SOBRE EDUCAÇÃO.

Segundo as cifras dadas no relatorio annual do Commissario de Educação, se vê que no dia 1° de Julho de 1899 o numero total de alumnos nas escolas de instrucção primaria, secundaria e superior, publicas e particulares, foi de 16,738,362, ou um augmento de 50,000, comparado com o do anno anterior. As escolas publicas de instrucção primaria e secundaria foram frequentadas por 15,138,715 alumnos.

Do citado relatorio vê-se que nos diversos cursos dos collegios de agricultura e de artes mechanicas estabelecidos por lei do Congresso, matricularam-se no ultimo anno lectivo 35,458 alumnos. Os recursos totaes desses collegios distribuidos pelos differentes estados, montaram a $6,193,016, dos quaes $1,769,716 representam o auxilio dado pelo Governo, $2,570,427 as verbas votadas pelos diversos Estados, e o restante foi obtido de emolumentos, etc.

Espaço consideravel é dado no relatorio ás condições de educação em Porto Rico, Hawaii e as Ilhas Philippinas. Em 30 de Setembro

de 1899, as escolas de Manilha foram frequentadas por 5,706 alumnos, n'uma população escolar de 25,000. Em Porto Rico, no primeiro semestre de 1899–1900, foram matriculados 24,392 alumnos, dos quaes 15,440 eram do sexo masculino e 8,952 do sexo feminino. A frequencia diaria foi pela média de 20,103. Em Hawaii, o numero total de escolas publicas e particulares foi de 169, com 15,490 alumnos. Tambem trata o relatorio da educação em Cuba, mostrando que tem sido dado impulso decisivo na ilha a este ramo do desenvolvimento nacional.

COMMERCIO EM TECIDOS DE LÃ.

No commercio de manufacturas de lã, o balanço em favor dos Estados Unidos vai-se augmentando de um modo assombroso, sendo as importações em 1895 menos que um terço do valor das de 1895, ao passo que as exportações destes generos no periodo de 1890–1900 mais que triplicaram. Durante os oito mezes findos em 31 de Agosto de 1900, as importações de manufacturas de lã avaliaram-se em $12,084,928, contra $40,667,044 no periodo correspondente de 1895 e $29,544,094 no de 1896. As importações de generos de lã nos dez annos de 1890 a 1900 foram no valor médio annual de $25,000,000. No anno de 1895, as importações foram no valor de $40,667,044. Nos dous annos posteriores as importações continuavam avultadas até os annos de 1898, 1899 e 1900, em que se importavam durante os oito mezes de cada anno generos de lã no valor médio de $11,000,000. Assim se vê que as importações desta classe de mercadorias são hoje sómente na metade do seu valor médio annual desde 1890. Por outro lado, as exportações teem augmentado constantemente, subindo de $268,094 em 1890; $470,725 em 1895; $614,678 em 1896; $144,512 em 1897 e $717,689 em 1898 até $886,030 nos oito mezes de 1900.

As estatisticas relativas ao destino das manufacturas exportadas dos Estados Unidos durante o presente anno não teem sido ainda organisadas, mas do exame do relatorio official para o anno fiscal de 1899, se vê que os tapetes dos Estados Unidos encontram seus principaes mercados no Reino Unido, Canadá, Mexico, e no Oriente; as fazendas para vestidos vão em sua maior parte para a Inglaterra e Mexico; as flanelas e cobertores para Hawaii, China, Hongkong, Canadá, e Chile; roupa feita para Canadá e Chile, e manufacturas miscellaneas para Canada, Miquelon, Inglaterra, Australia, as Antilhas, Allemanha, França e Dinamarca na ordem dada.

EXAME CHIMICO OFFICIAL DE SUBSTANCIAS ALIMENTICIAS.

No laboratorio chimico do Departamento de Agricultura se fazem toda classe de exames para os outros departamentos do Governo. Antes de que o da Guerra ordene uma quantidade consideravel de provisões para o uso do exercito se enviam amostras ao dito laboratorio

afim de que sejam examinadas em quanto a suas propriedades nutritivas e hygienicas. Outro tanto se faz com todos os materiaes usados para vestidos e equipamentos.

Á solicitude do Secretario do Interior o Dr. WILEY, chefe do laboratorio chimico ultimamente deu principio a uma analyse minuciosa das aguas de Hot Springs, no Estado de Arkansas, onde o governo mantem um estabelecimento para soldados invalidos que padecem de rheumatismo e de outras enfermidades semelhantes. Nestas famosas fontes ha de 70 a 80 differentes classes de aguas e todas vão a ser examinadas cuidadosamente pelos peritos do Governo. Os pontos que ha que determinar são os seguintes; a quantidade de gazes em solução; a temperatura; a quantidade de materia organica; o numero e caracter dos germens e a composição chimica de cada uma. O laboratorio medico e hygienico do Departamento do Exercito em Hot Springs tem sido posto á disposição dos chimicos do Departamento da Guerra. O exame que se está fazendo daquellas aguas vai a ser de importancia nacional, posto que demonstrará as propriedades curativas das mencionadas fontes.

Em uma analyse sobre as causas que produzem a febre typhoide, ultimamente publicada, o Dr. WILEY exprime a opinião de que os beneficios que se obtêm com o uso das chamadas aguas mineraes não se devem tanto ás propriedades curativas destes ultimos, mas ao facto de que se encontram livres de toda classe de germens. Ao mesmo tempo, assegura o autor da dita analyse que o leite é o meio mais apparente para a producção do germen da febre typhoide.

PEDIDOS DE TRILHOS DO ESTRANGEIRO.

Cada dia se demonstra de um modo mais evidente o facto de que os trilhos para via-ferrea fabricados nos Estados Unidos dão completa satisfacção no estrangeiro. Ultimamente o Governo de Hollanda tem pedido a uma fabrica de Pittsburg 12,000 toneladas de trilhos de aço para a construcção de estradas de ferro nas colonias Hollandezas, das quaes 3,000 milhas se construirão na ilha de Java. Crê-se que mais tarde se farão novos pedidos. Tqdo isto é o resultado de investigações especiaes feitas nos Estados Unidos por Commissarios do Governo de Hollanda.

Outras fabricas teem recebido tambem grandes pedidos de Inglaterra e Irlanda, o que se explica pelo facto de que os trilhos de estrada de ferro podem comprar-se um dez por cento mais baratos nos Estados Unidos que na Grã Bretanha.

ALLEMANHA COMO EXPORTADORA DE MANUFACTURAS AMERICANAS.

É um facto curioso relacionado com os mercados onde Allemanha predomina, que aquella nação é a que compra a maior quantidade de

productes acabados dos Estados Unidos, sendo estes productos destinados a ser reembarcados para aquelles portos onde o commercio allemão é mais florescente. Ultimamente se teem recebido de Berlim pedidos por valor de $62,000, todo o qual deve ser enviado a um dos principaes mercados da America do Sul. Para formar-se uma idea da variedade de objectos que constituem os ditos pedidos, basta manifestar que o maior delles não alcança a um valor de $6,000, e que incluem quasi toda classe de ferragens, ferramentas pequenas, machinas de escrever, material para carruagens, etc. Calcula-se que haverá necessidade de tres mezes para despachar todos estes pedidos.

A COLHEITA DE BATATAS.

Calcula o "American Agriculturist" que a colheita de batatas nos Estados Unidos durante este anno será como de 239,000,000 de *bushels*, ou seja alguns 5,000,000 de *bushels* menos que a do anno passado. A extensão total de terreno semeado de batatas é approximadamente de 2,897,000 geiras, com uma producção média de 83 *bushels* por geira.

O Departamento de Agricultura dos Estados Unidos enviou ultimamente a Wilmington, Carolina do Norte, um agente com o objecto de despachar um carregamento de batatas para a Inglaterra, França e Allemanha. Isto se deve a que uma quantidade deste producto enviado o anno passado a Londres e a Paris deu muito bons resultados. Crê-se que as succulentas batatas que se dão na Carolina do Norte terão muito boa aceitação no exterior, e que pode fazer-se com este artigo um trafico consideravel.

ALGODÃO E FABRICAS DE ALGODÃO.

As exportações de algodão dos Estados Unidos durante o anno de 1899–1900, mostram uma notavel diminuição, devido a grande consumo deste producto nas fabricas do paiz. No caso da Grã Bretanha, as exportações de algodão reduziram-se de 3,471,252 fardos em 1899, a 2,295,358 fardos em 1900, ou seja uma diminuição de 1,175,894 fardos. Nas exportações para a Allemanha houve uma diminuição de 163,959 fardos, e nas para a França uma diminuição de 93,838 fardos. As importações de algodão americano no Mexico diminuiram de 32,437 fardos em 1899 a 18,391 fardos em 1900, ou seja uma diminuição de 14,046 fardos. O Japão, Belgica e a America Britannica são os unicos paizes que mostram um augmento nas importações de algodão, sendo esse augmento de 116,213, 14,212 e 8,068 fardos respectivamente.

Outro factor da diminuição nas exportações de algodão tem sido, sem duvida, o desenvolvimento da industria da fabricação de algodão nos ultimos dez annos. Muitos dos Estados productores de algodão teem-se tornado nos ultimos annos centros de fabricação de algodão, assim reduzindo a quantidade destinada á exportação. O periodico

"Textile World," que se publica em Boston, calcula o augmento havido no numero de fusos e teares de algodão nos Estados Unidos como se segue:

	1900.	1890.	Porcentagem de augmento.
Fusos	21,057,983	14,188,103	48.4
Teares	490,398	324,866	50.9

Destes fusos, 15,243,000 estão nos estados do Norte e 5,815,000 nos do Sul. Em 1890 os fusos em funccionamento foram divididos assim: 1,828,000 fusos nos estados do Sul e 12,721,000 nos estados do Norte, ou um augmento para aquelles de 3,987,000, ou 217 por cento, e para estes de 2,522,000, ou 19.8 por cento.

Na Exposição de Pariz o grande premio para o algodão e outras fibras foi concedido ao Departamento de Agricultura dos Estados Unidos.

TIJOLOS DE PÓ DE CARVÃO.

A arte de fazer tijolos de pó de carvão para usal-os como combustivel tem sido praticado por largo tiempo em Europa, e a industria tem tomado grandes proporções, especialmente nos paizes do continente. Estes tijolos de carvão se usam muito nas estradas de ferro de França e Belgica, e tambem se exportam grandes quantidades para o Brazil, a Republica Argentina e a outras partes da America do Sul. Emprega-se tambem este combustivel nos vapores transatlanticos, e se annuncia que o Governo francez tem feito um contrato para prover-se deste artigo na Inglaterra. Ha dous annos se produziam em Westphalia 1,800,000 destes tijolos, e se calcula que a producção total de Europa em 1900 passará de 20,000,000 toneladas.

Em America teem-se feito varias tentativas para seguir o exemplo de Europa, utilisando o valioso material que fica como desperdicios cerca das boccas das minas, mas até agora todos os esforços teem sido inuteis, tanto desde o ponto de vista scientifico como desde o commercial. Sem embargo, um estabelecimento fundado na cidade de Chicago parece haver resolvido vantajosamente o problema.

A fabrica de ditos tijolos é em theoria um processo muito simples, pois consiste principalmente em valer-se de alguma substancia que conserve unidas as particulas de carvão, e isto se effectua em Europa por meio do alcatrão que fica como residuo nos fornos em que se prepara o coke. Esta classe de material é muito mais cara nos Estados, e o plano que ultimamente se tem adoptado é usar uma pequena quantidade de cal afim de reduzir a proporção de alcatrão que se necessita para formar os tijolos. Segundo o methodo empregado em Chicago, sómente se necessita 5 por cento de alcatrão com 2 por cento de cal.

Este ultimo artigo se tem usado para a fabricação de tijolos de differentes mineraes pulverizados, e o resultado tem sido muito satisfactorio. O uso da cal dá maior consistencia ao tijolo, o qual faz que se consoma com menos rapidez ao ser usado como combustivel e que o estrago seja menor durante o transporte. Assegura-se que estes tijolos se estragam menos que o carvão anthracite, e que, devido á pouca quantidade de alcatrão que conteem, produzem muito pouco fumo durante a combustão. Os tijolos de carvão fabricados nos Estados Unidos são superiores aos que se fazem em outros paizes e seu custo é sufficientemente baixo para deixar lucros ao productor.

A producção total da fabrica mencionada é como de 200 toneladas por dia, ou seja 60,000 toneladas ao anno.

O periodico "New York Tribune," correspondente a 7 de Outubro deste anno, dá uma relação detalhada sobre o methodo empregado para a fabricação dos ditos tijolos.

DEPOSITOS NOS BANCOS NACIONAES.

O periodico "The New York Financier" tem organizado um quadro comparativo dos bancos nacionaes que tinham, no dia 5 de Setembro de 1900, depositos superiores a $5,000,000. Segundo esta relação, ha hoje no paiz 113 bancos com depositos maiores que a quantia mencionada, ou um augmento de 3 desde o 1º de Julho de 1900. Destes bancos, 32 estão situados em Nova York, 12 em Chicago, 10 em Philadelphia, e 10 em Boston. O augmento nos depositos destes 113 bancos desde Outubro de 1896, é de $1,000,000,000 approximadamente. O "National State Bank" de Nova York occupa o primeiro lugar com o enorme deposito total de $159,000,000, ou um augmento desde o mez de Outubro de 1896, de mais de $127,000,000, ou um augmento de 400 por cento. O augmento de depositos em dez bancos durante o periodo mencionado foi de mais de $20,000,000.

A CIDADE DE BUFFALO.

O periodico "La América Científica é Industrial" publica o seguinte interessante artigo sobre a cidade de Buffalo:

"A Exposição Pan-Americana se celebrará o proximo verão na cidade de Buffalo. Esta cidade, do Estado de Nova York, está situada na extremidade oriental do Lago Erie. Acha-se a 352 milhas ao oeste da capital do Estado, Albany, e a 300 de Nova York, pela grande via-ferrea denominada "New York Central." Buffalo tem como umas cinco milhas de frente, como duas e meia no lago e como outras tantas no Rio Niagara. Parte desta cidade é preciosissima. Suas ruas são largas e rectas, cortando-se, pela maior parte, em angulos rectos. São dignas de especial menção as chamadas Main e Niagara, assim como a

avenida Delaware; as duas primeiras teem respectivamente, 6 e 5 milhas de extensão, e 3 a avenida. As ruas das partes elevadas estão profusamente cheias de arvores. Mais de 100 milhas de asphalto augmentam a importancia de suas ruas.

"Arvores frondosas se encontram tambem em suas praças publicas e em seus parques pequenos, que são 15. Em quanto ao desenvolvimento de sua população, occupa o undecimo lugar entre as cidades da União. Sua policia e seu systema de bombeiros contam com 70 milhas de arames electricos para communicar suas ordens e noticias. Tres companhias de gaz e uma de electricidade fazem o serviço de illuminação. Outras duas companhias a abastecem de gaz natural para combustivel. Linhas telephonicas e de caminhos electricos a cruzam por todas as partes. Tem bons edificios publicos, um hospital geral, varios mais sob a direcção de associações seculares e religiosas, um magnifico asylo de loucos, muitos de orphãos e outras classes, 167 igrejas, e uma boa bibliotheca publica, com mais de 68,000 volumes.

"São muitissimas suas instituições de caridade. Conta com sociedades de sciencias naturaes, medicas e litterarias. Seu magnifico systema de instrucção publica se compõe de uma escola normal, de 50 escolas publicas que teem 850 professores e mais de 38,000 alumnos; 2 collegios de medicina, academias e escolas particulares augmentam seus elementos de ensino. O valor da propriedade das escolas publicas ascende a $1,774,725, e o funccionamento custa $775,000 annualmente. A cidade tem um soberbo parque publico de 442 geiras. Em seus suburbios está o precioso cemeterio chamado "Forest Lawn," que tem 75 geiras de terreno. Sua imprensa conta com 7 diarios em inglez e 3 em allemão, 20 semanarios, dos quaes 4 são sectarios. Tambem tem publicações mensaes e trimensaes, ascendendo todas ao numero de 100.

"Buffalo é um importante e prospero centro commercial e tem extensas manufacturas. Seu commercio vem augmentando annualmente, á causa de sua situação ao pé de grande cadeia de lagos, e por ser o termino do grande Canal do Erie e de varias linhas de estradas de ferro, que são 11 principaes com 7 ramaes. Essas estradas de ferro a communicam facilmente com Nova York, Philadelphia, Chicago, e outros pontos importantes. Seu principal commercio é o de grãos. Tambem tem grande commercio de carvão de pedra. É o centro de distribuição da farinha do Oeste, tendo recebido em 1891 mais de 7,260,072 barris. Sómente Chicago a excedeu no commercio de gado. É grande tambem o de madeira; em 1887 chegou a 390,656,988 pés. Em quanto a manufacturas de ferro e de aço só Pittsburg a excede.

"Buffalo foi fundada por uma companhia hollandeza em 1801, e passou a ser posto militar em 1812. Em Dezembro de 1813 foi destruida por um incendio, quando de suas 200 casas só ficaram 2 de pé. Em Abril de 1832 incorporou-se como cidade. Sua população passa de 286,000 habitantes."

DESENVOLVIMENTO DO COMMERCIO COM CHINA.

Segundo os relatorios officiaes do Governo da China, as importações procedentes dos Estados Unidos teem mais que quadruplicado no periodo decorrido entre 1895 e 1899. O valor da importação para os quatro annos foi como se segue: 5,093,182 *taels* em 1895, 11,929,853 *taels* em 1896, 12,440,302 *taels* em 1897, 17,163,312 *taels* em 1898, e 22,288,745 *taels* em 1899. As importações da Grã Bretanha durante o periodo de que se trata mostram um augmento de 18 por cento; as dos outros paizes de Europa, um augmento de 35 por cento, ao passo que as importações dos Estados Unidos mostram o augmento enorme de 337 por cento.

O commissario em Tientsin diz que houve um augmento consideravel nas importações de fazendas brancas para lenções, sendo importados 90,000 peças mais em 1899 que em 1898. O valor dos riscados americanos importados mostra um augmento de 6 por cento. As machinas, material de estrados de ferro, petrechos governamentaes, etc., todos mostram um grande augmento sobre as cifras correspondentes a 1897 e 1898. O nosso consul em Shanghai diz que os pannos americanos, incluindo as fazendas para camisas e para lenções, os riscados, etc., importados por este porto, vão em augmento constante, e em Canton a farinha de trigo americana está dominando o mercado ao prejuizo dos outros paizes.

A INDUSTRIA DE LACTICINIOS.

Entre as industrias ligadas á lavoura de importancia no paiz, occupa lugar proeminente a industria de lacticinios. Segundo o "Year Book" do Departamento da Agricultura o numero de vaccas existentes nos Estados Unidos no dia 1° de Janeiro de 1900, foi de 16,292,360, comparado com 15,952,883 vaccas na mesma data de 1890, e 12,027,000 vaccas em 1880. O Estado de Nova York, que é o centro da industria de fabricação de queijos, occupa o primeiro lugar na lista com 1,487,000 vaccas, seguindo-lhe Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin e Pennsylvania na ordem dada.

O leite de 5,000,000 dessas vaccas é consumido em estado fresco ou condensado; o de 11,000,000 é fabricado em manteiga e o leite de 1,000,000 vaccas em queijo. O consumo annual de leite e nata é calculado em 1,750,000 gallões. A producção annual de manteiga é de 1,500,000,000 libras e a de queijo, 300,000,000 libras. O valor total dos productos de lacticinios é calculado em $500,000,000.

A exportação total de manteiga dos Estados Unidos durante o anno de 1899 foi de 20,000,000 libras, recebendo a Grã Bretanha mais que a metade desta quantidade. Para a China, foram enviadas 22,000 libras; ás Philippinas, 5,000 libras; Cuba, 585,000; Japão, 92,000; Hawaii, 170,000, e Mexico 381,000.

A exportação de queijos é consideravel ainda que tem diminuido um pouco nos ultimos annos. O anno de maior exportação deste producto foi o de 1880, em que se exportaram 148,000,000 libras. A exportação nos ultimos dous annos foi de 24,000,000 e 30,000,000 libras respectivamente, mas espera-se que este anno a exportação será maior ainda, pois no periodo de 1° de Maio até 22 de Setembro exportaram-se 8,240,000 libras mais que no mesmo periodo do anno proximo passado. Uma razão da diminuição nas exportações de queijo é que o producto nacional tem substituido em parte o estrangeiro no consumo do paiz, e por conseguinte não sómente tem afastado este dos mercados dos Estados Unidos, mas tambem tem diminuido a quantidade de queijo nacional destinada á exportação. Outra razão é que as novas applicações do leite, taes como a fabricação de leite condensado, tem afastado grande parte do leite que outr'ora foi destinado á fabricação de queijo.

DESENVOLVIMENTO DA INDUSTRIA DE FOLHA DE FLANDRES.

O desenvolvimento da industria de folha de Flandres nos Estados Unidos tem sido observado com muito interesse tanto no paiz como no estrangeiro. Segundo um relatorio feito pelo Secretario da "British Iron Trade Association" sobre os productos de ferro e de aço expostos na Exposição de Pariz, a unica exposição de artigos de folha de Flandres foi feita por uma companhia americana e compõe-se de amostras de folha de Flandres e quadros estatisticos mostrando a producção dos Estados Unidos nos ultimos annos. Segundo estas estatisticas, a producção de folha de Flandres dos Estados Unidos tem augmentado de 18,803 toneladas em 1892 a 397,767 toneladas em 1899, ao passo que as importações deste producto da Inglaterra durante o mesmo periodo teem diminuido de 268,472 toneladas a 58,915 toneladas. O relatorio citado diz que a folha de Flandres exposta na Exposição parece ser de boa qualidade e que não ha duvida que essa industria é agora bem estabelecida nos Estados Unidos. Por agora, os Estados Unidos não fazem concurrencia seria com a Grã Bretanha na exportação deste artigo, mas como resultado da exposição teem-se recebido varias encommendas deste producto.

CULTIVO E COMMERCIO DE FRUTAS.

Pode-se ter idea do grande valor da industria de frutas nos Estados Unidos do facto de que do Estado de California só foram embarcadas em um anno 103,000,000 libras de passas no valor de $26,000,000. A producção de maçãs para o presente anno é calculada em 48,000,000 barris, contra 37,500,000 barris em 1899 e 69,000,000 barris em 1896. O valor total das frutas dos Estados Unidos para este anno é calculado em $1,000,000,000, dos quaes mais de $200,000,000 representam o valor das maçãs.

Diz-se que dentro de dous annos a producção de laranjas da California será bastante para supprir todos os mercados do paiz. O anno passado embarcaram-se deste Estado 12,000 carros de laranjas e limões, e este anno calcula-se que serão enviados de 15,000 a 18,000 carros destas frutas. Em Florida a producção este anno será de 1,000,000 ou 3,300,000 carros. Tambem no Estado de Arizona tem-se desenvolvido essa industria de tal modo que hoje se enviam 100 carros de laranjas por semana.

A colheita de pecegos de Delaware é calculada em 4,000,000 cestos na estação passada; a colheita de Connecticut e Maryland foi quasi identica, e a do Estado de Michigan foi superior á de todos os outros, pois um cultivador deste Estado realizou a somma de $80,000 de suas plantações de pecegos.

O Estado de California é o centro do cultivo da uva, onde está situado o maior vinhedo do mundo, que comprehende uma area de seis milhas quadradas, contendo cada geira 680 vinhas. Tão enorme é a producção de vinho e aguardente nesta região que o Governo achou-se necessario construir aqui um grande armazem onde se depositam as pipas de vinho e se calculam os impostos.

O valor dos morangos que se consomem annualmente nos Estados Unidos é calculado em $80,000,000, e o dos *huckleberries* em $1,000,000.

O Sr. Theodore Dreiser, de cujo muito interessante artigo publicado no numero de Novembro da "Harpers' Magazine" se extraem estes dados, considera a industria de frutas nos Estados Unidos ainda em sua infancia.

EQUIPAMENTO E EXTENSÃO DAS VIAS FERREAS.

Segundo dados estatisticos publicados no "Poor's Manual," a extensão das estradas de ferro construidas nos Estados Unidos durante o anno de 1899, ainda que inferior á registrada em annos anteriores, é todavia maior que a de qualquer outra nação. No dia 31 de Dezembro de 1899, a extensão total das vias ferreas abertas ao trafego foi de 190,833 milhas, o qual mostra um augmento sobre a do anno anterior de 3,981 milhas. Foram transportados durante o anno 538,000,000 passageiros e 978,000,000 toneladas de carga. A receita total arrecadada durante o anno elevou-se a $1,336,000,000 e as despezas importaram em $888,000,000, o qual deixa uma renda liquida de $448,000,000.

A dita publicação contem alguns dados interessantes relativos á porcentagem de trilhos de aço empregados nas linhas dos Estados Unidos desde 1880 a 1899. Diz-se que em 1880, quando havia uma extensão de 116,000 milhas de estrados de ferro, 29 per cento destas foram assentadas com trilhos de aço. Em 1885, n'uma extensão total de 160,000 milhas, 61 por cento foram assentadas com trilhos de aço; em 1895, 87.8 por cento, e em 1899, 91.7 por cento.

O numero total de locomotivas em 1899 foi de 37,245, contra 18,000 em 1880. No mesmo periodo o numero de carros de passageiros e de bagagem elevaram-se de 17,000 a 34,000, e os carros de carga de 539,000 a 1,328,000. Ao comparar estes algarismos, deve-se tomar em consideração que as locomotivas e carros tem augmentado enormemente em suas dimensões. Durante os vinte annos de que se trata o peso das locomotivas para carros de passageiros elevou-se de 45 a 90 toneladas e o peso de locomotivas para carros de carga de 60 a 115 toneladas. Em 1880 os maiores carros de carga podiam levar 15 toneladas, e os de 1899, 55 toneladas.

INSTRUMENTOS AGRICOLAS EM AUSTRALASIA.

A capacidade dos Estados Unidos para fazer concurrencia com a Grã Bretanha nos paizes do seu proprio dominio é demonstrada notavelmente nas exportações de machinas e instrumentos agricolas para a Australasia. Um estudo da estatistica da exportação da Grã Bretanha e dos Estados Unidos demonstra que as exportações de machinas agricolas de Grã Bretanha para a Australasia foram no valor de $243,865 em 1891 e de $363,345 em 1899, ao passo que as dos Estados Unidos para os mesmos annos foram no valor de $351,997 e $912,223, respectivamente.

Em sua edição de 25 de Outubro de 1800, "The Farm Implement News" faz nota dos ditos factos e accrescenta que, devido á expectativa de uma melhora nas condições industriaes e agricolas nos Antipodes, este mercado seria mais valioso que nunca para a venda de instrumentos americanos. Consta que as machinas de ceifar, serras, machados e machinas automaticas de todas as classes fazem forte concurrencia com as de outras procedencias e que os fabricantes dos Estados Unidos parecem saber melhor do que a mãe patria as classes de instrumentos que as colonias necessitam para seu desenvolvimento.

CULTIVO E MANUFACTURA DO TABACO.

Um estudo do cultivo do tabaco nos Estados Unidos durante o seculo XIX demonstra o grande desenvolvimento que tem tido esta industria. Durante os primeiros quarenta annos do seculo os principaes centros de cultivo do tabaco eram os estados de Virginia, Maryland, Kentucky, Tennessee, Carolina do Norte, Missouri, Ohio, e Indiana, e em 1839 cada um destes Estados produziu milhões de libras deste producto. Em 1890, á lista dos Estados productores do tabaco foram ajuntados os de Connecticut, Nova York, Pennsylvania, e Wisconsin. A colheita total neste anno foi calculada em 488,256,646 libras, occupando o primeiro lugar o estado de Kentucky, com 221,880,303 libras.

O "United States Tobacco Journal" em sua edição commemora-

tiva do centenario de sua fundação, publica alguns dados interessantes relativos á manufactura deste producto e aos fundos empregados nesta industria nos Estados Unidos. Em 1873, o numero de fabricantes de charutos foi calculado em 15,322, com uma producção annual de 1,779,946,596 charutos. O imposto sobre esta quantidade montou a $8,899,732. Em 1898, houve no paiz 30,856 fabricantes de charutos com uma producção total de 4,910,937,307 charutos. O imposto do Governo montou a $14,031,726.

O capital empregado na industria de fabricação de charutos em 1890 foi de $59,517,827; o numero de operarios empregados foi de 98,156; os salarios montaram a $44,767,989 e o valor do producto foi de $129,693,275.

VARIEDADE VALIOSA DE CANNA DE ASSUCAR.

O Prof. William C. Stubbs, director do serviço do Campo de Experienca dos Estados Unidos em Luisiana, annuncia que depois de ter feito muitas experiencias na cultura de cannas de assucar, tem obtido uma variedade que produzirá 30 per cento mais assucar que as variedades cultivadas em Louisiana, Texas, e os outros Estados do Sul, e que promette revolucionar a industria de assucar. Esta variedade vem da Ilha de Trindade, sendo uma das diversas variedades de canna de assucar que foram introduzidas no paiz ha seis annos. O Professor Stubbs tem obtido uma especie de canna particularmente adaptada para o cultivo nos Estados do Sul e que augmentará consideravelmente sua producção.

Das especies introduzidas de Trindade teem-se obtido duas variedades que produzirão 38 toneladas por geira e 16 por cento de assucar, ao passo que as variedades até agora cultivadas dão de 30 a 35 toneladas por geira e 12 por cento de assucar.

A nova variedade de canna é uma planta robusta com profundas raizes. O campo de experiencia de Luisiana tem cannas desta variedade sufficientes para supprir aos cultivadores de assucar deste Estado e começará a fornecel-as a cultivadores de outras partes dos Estados Unidos, assim como aos campos de demonstração de Cuba e Hawaii.

NOVAS MINAS DE AZOUGE.

Uma diminuição na producção do mundo de azouge tem dado lugar a explorações em busca deste metal no Estado da California. Varias novas minas teem sido descobertas, e se espera que a producção de azouge deste Estado será maior que nunca. No condado San Luis Obispo ha varias novas minas muito promettedoras e já estão-se tomando passos para explorar uma mina de azouge no condado Modesto.

EMBARQUES DE CHARUTOS DE TAMPA.

Houve um grande augmento nos embarques de charutos feitos de Tampa, Florida, durante o presente anno, comparados com os do anno anterior. Desde o 1° de Janeiro de 1900, foram embarcadas 19,506 caixas de charutos, contra 13,193 caixas no mesmo periodo de 1899. Como cada caixa contem 5,000 charutos, ver-se-há que 97,530,000 charutos foram embarcados durante os dez mezes do presente anno, contra 65,695,000 charutos no periodo correspondente de 1899, o qual mostra um augmento, em 1900, de 31,835,000 charutos.

Pode-se ter uma idea do desenvolvimento deste commercio pelo facto de que durante os dez mezes deste anno foram embarcadas de Tampa 661 caixas de charutos mais que em todo o anno anterior, e espera-se que haverá consideravel augmento ainda neste commercio como resultado das festividades do natal. Em 1899, os salarios pagos aos operarios empregados nessa industria sommaram $3,000,000, e segundo estatisticas colhidas esta quantia já tem sido excedida nos dez mezes do corrente anno.

PERSPECTIVA DA COLHEITA DA LINHAÇA.

Pode-se ter uma idea da alta havido no preço da linhaça pelo facto de que em um carregamento deste cereal que foi embarcado recentemente de Duluth, a linhaça foi avaliada em $1.80 por *bushel*. O dito carregamento consistira de 260,000 bushels, no valor total de $468,000.

Os calculos da producção da linhaça teem diminuido de 25,000,000 a 18,000,000 bushels. Cada *bushel* de linhaça produz dous gallões de oleo de linhaça, e como as exigencias do commercio necessitam de 40,000,000 gallões de oleo de linhaça annualmente, é evidente que a producção de linhaça do paiz tem de receber supplemento do estrangeiro. Não se conhece ainda a quantidade total de linhaça produzida na Argentina, mas como essa colheita é sempre de importancia naquella Republica, espera-se que influirá consideravelmente no commercio geral deste producto.

A EXISTENCIA DO OURO.

No dia 27 de Outubro de 1900, o ouro existente no Thesouro dos Estados Unidos chegou á enorme somma de $451,477,404, tornando-se assim a maior existencia do ouro no mundo. O valor do ouro depositado no Banco de França é calculado em mais de $446,000,000. Segue-lhe o Banco Imperial de Russia com $350,000,000, que é uma diminuição de $75,000,000 sobre o do anno anterior. Os bancos de Vienna e Berlin teem mais $35,000,000 e $10,000,000 respectivamente que no anno passado. Ligeiras são as modificações nas existencias de ouro da Hespanha e Italia. O ouro no Banco da Hollanda tem augmentado

em $10,000,000. O total do ouro existente no Banco da Inglaterra a fins de Outubro foi de £32,802,492 ou $160,000,000, o qual mostra uma diminuicão de $5,000,000, sobre a quantia existente na mesma data de 1899.

"The Journal of Finance," que publica estes dados, accrescenta que da producção do ouro do mundo em 1899, que importa em $322,000,000, quasi a quarta parte provem dos Estados Unidos.

PAPEL PARA A AMERICA LATINA.

Por informações obtidas ultimamente se vê que o mercado de papel na America Latina não recebe por parte dos commerciantes dos Estados Unidos a attenção que merece. Na cidade de Monterrey, Mexico, a escassez deste artigo, chegou a ser tal que se crêu que não era possivel continuar a publicação dos diarios. A cidade de Buenos Aires offerece tambem excellente mercado para a venda de papel de todas as classes. Durante uma semana no mez de Outubro se embarcou em Nova York papel para a Republica Argentina por valor de $3,000. Encontra-se naquelle paiz toda a materia prima necessaria para a fabricação de papel, e os periodicos argentinos recommendam com interesse que se estabeleçam fabricas deste importante artigo.

PESCA DE PHOCAS EM ALASKA.

Informam de Victoria que 34 escunas que se dedicaram durante a ultima estação á pesca de phocas trouxeram 16,000 pelles destes animaes, o qual é 8,000 menos que as que trouxeram 25 escunas na estação passada. O numero de phocas capturadas na primavera foi de 16,517, e isto ajuntado ás cifras anteriores somma um total para todo o anno de 32,517.

GRANDE CONTRATO PARA CARROS DE AÇO.

O contrato mais grande que se tem feito para carros de aço foi celebrado ultimamente por uma companhia americana e comprehende 6,000 carros, com uma capacidade de 100,000 libras cada um. Desde o ponto de vista da tonelagem, assim como do valor do pedido, este contrato é o mais notavel de que ha memoria em quanto a equipamentos para estrada de ferro. Alem deste pedido, a mesma companhia tem recebido outras de consideração.

PRODUCÇÃO DE PETROLEO NA CALIFORNIA.

O relatorio annual do Director da Repartição Geologica dos Estados Unidos, mostra que houve um augmento na producção de petroleo do Estado da California em 1899, comparada com a de 1898, de 384,888

barris. A producção total de petroleo crú durante o anno foi de 2,624,095 barris, no valor de $2,508,751. O preço médio por barril foi de 95 centavos, o qual mostra um augmento de 10 centavos durante o anno. O consumo do petroleo no Estado é principalmente como combustivel, sendo empregado em grande escala nos engenhos de assucar, nas installações de luz electrica, refinarias, etc. Tambem está sendo introduzido como combustivel para locomotivas e na fabricação de ferro e aço.

GRANDE CARREGAMENTO DE ALGODÃO.

Noticias recebidas de Nova Orleans annunciam que no dia 31 de Outubro foi embarcado daquelle porto no vapor inglez *Mechanician*, o maior carregamento de algodão de que provavelmente ha recordo no mundo. Este consistia de 26,000 fardos de algodão. No mesmo vapor foram embarcados 32,000 *bushels* de trigo e 8,000 pés de madeira de nogueira. O valor total deste carregamento foi de $3,000,000.

DESCOBRIMENTO DE DEPOSITOS DE PETROLEO.

Novos depositos de petroleo teem sido descobertos no Estado de Wyoming na vizinhança de Douglas, que promettem rivalisar com os já em exploração. Diz-se que os novos campos de oleo comprehendem grande area de terreno, e que o producto é um oleo lubrificante de boa qualidade no valor de $8 por barril. Tem-se organizado uma companhia, com um capital de $70,500,000, para explorar esses depositos que comprehendem uma area de 40,000 geiras.

FABRICAÇÃO DE BOTÕES DE MADREPEROLA.

Uma industria que tem por objecto a utilisação de um artigo considerado até agora sem utilidade, é a fabricação de botões de conchas de ameijoa. O centro dessa industria é a cidade de Muscatine, Iowa, onde ha 25 fabricas, empregando 1,200 operarios, cujos salarios mensaes sommam $8,000. A producção total das fabricas neste local é de 98,000 botões por semana e a quantidade total de conchas empregadas é calculada em 175 toneladas por semana.

O processo de fabricação é muito simples e a barateza e a abundancia da materia prima tem attrahido a attenção de capitalistas para essa industria.

CULTIVO DA ALFALFA NO ESTADO DE WASHINGTON.

A alfalfa é cultivada hoje em grande escala em algumas partes do Estado de Washington, e se calcula que neste anno a colheita de uma só secção do dito Estado deixará aos cultivadores cerca de $1,000,000.

Uma grande quantidade desta forragem tem sido enviada já a differentes partes e ainda fica muito para armazenar. Os que se dedicam ao cultivo desta planta pretendem que produz mais com relação ao dinheiro empregado em seu cultivo que qualquer outra, e que se podem obter tres ou quatro colheitas por anno. Não só melhora de anno para anno a qualidade da planta, mas tambem serve como adubo da terra.

O gasto total do cultivo da alfalfa, incluindo a irrigação e a colheita, varia de dez a quinze dollares por geira, e o preço é de $4 a $6.50 e $7.50 a tonelada, segundo a maneira como é entregue. Como a colheita produz de seis a dez toneladas por geira e se faz a colheita tres e quatro vezes durante o anno, se vê claramente que uma producção de trinta a cincoenta dollares por geira deixa ao cultivador um bom lucro. A alfalfa foi introduzida primitivamente em California ha como 50 annos, e de alli foi levada a Utah, onde hoje se obtem quasi toda a semente para o cultivo, a qual se vende pela média a sete centavos por libra.

VAPORES PARA O COMMERCIO COM A CHINA.

Como resultado do crescente commercio com a China se tem comprehendido a necessidade de estabelecer immediatamente um bom systema de transportes entre a costa oriental dos Estados Unidos e a costa occidental da Asia. É impossivel que as linhas de navegação que partem de Vancouver abastem todas as necessidades do commercio do Pacifico. Mr. J. J. Hill, da Great Northern Railroad, propõe-se estabelecer uma linha de vapores para passageiros e carga entre Seattle, Estado de Washington, e os portos da China, em connexão com as vias ferreas da Companhia da "Great Northern Railroad." O facto de que o transporte por terra e por agua estará sob o dominio de uma só corporação dará por resultado necessariamente a reducção nos fretes, reducção que não baixará de tres a quatro dollares por tonelada.

RECURSOS FLORESTAES DAS PHILIPPINAS.

De conformidade com a politica do Governo Federal de desenvolver os recursos florestaes das Philippinas, o Collegio de Silvicultura do Estado do Nova York tem recebido de Manilha um pedido para que envie meia duzia de pessoas competentes que cooperem no dito trabalho. O pedido provem da Repartição Florestal de Manilha e é a intenção desta organizar um systema perfeito de administração afim de desenvolver os 20,000,000 de geiras de florestas nacionaes que produzem hoje uma renda do $100,000 annualmente. Sob uma direcção competente esta quantia pode augmentar-se notavelmente. Tem-se pensado tambem em que para fazer mais efficaz o projecto em referencia, convem enviar jovens graduados nos collegios das Philippinas a tomar cursos especiaes de silvicultura na universidade de Cornell.

IMPORTAÇÕES DE MEXICO.

Segundo diz o periodico "The Two Republics," correspondente ao 16 de Outubro proximo passado, o promédio annual da importação de productos agricolas de Mexico nos Estados Unidos, de 1895 a 1899, foi de $13,600,110, ou seja um total de $68,000,552. Os principaes artigos que se importam de Mexico são fibras vegetaes, café, pelles, couros e gado. O hennequen occupa o primeiro lugar, pois se calcula que a quantidade que deste artigo se importa annualmente representa um valor pela média de $4,778,000. Tambem se importa uma quantidade consideravel de ixtle e de fibra de Tampico. O café importado cada anno tem um valor de $4,178,000.

RECURSOS DA ALASKA.

Parece impressão geral que os recursos do Territorio de Alaska limitam-se á producção do ouro, mas na opinião do Sr. Coronel P. H. Ray, do exercito dos Estados Unidos, esta parte dos Estados Unidos offerece opportunidades para grande diversidade de industrias. Em um discurso pronunciado perante a Sociedade Geographica de Alaska, de Seattle, Washington, o Sr. Coronel Ray exprimiu a opinião de que os recursos de Alaska, sem contar as minas de ouro, são maiores que os dos Estados do Pacifico, com excepção só das madeiras. Em toda a parte do valle Yukon a aveia, o trigo e todos os cereaes dão-se bem. Diz que ao seu conhecimento pessoal 1,400 alqueires de batatas foram produzidos em quatro geiras de terreno. A graminea denominada *timothy* cresce em estado selvagem a uma altura de quatro pés. Na industria da pesca Alaska offerece opportunidades illimitadas, pois as pescarias valem mais que as do mar do Norte e da Terra Nova juntas. Em seus relatorios apresentados ao Departamento da Guerra, o Coronel Ray recommenda que se offereça privilegios especiaes aos suecos e norueguezes para que immigrem aqui, sendo os povos desta raça mais acostumados ás condições de vida nesta latitude. Diz-se que o clima de Alaska não é mais rigoroso que o das grandes planicies dos estados de Wyoming, Montana, e algumas partes de Nevada.

MUSEU COMMERCIAL DO PACIFICO.

Organizou-se ultimamente em San Francisco um Museu Commercial correspondente ao Museu Commercial de Philadelphia. A Directoria da Associação compõe-se dos membros seguintes: Presidente, Irving M. Scott; Secretario, Eugene Goodwin, e Isaac Upham, Thesoureiro. Diz-se que o Museu Commercial do Pacifico tem amplos fundos e que logo começará a reunir amostras de productos da costa do Pacifico, as quaes constituirão uma exposição permanente em San Francisco.

AUGMENTO DE POPULAÇÃO DAS CIDADES SITUADAS NOS LAGOS.

Um dos factos mais importantes e interessantes que o ultimo recenseamento revelou é o notavel augmento havido na população das cidades situadas nos Grandes Lagos. A proporção de augmento excede á das cidades situadas na costa ou nos rios de navegação. Na cidade de Milwaukee, o augmento de população durante os ultimos dez annos é de 39.54 por cento; Cleveland, 46.07 por cento; Chicago, 54.44; Toledo, 61.88; Buffalo, 37.77.

NOTAVEL NAVIO DE GUERRA.

O cruzador que acaba de ser construido nos Estados Unidos pelo Governo russo é o mais rapido e mais perfeito de quantos existem de sua classe no mundo. O periodico "Nautical Gazette" diz que o *Variag* é um modelo como vaso de guerra e não sem razão é mirado como uma amostra dos adiantamentos que teem feito os Estados Unidos em construcções navaes. O dito cruzador tem uma velocidade de mais de 24 nós por hora.

PERU.

AUGMENTO DO COMMERCIO COM OS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

O Honrado Irving B. Dudley, ministro dos Estados Unidos em Peru, fallando das condições commerciaes em Peru e das opportunidades para augmentar o commercio de California nesta região, diz que o commercio entre Peru e os Estados Unidos tem duplicado nos ultimos dous annos. Isto se deve em grande parte ao facto de que o assucar peruano, que outr'ora foi embarcado directamente para Liverpool, é hoje enviado ao porto de Nova York. Quanto ao commercio da costa do Pacifico, diz que os principaes artigos importados no Peru dessa procedencia, são madeira e trigo, que vêm principalmente da California e Oregon. A maior parte das machinas de mineração importadas no paiz entram pelo porto de San Diego, e em proporção que va augmentando a exploração das minas do Peru, augmentará a demanda de machinas desta classe. O Senhor Ministro, por conseguinte, urge o estabelecimento de melhores facilidades de transporte entre os portos do Pacifico da America de Norte e do Sul.

Fallando dos recursos do Peru como garantia de capitaes, diz que a industria de borracha ou a de mineração offerece o melhor campo para o emprego de capitaes. A exploração dos depositos de carvão seria, na opinião do Sr. Ministro, muito proveitosa, pois o principal combustivel que se usa hoje no paiz é o petroleo, que se encontra na parte septentrional da Republica.

ANALYSE DE FARINHA DE BANANA.

Nos ultimos dous ou tres annos teem apparecido varios artigos relativos á farinha de banana, mas parece que se teem obtido poucas informações fidedignas sobre o assumpto. O campo de experiencia do Departamento da Agricultura no Estado de Connecticut publicou ultimamente o resultado de analyses que fez de farinha de bananas feita de tres variedades da planta. No seguinte quadro se vê a composição dessas farinhas comparada com a de bananas frescas, de farinha de trigo, de arroz e de macãs frescas e seccas:

Analyse de Farinha de Banana e outros productos.

	Agua.	Proteina.	Grassa.	Hydro-carbonatos.	Fibras.	Cinzas.
	Por cento.	*Por cento.*	*Por cento.*	*Por cento.*	*Por cento.*	*Por cento.*
Farinha de banana:						
De Porto Rico	13.43	3.50	0.47	79.82	0.54	2.24
De Florida	5.34	2.81	.66	87.45	.84	2.90
De Honduras	10.33	2.87	.50	87.02	.73	2.55
Bananas frescas	75.30	1.30	.60	21.00	1.00	.80
Macãs frescas	84.60	.40	.50	13.00	1.20	.30
Macãs seccas	28.10	1.60	2.20	66.10	.....	2.00
Farinha de trigo	11.50	11.40	1.00	75.40	.20	.50
Arroz	12.30	8.00	.30	78.80	.20	.40

Vê-se que uma certa quantidade de bananas seccas moidas contem mais materia nutritiva que igual quantidade da fructa fresca, sendo isto o resultado da remoção de grande parte d'agua que a fructa contem. A composição chimica de maçãs e de bananas frescas é algum tanto semelhante, podendo-se dizer o mesmo da fructa secca, ainda que as maçãs seccas contem um pouco mais d'agua e por conseguinte menos materia nutritiva que as bananas seccas. A farinha de banana contem muito menos proteina que a farinha de trigo. Como se vê pela analyse feita pelo campo de experiencia, as tres amostras de farinha de banana são muito semelhantes em composição e conteem menos que a metade da quantidade de proteina que contem o arroz. Ha alguns annos o Jardim Real de Kew, Inglaterra, publicon um folheto sobre o valor como alimento da banana e da farinha de banana, no qual se diz que a farinha de banana tem sido preparada pelos habitantes dos paizes tropicaes desde os primeiros tempos.

A MARINHA MERCANTE DO MUNDO.

A marinha mercante do mundo, segundo "Lloyd's Register," é representada por 28,422 vapores de 29,043,728 toneladas. A Grá Bretanha tem 10,838 vapores, arqueando 14,261,254 toneladas e seguem-se-lhe

os Estados Unidos, com 3,135 vapores, arqueando 2,750,271 toneladas. Vêm depois a Allemanha, com 1,710 vapores de 2,650,033 toneladas; Noruega, com 2,380 vapores de 1,640,812 toneladas; França, com 1,214 vapores de 983,655 toneladas; Suecia, com 1,433 embarcações, arqueando 637,272 toneladas; Japão, 1,066 vapores de 574,557 toneladas; Hollanda, 406 vapores de 530,277 toneladas; Dinamarca, 802 vapores de 416,084 toneladas. A Grecia, Brazil, Belgica, Portugal, e o Chile, todos têm vapores mercantis de mais de 100,000 toneladas. O numero de embarcações a vapor da Grã Bretanha é superior ao das de todas as outras nações juntas. Quasi a metade da marinha mercante dos Estados Unidos consiste de navios a vela.

COMPARAÇÃO DAS COLHEITAS DE TRIGO DA ARGENTINA E DA INDIA.

Um numero recente do "Crop Reporter," que é uma publicação do Departamento de Agricultura dos Estados Unidos, chama a attenção para a Republica Argentina e India como paizes productores e exportadores de trigo. A colheita do trigo nestes paizes faz-se na estação que corresponde ao inverno nas outras partes do mundo em que se cultiva o trigo, isto é, de Novembro até os principios de Fevereiro na Argentina e de Fevereiro até Maio na India. Por conseguinte as remessas destes paizes vêm aos mercados do mundo em um periodo em que as existencias de trigo já têm sido consideravelmente diminuidas. É evidente, pois, que, em annos como este, quando a colheita de trigo promette ser muito menos que o dos ultimos dous annos, será dada attenção especial ás colheitas destes dous paizes.

Noticias recebidas da Republica Argentina dizem que a colheita de trigo diste anno é calculada em 70,000,000 bushels, e desta quantidade 70 por cento está destinado á exportação. Uma feição curiosa da situação do trigo na Argentina é que, ainda que este paiz não occupa lugar proeminente entre os paizes productores de trigo do mundo, vem depois dos Estados Unidos como exportador deste producto. A esse respeito, uma comparação com a India mostra notavel contraste, pois ainda que este paiz occupa o quarto lugar entre os paizes productores de trigo do mundo, exporta sómente de 2 a 14 por cento da colheita.

CAPITAL ALLEMÃO EMPREGADO NA AMERICA LATINA.

Assegura um periodico estrangeiro que de uma investigação ultimamente feita resulta que ha empregados em Venezuela 200,000,000 de.

marcos, 190,000,000 em Colombia, de 100,000,000 a 120,000,000 no Peru e Equador, e de 200,000,000 a 300,000,000 em Chile. A Republica Argentina entra na lista por 600,000,000.

As estradas de ferro teem uma grande parte destes capitaes. Toda a America do Sul, sobre a costa oriental, emprega de 1,000,000,000 a 1,600,000,000 de marcos. As casas de commercio allemãs teem um capital de 200,000,000 de marcos na Republica Argentina. Na cidade e provincia de Buenos Aires se contam 500 firmas allemãs com 154,000,000 de capital. A industria allemã trabalha em Buenos Aires com 6,500,000 de marcos. As propriedades estão avaliadas em 160,000,000.

No Paraguay, de 17,000 estrangeiros ha 12,500 allemães. As propriedades allemãs no Uruguay e Paraguay valem 13,000,000.

No Rio de Janeiro e São Paulo e Rio Grande ha 117 casas allemãs com 150,000,000 de marcos.

No Mexico ha empregados 200,000,000 de marcos, e na America Central, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Salvador e Honduras, 200,000,000; nas Antilhas, 250,000,000, e em Cuba 140,000,000.

BIBLIOGRAPHIA.

Nesta secção do Boletim Mensal se tratará dos livros e folhetos enviados á Secretaria das Republicas Americanas que se referem a assumptos de interesse aos paizes da União Internacional das Republicas Americanas.

Com o titulo de "A Century of American Diplomacy" (Um Seculo de Diplomacia Americana), Mr. JOHN W. FOSTER acaba de publicar um livro verdadeiramente notavel. Mr. FOSTER figura em primeira linha entre os diplomatas americanos e tem representado os Estados Unidos em varios paizes estrangeiros. Durante os ultimos mezes da administração do Presidente HARRISON, foi Secretario de Estado dos Estados Unidos, cargo que desempenhou com distincção. Ultimamente Mr. FOSTER tem tido a seu cargo a cadeira de diplomacia na Universidade de Colombia em Washington. Sua obra começa com a epocha revolucionaria, e contem a historia diplomatica do paiz até o anno de 1876. O capitulo XII é uma exposição muito instructiva do que se tem chamado a doutrina de MONROE e merece ser lido com attenção em todos os paizes de America. Mr. FOSTER chama a attenção ás numerosas obrigações que acompanham o cargo de Secretario de Estado, não sómente desde o ponto de vista politico, mas tambem desde o ponto de vista social, obrigações que, propriamente fallando, não teem os outros membros do Gabinete. Não duvidamos que a obra de Mr. FOSTER será traduzida ás diversas linguas que se fallam em America, pois é muito digna de ser conhecida em todos os paizes deste continente.

Um livro muito interessante para todos os amantes das bellas lettras acaba de publicar-se na cidade de São Louis, Missouri, com este titulo: "The World's Best Orations" (Os Melhores Discursos do Mundo). Os discursos contidos nos tomos III, IV, V, VI, e VII teem sido examinados criticamente pelo Honrado DAVID J. BREWER, Juiz do Tribunal Supremo dos Estados Unidos, e abrangem uma quantidade de materias. Ha obras de oratoria de todas as nações. O objecto que se tem tido em vista é dar a conhecer em toda sua extensão os discursos dos oradores mais notaveis do mundo, e tambem figuram na collecção producções de oradores de menor nota, mas que teem verdadeira importancia historica. Dos discursos destes ultimos se reproduzem sómente aquellas partes que servem para dar uma idea da posição que lhes corresponde na historia, na religião, sciencia, artes ou litteratura.

"Progress of Irrigation Work in the West" (Progresso do Serviço de Irrigação no Oeste), é o titulo do primeiro relatoria sobre as investigações de irrigação feitas pela Repartição dos Campos de experiencia, publicado pelo Departamento de Agricultura dos Estados Unidos. Este relatorio trata dos methodos empregados nos Estados onde o solo é arido para a distribuição e uso de agua de irrigação; dá grande numero de medições para determinar a efficiencia da agua, as perdas por escoamento e evaporação em canaes, e descreve os methodos por que a agua podia ser supprida com maior economia ás colheitas. Esta obra é illustrada por diagrammas e mappas mostrando o local e a natureza das investigações feitas. A edição limita-se a 1,000 exemplares.

O primeiro numero de uma nova revista intitulada "The World's Work" contem um artigo de Mr. FREDERIC EMORY, Chefe da Secção de Commercio Estrangeiro do Departamento de Estado dos Estados Unidos, cujo titulo é o seguinte: "Our Growth as a World Power." Mr. EMORY chama a attenção ao immenso desenvolvimento que tem tido o commercio exterior dos Estados Unidos. Na sua opinião, ha nisto algum perigo para os fabricantes americanos que podem commetter o erro de crer que os productos de suas fabricas se venderão sem o menor esforço por parte delles, e cita a conducta observada pela Grã Bretanha, Allemanha e França, que luctam sempre com energia para conservar os mercados que teem conseguido dominar.

Um dos artigos mais importantes que contem a revista "The Forum," correspondente ao mez de Outubro proximo passado, é o que leva o titulo de "Is a Timber Famine Imminent?" O autor deste artigo é o conhecido geographo Mr. HENRY GANNETT, da Secção de Estudos Geologicos dos Estados Unidos. Calcula o Senhor GANNETT que, si continuar o consumo actual de madeiras, as florestas dos Estados Unidos sómente poderão supprir os mercados durante cincoenta annos. Crê o autor que a madeira existente nas florestas da parte oriental do paiz não

passa provavelmente de 1,500 pés por geira, e que em todo o paiz é como de 1,380,000,000 pés.

Com o titulo de "Clearing Houses; Their History, Methods, and Administration," o Vice-Presidente do Fourth National Bank of New York, Mr. CANNON, tem dado á luz um trabalho sobre esta classe de instituçiões. O autor conhece perfeitamente o assumpto de que se trata, e os capitulos que versam sobre os principaes bancos de liquidação teem sido submettidos aos que estão á frente de ditas instituições afim de que os examinem e dem sua opinião acerca delles.

Esta Secretaria tem recebido o prospecto de um diario que vai ser publicado em breves dias em Rio de Janeiro. Segundo o prospecto "O Dia" será dedicado ao commercio, industria, finanças, bellas-letras e bellas-artes. A sua redacção será entregue aos Drs. DUNSHEE DE ABRANCHES E CUNHA e COSTA. Como collaboradores, declara o novo diario contar diversos especialistas illustres na sciencia, na litteratura, na politica e na arte.

Temos á vista o primeiro numero de "A Propaganda," periodico semanal e orgão da Associação dos Empregados no Commercio de Pernambuco. A sua redacção compõe-se dos Srs. BRAULIO DA CUNHA, MANOEL DUARTE e FRANCISCO DOS SANTOS MOREIRA.

Acaba de publicar-se a terceira edição do "American Trade Index," que é um almanach descriptivo e classificado dos membros da Associação Nacional de Manufactureiros. Essa edição é publicada em Francez assim como em Inglez e Hespanhol.

BULLETIN MENSUEL

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RÉPUBLIQUE ARGENTINE.

IMMIGRATION ÉTRANGÈRE.

La République Argentine va tenter un nouveau système de colonisation, le Gouvernement ayant accordé une grande concession de terrain dans la province de Formose, sur lequel, dit le "London Times," seront installés 20,000 fermiers japonais. La région réservée pour ces nouveaux colons est située dans la partie centrale du Grand-Chaco, près de la frontière nord de la République, entre les rivières Bermejo et Pilcomayo. Dans cette région, qui est couverte de broussailles tropicales et où les forêts abondent, le sol est d'une fertilité remarquable, et les sections actuellement en culture produisent de grandes récoltes de maïs, de tabac et de canne à sucre.

L'immigration dans l'Argentine a été un facteur important dans le développement matériel du pays et chaque nation d'Europe a fourni son contingent des différents peuples qui habitent cette République. On a remarqué que les immigrants français et allemands choisissaient pour la plupart, comme résidence, les villes et les centres populeux où ils sont à la tête de nombreuses industries et où ils ont une part principale dans le commerce. Les Italiens ont un penchant pour les navigations sur les rivières, tandis que les flots d'Irlandais qui se sont répandus dans le pays, il y a plusieurs décades, sont employés comme laboureurs ou embauchés comme ouvriers dans les docks ou les chantiers de constructions navales. Les paysans suisses, allemands et français ont fondé des colonies d'agriculteurs dans la province de Santa Fé, tandis que les Russes et les Polonais forment aujourd'hui la majorité de la

population rurale qui habite les bords de la vivière Parana dans la province Entre Rios. Il y a une colonie galloise très prospère dans les régions lointaines de la vallée Chubut, en Patagonie; les Chiliens se sont installés dans un grand nombre de provinces de l'ouest et des milliers de juifs russes ont, depuis 1891, trouvé un asyle dans cette partie du Nouveau-Monde. Le Gouvernement encourage, par tous les moyens possibles, l'immigration et recevra toujours, avec le plus grand plaisir, tous les éléments qui serviront à développer les ressources immenses de la République.

Dans le cours d'un article sur ce sujet, "The Buenos-Ayres Herald" insiste pour que les personnes qui ont l'intention de devenir des colons aient une connaissance de la langue espagnole, cette langue étant celle du pays, et appelle aussi l'attention sur le fait que les lois et coutumes, aussi bien que la manière de faire les affaires dans le pays, sont complètement différentes de celles de l'Europe et des Etats-Unis. Ce journal ajoute que dans l'intérêt des classes professionnelles, aucun médecin, dentiste, architecte ou avocat ne pourra exercer sa profession en Argentine à moins qu'il ait passé des examens très sérieux, en langue espagnole, devant une commission ad hoc.

D'après le journal cité plus haut, les personnes qui ont l'intention de venir coloniser dans la République doivent posséder, avant d'être autorisées à y débarquer, au moins 2,000 dollars; car quoique l'on puisse y obtenir des terrains dans les conditions les plus favorables possibles, il faut cependant bien se mettre dans l'esprit qu'on rencontre les mêmes difficultés qu'ailleurs à faire des affaires dans la République et que le succès dépend principalement de la personne.

DÉVELOPPEMENT DE LA VILLE DE BUENOS-AYRES.

L'Annuaire statistique de la ville de Buenos-Ayres, pour l'année 1899, vient de paraître et donne d'intéressants détails sur le rapide développement de la capitale fédérale de la République Argentine.

D'après cette publication la population de Buenos-Ayres a augmenté en 1899 de 29,579 habitants, et comptait au 31 décembre de ladite année 795,323 âmes. Ce chiffre place Buenos-Ayres au dixième rang des grandes agglomérations des races indo-européenes, immédiatement après Chicago et Moscou. Le développement de la population dans le reste de la Confédération, si l'on excepte la ville de Rosario, est loin de suivre un mouvement ascensionnel aussi rapide. Tandis que les diverses provinces argentines voient leur population croître d'une façon relativemente lente, ou demeurer stationnaire ou même diminuer, comme pendant la période de 1869 à 1895, Buenos-Ayres retient une part de l'immigration et absorbe la majeure partie de la vitalité de la nation. C'est ainsi que la capitale d'un état d'environ 4,500,000 individus atteint près de 800,000 habitants.

Les recettes douanières pour la ville de Buenos-Ayres montrent une valeur de 101,893,784 piastres, or, pour les importations, et de 100,780,-054 piastres, or, pour les exportations. Si l'on considère, d'autre part, que les importations totales de l'Argentine pour la même année s'élèvent seulement à 116,850,671 piastres, or, et les exportations à 184,917,531 piastres, or, on constate que le commerce extérieur de la ville de Buenos-Ayres représente 87 pour cent de l'importation et 54 pour cent de l'exportation totales de la République Argentine. En présence de ces chiffres on s'explique le développement extraordinaire de la ville ; le chiffre de ses affaires justifie celui de sa population.

Pour en revenir à l'exportation, son total de 100,780,054 piastres or est entièrement attribuable aux produits de l'élevage, de l'agriculture et de l'exploitation forestière. Les produits de l'élevage y sont représentés par 62,973,064 piastres, or, dont 4,920,258 piastres or imputables à l'exportation d'animaux sur pied, les produits de l'agriculture par 35,510,017 piastres, or, et les produits forestiers par 1,203,829 piastres, or.

L'exportation des animaux vivants (bœufs et moutons) prend chaque année une extension nouvelle. En 1890, elle s'élevait à 150,003 animaux bovidés et à 50,002 animaux ovidés; en 1899, elle se monte à 312,150 têtes pour les premiers et 543,458 pour les seconds. L'exportation a donc en dix ans doublé en ce qui concerne les bœufs et décuplé en ce qui concerne les moutons.

La fièvre aphteuse, qui a sévi cette année sur le bétail argentin et lui a fait fermer les marchés européens, a momentanément arrêté dans son essor cette branche du commerce argentin, mais quand l'épidémie aura disparu, il faut s'attendre à voir ce pays devenir un des principaux pourvoyeurs de bétail du monde entier.

Le développement que prend ici l'industrie des beurres mérite d'attirer l'attention. En 1890, l'Argentine n'exportait que 19,215 kilogrammes de ce produit; en 1895, elle en exportait 404,400 kilogrammes et en 1899, 1,179,496 kilogrammes. Elle commence à concurrencer sur le marché brésilien les produits similaires français.

L'assainissement et l'embellissement de la ville ont été le corrollaire du développement commercial et industriel de Buenos-Aires dont les recettes municipales se sont élevées pour 1899 à 14,989,750 piastres papier. La ville est aujourd'hui éclairée par 13,150 becs de gaz, 8,214 lampes à pétrôle et 1,252 foyers électriques de 1,000 à 2,000 bougies. On y rencontre quinze théâtres ou lieux de plaisir qui ont donné 2,976 représentations auxquelles ont assisté 1,595,721 spectateurs et qui ont encaissé 2,688,075 piastres papier (la piastre vaut actuellement 2 fr. 25). Enfin les nombreuses lignes de tramways à traction chevaline ou électrique qui sillonnent la ville en tous sens ont transporté 116,447,982 voyageurs.

DÉBOUCHÉ POUR LES SACS.

Le consul d'Angleterre à Rosario signale dans une communication récente publiée dans le "Board of Trade Journal," de Londres, que le Ministre Argentin des Finances a décrété, par une ordonnance en date du 23 août dernier, que le délai pour l'importation des sacs et des matières employées à leur fabrication est prorogé jusqu'au 1er février 1901.

Une ordonnance précédente avait décrété l'admission en franchise de ces articles depuis le commencement de 1899, afin de favoriser les agriculteurs en leur facilitant l'achat des sacs qui leur sont nécessaires pour l'expédition des grains, etc.

Le "Bulletin Commercial" de Bruxelles publie les chiffres suivants qui permettent de se rendre compte de l'importance qu'a prise le commerce de cet article depuis son admission en franchise dans la République.

	Quantité.	Valeur.
	Tonnes.	*Pesos.*
Importation de sacs dans l'Argentine pendant le premier semestre de 1900	3,716	579,127
Idem, en 1899 (avec droits)	2,206	441.948
Importation de matières servant à la fabrication des sacs pendant le premier semestre de 1900	8,319	1,291,684
Idem, en 1899 (avec droits)	15,407	3,081,343

Les sacs fabriqués dans le pays et employés jusqu'à présent pour le transport des grains n'ont pas donné satisfaction, parce que la qualité des matières premières employées laisse beaucoup à désirer.

Dans ces conditions, l'occasion semble propice pour permettre aux fabricants étrangers de lutter avec leurs concurrents argentins en fournissant des sacs de bonne qualité à un prix raisonnable.

EXPORTATION D'ANIMAUX CONGELÉS.

On lit dans le "Bulletin Mensuel de la Chambre de Commerce française" de Buenos-Ayres que la République Argentine a exporté en Angleterre, pendant les sept premiers mois de l'année courante, un total de 1,400,000 moutons congelés, soit 300,000 de plus que pour la même période de l'année précédente.

Cette augmentation de l'exportation d'animaux abattus vient atténuer en partie ce préjudice porté à l'élevage du pays par suite de la fermeture des ports européens à l'introduction du bétail vivant de provenance argentine.

En effet, il a été exporté, pendant le premier semestre de l'année dernière, 565,238 têtes de bétail contre 116,643 seulement pendant la période correspondante de l'année en cours.

BOLIVIE.

NOUVEAU MINISTRE ACCRÉDITÉ AUX ETATS-UNIS.

Le 22 octobre 1900, Son Excellence Mr. McKinley a reçu officiellement à la Maison Blanche, Señor Don Fernando E. Guachalla, en sa qualité d'Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de la République de Bolivie auprès du Gouvernement des Etats-Unis.

En présentant ses lettres de créance au Président, le Diplomate Bolivien a prononcé le discours suivant:

"Excellence: C'est le désir du Gouvernement Bolivien, dans ses relations avec les autres Républiques Américaines, de resserrer les liens fraternels sous la protection de la justice et le respect des droits d'autrui.

"Pour atteindre ce but et donner plus de force aux relations politiques qui existent déjà entre les deux pays et développer, d'une manière utile et pratique, leurs intérêts commerciaux et industriels, je suis accrédité auprès de votre Gouvernement en qualité d'Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire. En même temps, la mission de mon honorable prédécesseur a cessé, comme le manifestent les documents autographes que j'ai l'honneur de remettre entre les mains de Votre Excellence.

"Daignez, Monsieur le Président, m'accorder votre confiance et veuillez accepter les vœux bien sincères que je fais pour la prospérité des Etats-Unis et le bonheur de Votre Excellence."

Réponse de Son Excellence le Président McKinley:

"Monsieur le Ministre: En recevant de vos mains les lettres par lesquelles Son Excellence le Président constitutionnel de la République de Bolivie vous accrédite auprès de mon Gouvernement comme Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire, je suis heureux d'apprendre que votre mission a pour but de resserrer les liens qui existent déjà entre les deux pays comme il convient aux membres de la famille des Républiques Américaines, en même temps que de développer d'une manière utile et pratique leurs intérêts commerciaux et industriels. Mon Gouvernement, animé des mêmes sentiments et des mêmes désirs, sera heureux de coopérer à la réalisation de ce but.

"J'espère, Monsieur le Ministre, que votre séjour parmi nous sera agréable et que vos relations avec les fonctionnaires de ce Gouvernement et mes compatriotes vous seront facilitées par l'estime et la sympathie que votre prédécesseur a su s'attirer dans les cercles officiels et sociaux.

"En vous souhaitant, Monsieur le Ministre, tout le succès que vous pouvez espérer, je fais des vœux pour que le bonheur, la prospérité et la paix puissent toujours régner dans la République et parmi le peuple Bolivien."

Señor Don Fernando E. Guachalla est un des hommes publics les plus renommés de la Bolivie. C'est un avocat célèbre et un écrivain distingué sur les sciences politiques. Quelques-uns des ouvrages employés à l'École de droit de la Paz furent compilés par Señor Guachalla. Il servit son pays pendant la guerre du Pacifique comme capitaine de l'armée bolivienne, et remplit avec distinction les postes de secrétaire des légations de son Gouvernement au Pérou et au Chili, et celui de chargé d'affaires auprès de la première République. Successivement député et sénateur au Congrès National, il fonda la chambre de commerce de la Paz dont il fut un des membres les plus actifs, et a toujours été partisan de tout ce qui tend au progrès matériel et intellectuel du peuple Bolivien.

À l'époque de sa nomination comme Représentant diplomatique de la Bolivie, il était chargé du portefeuille des affaires étrangères.

BRÉSIL.

ECHANGE DE COLIS POSTAUX AVEC LA FRANCE.

A partir du 1er septembre 1900, des colis postaux sans déclaration de valeur et ne dépassant pas le poids de 3 kilogrammes pourront être expédiés à destination du Brésil, par la voie du Portugal.

Quant à présent, les seuls bureaux de Rio de Janeiro, Recife (Pernambuco) et Sao Salvator (Bahia) seront ouverts au service des colis postaux.

Les colis pour le Brésil ne pourront excéder 60 centimètres, ni le volume 20 décimètres cubes; seront admis toutefois des colis postaux renfermant des parapluies, cannes, cartes, plans ou objets similaires.

L'importation des objets suivants est prohibée au Brésil: Matières inflammables, explosives ou corrosives et, en général, les articles dont le transport présente un danger quelconque; lettres ou notes ayant le caractère de correspondance; matières d'or ou d'argent et autres objets précieux; argent monnayé; papier-monnaie; billets de loterie; chèques ou mandats-poste; timbres d'impôts; coupons d'intérêts ou de dividendes, et en général tous les effets de commerce payables au porteur: images, objets, ou publications obscènes; animaux vivants; plantes, boutures, sarments, feuilles, racines, plantes vivantes en général et graine de botanique de toute espèce suspecte d'une épiphytie.

Il est toutefois permis d'insérer dans les colis postaux à destination du Brésil des factures mentionnant le contenu de colis et indiquant, en outre, le prix, la qualité, le poids, le volume, les dimensions, la quantité produite chaque jour, chaque mois ou chaque année, et celle en magasin, le nom de l'envoyeur, sa raison sociale, marque de fabrique ou de commerce et la date de l'envoi.

Cette organisation de trafic franco-brésilien par l'intermédiaire des postes portugaises est toute provisoire et il y a lieu d'espérer que dans un avenir, qui ne saurait être trop éloigné, un échange direct de colis postaux sera organisé entre la France et la République du Brésil.

FACTURES CONSULAIRES POUR LES ENVOIS EN DESTINATION DU BRÉSIL.

D'après un télégramme de la Légation de Belgique à Rio de Janeiro, adressé au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères, des factures consulaires seront exigées à partir du 9 décembre pour les importations de marchandises aux Etats-Unis du Brésil.

NATURALISATION D'ÉTRANGERS.

En 1899, 273 étrangers établis au Brésil se sont fait naturaliser Brésiliens; sur ce nombre, on comptait 138 Portugais, 56 Italiens, 31 Espagnols, 17 Allemands, 8 Turcs, 6 Français, 4 Anglais, 3 Autrichiens, 2 Ecossais, 2 Suédois, 1 Russe, 1 Grec, 1 Belge, 1 Egyptien, 1 Syrien et 1 Marocain.

COSTA RICA.

ÉCHANGE DE MANDATS-POSTE AVEC LA FRANCE.

La convention relative à l'échange des mandats postaux entre la France et la République de Costa Rica a été promulguée au Journal Officiel du 6 septembre courant.

COMMERCE ÉTRANGER.

D'après le "Nouveau Monde," l'exportation en 1899 aurait atteint $4,929,954.58 (or) et les importations $4,136,706.57 (or), laissant un excédent de $793,247.91 (or) en faveur de la première.

Pour le café, sa production et son exportation furent moindres en quantité, mais supérieures en valeur à celle de 1898.

ETATS-UNIS.

LES CONSTRUCTIONS MARITIMES PENDANT L'ANNÉE FISCALE 1899–1900.

Monsieur Heilmann, le gérant du consulat de France à Chicago, dans un rapport qu'il a adressé à son Gouvernement, dit que les statistiques officielles qui viennent d'être publiées, montrent que pendant l'année fiscale se terminant le 30 juin 1900, on a construit aux Etats-

Unis pour la navigation sous pavillon américain, 1,446 navires de toutes classes, non compris les yachts de plaisance et les navires de guerre, représentant un tonnage de 393,168 tonnes brutes.

Les navires construits peuvent être classés ainsi qu'il suit:

Goëlettes et sloops, 499; tonnage brut, 109,605 tonneaux.

Chalands, 523; tonnage brut, 74,860 tonneaux.

Steamers à hélice pour la navigation maritime, 20; tonnage brut, 60,369 tonneaux.

Steamers pour la navigation fluviale, 375, tonnage brut, 44,282 tonneaux.

Voiliers à grément carré, 4; tonnage brut, 6,205 tonneaux.

Steamers pour la navigation des lacs, 25; tonnage brut, 97,847 tonneaux.

C'est la première fois que la construction des navires à vapeur aux Etats-Unis a atteint le chiffre de 202,498 tonnes brutes, et il est à remarquer que parmi les quatre chantiers de constructions qui ont le plus contribué à ce résultat, trois se trouvent dans la région des grands lacs: à Cleveland, Chicago, et Detroit. Le nombre total des navires construits dans cette région a été de cent vingt-cinq, représentant un tonnage brut de 130,611 tonnes, chiffre qui n'avait jamais été atteint jusqu'ici.

Chicago a construit, pendant cette dernière année, sept navires représentant ensemble 24,546 tonnes brutes, en augmentation de 100 pour cent sur le tonnage construit en 1899; et l'on annonce que les chantiers des grands lacs viennent de passer des contrats pour la construction de vingt-trois navires dont quatre steamers en acier destinés au cabotage dans l'Atlantique et dix steamers pour le transport direct des minerais de fer entre les ports des lacs et l'Europe, par le canal de Welland et le Saint-Laurent.

STATISTIQUES DE LA POPULATION URBAINE.

Le 25 octobre 1900, le Bureau de Recensement a publié un tableau donnant sommairement le nombre d'habitants des villes ayant 25,000 âmes ou plus. Il y a 159 villes qui possèdent ce nombre et ce tableau montre que le percentage d'augmentation dans leur population était de 1890 à 1900 de 32.5 contre 49.5 pour les mêmes villes pendant la décade précédente. La population totale de toutes ces villes se monte, actuellement, à 19,694,625 habitants, contre 14,855,489 en 1890, soit une augmentation pendant la décade de 4,839,136 habitants.

La ville de New-York, avec une population de plus de 3,000,000 d'habitants, est à la tête de la liste. Les villes de Chicago et de Philadelphie, avec plus d'un million d'habitants chacune; les villes de St. Louis, de Boston et de Baltimore qui contiennent chacune plus d'un demi-million d'habitants; celles de Cleveland, de Buffalo, de San Francisco, de Cincinnati et de Pittsburg qui en ont entre 300,000 et 400,009,

et les villes de la Nouvelle-Orleans, de Detroit, de Milwaukee, de Washington, de Newark, de Jersey City, de Louisville et de Minneapolis, qui ont une population variant entre 200,000 et 300,000, viennent ensuite dans l'ordre ci-dessus indiqué.

Le total général de la population de ces neuf villes de 1ère classe se monte, en 1900, à 11,795,809 contre 8,879,105 en 1890, soit, en 10 ans, une augmentation de 2,916,704 habitants ou 32.8 pour cent. Pendant la décade de 1880 à 1890, la population des mêmes villes a augmenté de 2,567,452 habitants ou de 40.6 pour cent.

COTON ET FILATURES DE COTON.

Pendant l'année 1899–1900, la récolte de coton aux Etats-Unis ayant été insuffisante pour faire face aux besoins des manufacturiers du pays, les exportations de ce produit ont diminué considérablement pendant l'année commerciale. Dans le cas de la Grande-Bretagne, les importations de coton des Etats Unis ont diminué de 3,471,252 balles en 1899 à 2,295,358 en 1900, soit une différence en moins de 1,175,894 balles. Les Etats-Unis ont exporté respectivement en Allemagne et en France, 163,959 et 93,838 balles de moins. Parmi les Républiques américaines, le Mexique a reçu des Etats-Unis 14,046 balles de moins, ou la différence entre 32,437 balles en 1899 et 18,391 balles en 1900. Le Japon, la Belgique et le Dominion du Canada, sont les seuls pays dont les importations de coton des Etats-Unis ont augmenté, cette augmentation étant respectivement pour chacun d'eux 116,213; 14,212, et 8,068 balles.

Un autre facteur qui, indubitablement, a été cause de la diminution des exportations de coton, comme on peut le constater ci-dessus, est l'augmentation des filatures de coton aux Etats-Unis pendant les 10 années qui viennent de s'écouler. Beaucoup d'Etats cotonniers sont devenus, dans ces dernières années, des centres manufacturiers de coton, réduisant ainsi le plus possible la quantité de matériel brut disponible pour l'exportation. Le "Textile World," journal publié à Boston, estime l'augmentation des broches et des métiers aux Etats-Unis comme suit:

	1900.	1890.	Percentage de l'augmentation.
Broches	21,057,983	14,188,103	48.4
Métiers	490,398	324,866	50.9

Les Etats du Nord ont 15,243,000 broches et ceux du Sud en possèdent 5,815,000. En 1890, les broches en opération étaient divisées de la façon suivante: 1,828,000 pour le Sud et 12,721,000 pour le Nord, de sorte que l'augmention remarquée pour la première section est de 3,987,000 ou 217 pour cent, et pour la dernière, 2,522,000 broches ou 19.8 pour cent.

À l'Exposition Universelle de Paris ce sont les Etats-Unis qui ont remporté le "Grand Prix" pour le coton et les autres fibres, ce qui confirme officiellement la supériorité de l'industrie cotonnière américaine.

DÉVELOPPEMENT DE L'INDUSTRIE DES FERS-BLANCS.

Jamais, dans le pays ou à l'étranger, on ne s'est intéressé autant à une industrie nationale qu'à celle des fers-blancs des Etats-Unis. Le secrétaire de la "British Iron Trade Association," dans un rapport qu'il fit au sujet du fer et de l'acier exposés à Paris, dit que la seule exposition de fers-blancs vraiment importante était celle d'une compagnie américaine. Cette exposition comprenait des échantillons de fers-blancs et des tableaux de statistiques montrant le rendement des Etats-Unis pendant plusieurs années antérieures. D'après ces statistiques, il paraît que la quantité des feuilles de tôle étamée a augmenté de 18,803 tonnes en 1892 à 397,767 tonnes en 1899, tandis que pendant la même période les importations des fers-blancs anglais aux Etats-Unis ont diminué de 268,472 tonnes à 58,915 tonnes.

Le rapport dont il s'agit, dit qu'il n'y a pas de doute que cette industrie est aujourd'hui fermement établie sur le sol américain et que la ferblanterie qui a été exposée à Paris paraît être d'une bonne qualité vendable sur les marchés. Une des choses intéressantes de cette exposition était une grande quantité de rouleaux de feuilles de tôle étamée. jointes ensemble au moyen de la soudure. Naturellement, pour le présent, les Etats-Unis ne sont pas encore entrés en concurrence avec la Grande-Bratagne, en ce qui concerne les exportations de cet article, mais l'exposition a eu pour résultat que de nombreuses commandes ont été faites aux Etats-Unis préparant ainsi les voies pour l'introdnction, sur les marchés du monde, de la ferblanterie américaine.

LE COMMERCE DES LAINERIES.

Le commerce de laineries aux Etats-Unis augmente chaque année dans des proportions presque phénoménales, la valeur des importations étant en 1900 moins d'un tiers qu'en 1895, pendant que durant la décade 1890–1900 les exportations de ces produits ont plus que triplé. Pendant les huit mois finissant le 31 août 1900, les importations des tissus de laine étaient évaluées à $12,084,928 contre $40,667,044 pendant les huit mois de 1895 et $29,544,094 pendant les huit mois correspondants de 1896. De 1890 à 1900, les importations annuelles des étoffes de laine se sont montées environ à $25,000,000, l'année 1895 représentant la plus grande valeur, soit $40,667,044.

Les importations ont continué pendant deux années successives à être très grandes, mais depuis cette époque elles ont constamment diminué jusqu'aux années 1898, 1899 et 1900, quand elles ne se sont plus élevées qu'à une valeur moyenne de $11,000,000 pendant les huit

mois de chaque année. Ainsi, on verra que la valeur moyenne annuelle des importations de cette classe de marchandises a maintenant diminué de la moitié depuis 1890. D'un autre côté, les exportations ont lentement mais constamment augmenté, se montant en 1890 à $268,094; en 1895, à $470,725; en 1896, à $614,678; en 1897, à $144,512; en 1898, à $717,689, et atteignant pendant les huit mois de 1900 la somme de $886,030.

On ne connaît pas encore exactement la destination des étoffes de laine manufacturées aux Etats-Unis, mais d'après le rapport officiel de l'année fiscale 1899, il semble que les tapis sont exportés principalement en Angleterre, au Canada, au Mexique et dans l'Est où cette marchandise peut s'écouler plus facilement sur les marchés de ces pays; les draps pour vêtements sont expédiés principalement en Angleterre et au Mexique; les flanelles et les couvertures de laine sont exportées dans les îles Sandwich, en Chine, à Hong-Kong, au Canada et au Chili; les vêtements, au Canada et au Chili, et diverses espèces de laineries au Canada, aux Iles Miquelon, en Angleterre, en Australie, aux Antilles, en Allemagne, en France et au Danemark, dans l'ordre indiqué ci-dessus.

PAPIER POUR LES RÉPUBLIQUES LATINES-AMÉRICAINES.

D'après les nouvelles reçues, le stock de papier dans les divers pays de l'Amérique Latine a tellement diminué que cette question devrait attirer davantage l'attention qu'elle mérite de la part des exportateurs américains. Dans la ville de Monterey, Mexico, le papier est devenu si rare que l'on se demande si la provision actuelle permettra de continuer la publication des journaux jusqu'à l'arrivée des chargements attendus. On mande encore de Buenos-Ayres, capitale de la République Argentine, que ce pays est une excellente occasion pour la manufacture et la vente de toutes sortes de papier. Au commencement du mois d'octobre, on a expédié du port de New-York, pendant une semaine, pour $3,000 de papier et cette valeur est bien au-dessus de la moyenne des commandes de l'Argentine. Il n'y a qu'une papeterie dans ce pays, et quoique l'on y travaille jour et nuit, elle est incapable de satisfaire à toutes les demandes qui lui sont adressées et les journaux de la localité demandent avec instance l'établissement d'autres manufactures, car de cette façon on pourra obtenir un papier meilleur marché et de plus belle qualité. La République Argentine a une provision inépuisable de matériel avec lequel on peut fabriquer le papier à un prix défiant toute concurrence.

Les statistiques du Trésor montrent que pendant le mois de septembre 1900, les Etats-Unis ont exporté plus de papier à l'étranger que pendant n'importe quelle période semblable, la valeur des exportations se montant à $652,149 contre $458,896 pendant le même mois de 1899. Les rapports pour les neuf mois finissant à la fin de septembre sont

aussi très favorables, les exportations de papier étant évaluées à $5,155,915 pour 1900 contre $4,246,311 pour 1899, soit un gain de près de 22 pour cent. On estime que la valeur des exportations de papier pour l'année entière atteindra $6,000,000.

Pendant la semaine finissant le 3 novembre 1900, on a expédié à Callao pour 2,009 dollars de papier; aux ports mexicains pour une valeur de 1,673 dollars et en Australie pour plus de 80,000 dollars, le total des chargements se montant pour la semaine à $103,183.

LE SUCRE DE BETTERAVE.

Le Département de l'Agriculture vient de publier un rapport sur les résultats obtenus à ce jour par les producteurs indigènes de sucre de betterave.

C'est en Californie que se firent les premiers essais, et cet Etat compte aujourd'hui huit fabriques qui consomment près de 9,000 tonnes de betteraves par jour. Le chiffre total des usines en opération est de 30, avec une capacité quotidienne de 19,100 tonnes. Neuf de ces fabriques se trouvent dans le Michigan où une prime de un cent par livre de sucre raffiné a été offerte par la législature en 1897.

Des primes de même nature sont payées dans certaines conditions dans les Etats de New York et du Minnesota et les territoires du Dakota du Sud et de Washington, où on commence à cultiver et à raffiner. L'Etat de l'Iowa a passé une loi qui exempte les raffineries de sucre de betterave de taxe pendant dix ans, et deux compagnies viennent d'y être organisées pour l'exploitation de cette industrie.

En sus des trente usines qui sont actuellment en opération dans onze Etats, on en construit six, deux dans le Colorado, où l'entreprise est tout à fait nouvelle; une dans l'Utah, qui possède déjà deux raffineries florissantes, quoi qu'il n'existe dans cet Etat ni prime ni exemption de taxes; une dans l'Ohio, une dans l'Etat de New York et une dans celui de Michigan. Cinq autres sont à l'état de projet.

En 1899, la consommation du sucre aux Etats-Unis s'est élevée à 2,094,610 tonnes, dont 160,400 de sucre de canne indigène et 79,368 tonnes de sucre de betterave fabriqué dans le pays. Les importations de cette espèce de sucre à l'état raffiné ont été inférieures à 6,000 tonnes, mais celles du produit brut se sont élevées à 273,000 tonnes. Plus des trois quarts du sucre importé aux Etats-Unis consistent en sucre de canne brut. Le produit de la betterave raffinée dans le pays représente 3.1 de la consommation.

Jusqu'ici l'expérience a démontré que dans diverses régions des Etats-Unis, où le sol et le climat sont propres à la culture de la betterave, cette culture et l'industrie de la raffinerie ont donné des résultats satisfaisants qui permettent de croire à leur extension.

L'USINE ELECTRIQUE DU NIAGARA.

Le "Bulletin Commercial" (Bruxelles) du 20 octobre, publie une courte notice sur la "Niagara Falls Power Company." Cette notice constate que les dix turbines projetées puissantes chacune de 5,000 cheveux-vapeur, ont été installées et se trouvent en pleine activité. Le succès de l'entreprise est tel que la société est en voie de construire une seconde usine de puissance pareille, qui nécessite aussi le creusement dans le roc d'une tranchée de 50 mètres de profondeur pour l'emplacement des turbines. Les deux usines terminées, d'une force totale de 100,000 chevaux-vapeur, useront toute la capacité du chenal d'accès et du tunnel d'écoulement qui a été l'une des plus grosses dépenses de premier établissement. Les saignées ultérieures qu'on pratiquera au Niagara demanderont donc de nouveaux travaux souterrains de longue haleine, mais on ne peut douter que le succès des turbines actuelles ne provoque une extension indéfinie des demandes de force aux cataractes, qui en ont d'ailleurs en réserve pour plus d'une génération avant de disparaître en moteurs hydrauliques.

L'exposition pan-américaine de Buffalo est appelée à donner un grand retentissement aux installations électriques de Niagara, qui lui fourniront la majeure partie de la lumière et de la force motrice nécessaires. On se prépare avec ardeur à cette exposition dont les bâtiments sont fort considérables et d'un style original. Une des principales attractions sera l'éclairage électrique et multicolore des rapides d'aval, au moyen de réflecteurs d'une puissance de 80,000 bougies.

EXPORTATIONS DE CHARBON EN FRANCE.

On lit dans le "Bulletin Mensuel de la Chambre de Commerce française de New York" que pendant l'année fiscale de 1899–1900 les Etats-Unis ont expédié 55,000 tonnes de charbon en France, principalement à Marseille; l'année précédente ces expéditions ne s'étaient élevées qu'à 2,000 tonnes.

INSTRUMENTS ARATOIRES EN AUSTRALASIE.

L'habileté des Etats-Unis, de faire la concurrence à la Grande-Bretagne daus leur propre domaine, n'a jamais été démontrée d'une manière aussi frappante qu'en ce qui concerne les exportations des machines agricoles et instruments aratoires en Australasie. Si on compare les recettes douanières du Royaume-Uni avec celles des Etats-Unis, on verra qu'en 1891 les exportations des machines agricoles, et de la Grande-Bretagne à l'Australasie Anglaise, étaient évalués à $243,865, et que la valeur des mêmes exportations en 1899 se montait à $363,345. Pendant les mêmes périodes, les exportations de même nature des Etats-Unis se chiffraient respectivement à $351,997 et $912,223. Il n'est

donc pas nécessaire de faire ressortir que les progrès qui ont été faits par les Etats-Unis ont été plus grands que ceux de l'Angleterre.

Le journal "The Farm Implement," dans son numéro du 25 octobre 1900, tout en faisant remarquer les faits cités plus haut, ajoute, qu'étant donnés les progrès qui ont continuellement été faits pendant cette période, dans les conditions agricoles et industrielles dans les antipodes, que ce marché sera un débouché meilleur que jamais pour l'écoulement des machines agricoles et instruments aratoires des Etats-Unis. On rapporte que les moissonneuses, les faucheuses, les scies, les haches américaines, ainsi que les machines automatiques de toutes espèces, défient toute concurrence et que les fabricants des Etats-Unis semblent connaître bien mieux que la mère-patrie le genre d'instrument requis pour le développement colonial.

STATISTIQUES DE LA POPULATION DE LA CALIFORNIE.

D'après le recensement de 1900, l'augmentation de la population de l'Etat de la Californie, pendant les cinquante années qui viennent de s'écouler, a été presque merveilleuse, le nombre actuel d'habitants étant seize fois celui de 1850, date du premier dénombrement. Pendant la dernière décade, la population a augmenté de 22.9 pour cent, ayant été en 1890 de 1,208,130 habitants contre 1,485,053 en 1900. La superficie totale de cet Etat est d'environ 155,980 milles carrés, le nombre d'habitants par mille étant en moyenne, d'après les deux derniers recensements, 7.7 en 1890 et 9.5 en 1900. Parmi les 57 comtés de cet Etat, trois montrent une augmentation de plus de 50 pour cent, pendant que tous les autres, à l'exception de 11 comtés, montrent une augmentation plus que normale. Parmi les 116 villes et villages incorporés, 46 ont une population de plus de 2,000 habitants, 19 ont plus de 5,000 habitants, 10 plus de 10,000 et 4 plus de 25,000. Ces dernières sont: San Francisco, avec 342,782 habitants; Los Angeles, avec 102,479 habitants; Oakland, avec 66,960 habitants; et Sacramento, avec 29,282 habitants. La population de San Francisco a sextuplé depuis 1860; celle de Sacramento est 4 fois plus grande qu'en 1850; celle de Oakland, 43 fois plus grande, pendant que celle de Los Angeles a augmenté de 1,610 en 1850 à 102,479 en 1900.

CULTURE ET MANUFACTURE DU TABAC.

Une étude de la culture du tabac aux Etats-Unis, pendant le 19^{me} siècle, démontre les progrès prodigieux de cette industrie. Pendant la première moitié du siècle, le tabac a été principalement cultivé dans les Etats de Virginie, de Maryland, de Kentucky, de Tennessee, dans la Caroline du Nord, le Missouri, l'Ohio et l'Indiana, et en 1839 chacun de ces Etats en récoltait des millions de livre. En 1890, les noms de Connecticut, New-York, Pennsylvania et Wisconsin furent ajoutés à la liste des principaux Etats producteurs de tabac et on estime à

488,256,646 livres, le tabac qui a été récolté dans ces Etats, le Kentucky étant à la tête avec 221,880,303 livres.

Le "The United States Tobacco Journal" publie quelques chiffres intéressants en ce qui concerne la manufacture de ce produit et donne aussi le montant des capitaux placés dans cette industrie aux Etats-Unis.

En 1873, le nombre des manufacturiers de cigares se montait à 15,322, produisant annuellement 1,779,946,596 cigares, sur lesquels une taxe de $8,899,732 fut payée au Gouvernement. En 1898, il y avait dans le pays 30,856 manufacturiers de cigares qui ont fabriqué 4,910,937,307 cigares et payé au Gouvernement une taxe de $14,031,726.

On estime à $59,517,827 le capital placé dans cette industrie en 1890; à 98,156, le nombre de tabatiers employés; à $44,767,989 le montant des salaires payés et à $129,693,275 la valeur du produit.

AUGMENTATION DU TRAFIC AVEC LA CHINE.

D'après les rapports officiels du Gouvernement chinois, les importations des Etats-Unis, de 1895 à 1899, ont plus que quadruplé, aucun pays européen n'ayant une telle extension commerciale. Voici quelles sont, en Haikwan taels (de 72 cents chacun), les valeurs des importations pendant ces quatre années: 1895, 5,093,182 taels; 1896, 11,929,853 taels; 1897, 12,440,302 taels; 1898, 17,163,312 taels, et 22,288,745 taels en 1899. Le percentage de l'augmentation de la Grande-Bretagne, pour la période en considération, était 18 pour cent; celui du reste de l'Europe, 35 pour cent; tandis que les importations des Etats-Unis indiquent une augmentation énorme de 337 pour cent.

Le Commissaire à Tien-tsin rapporte que le gain se fait principalement remarquer dans les toiles blanches pour draps de lit, les Etats-Unis en ayant exporté en 1899, 90,000 pièces de plus qu'en 1898. La valeur des coutils américains a augmenté de 6 pour cent, pendant que les machines américaines, le matériel de chemin de fer, les munitions de guerre, etc., indiquent tous un excédent énorme sur les chiffres de 1897 et de 1898. On écrit de Shanghai que les importations des produits domestiques Américains, y compris la toile pour faire les chemises, celle pour les draps de lit, les coutils, etc., augmentent continuellement; quant aux farines américaines, elles sont exportées tous les jours à Canton en plus grande quantité au détriment de celles des autres pays.

LES RÉGIONS AURIFÈRES DE L'ALASKA.

Le "Bulletin du Département américain du travail" pour le mois de juillet, publie un rapport intéressant et curieux sur les régions aurifères du Yukon et du cap Nome.

L'accès du Klondike, dit ce rapport expédié le 15 mars de Saint-Michel en Alaska, est facilité depuis un an par un chemin de fer qui

unit le port de Skagway à la tête du lac Bennett, soit environ 40 milles. De Bennett City à Dawson, des vapeurs comfortables font le trajet en quatre jours pour moins de 100 dollars par personne.

Au printemps 1899, la population du district de Yukon était de 35,000 âmes, dont 15,000 pour Dawson, 15,000 dans le bassin des rivières Klondike et Indian et 5,000 sur des rivières plus écartées.

A Dawson se trouvent environ 50 débits de liqueurs, qui paient chacun une patente annuelle de 2,000 dollars et doivent rester fermés du samedi à minuit au lundi à 6 heures du matin. Le prix des boissons est généralement descendu à 25 cents, soit 1 fr. 25 l'une. Les garçons de bar continuent néanmoins à être payés 1.50 à 2 dollars par heure.

Dans les mines on gagne généralement, durant la saison, 70 cents par heure sans pension ou 5 dollars par jour avec pension. Quelques mineurs expérimentés sont encore payés $1.50 par heure, ainsi que les charpentiers, serruriers, etc. Mais beaucoup de charpentiers ont négligé d'apporter leurs instruments et ne trouvent pas, en conséquence, d'emploi.

La farine qui se payait 16 dollars en 1898, ne s'est plus payée que 10 dollars en 1899. La livre de bœuf valait 50 cents, celle de mouton et de porc 75 cents. Les repas revenaient de 50 cents à 1.50 dollars. Les meilleurs restaurants demandaient 15 dollars par semaine pour la pension. Les bons cuisiniers recevaient 10 dollars par jour et les serviteurs de 25 à 40 dollars par semaine, avec nourriture.

En 1898–99 les mines auraient donné 17,000,000 de dollars, alors que la production de l'année précédente aurait été de 12,000,000 de dollars. L'Eldorado Creek, qui continue à être digne de son nom, a fourni à lui seul 4,000,000 de dollars et Bonanza Creek 3,000,000.

A Dawson le charbon coûte 25 dollars la tonne. Aux mines de lignite voisines d'Aunik, le charbon revient à 20 dollars par tonne. Le prix du bois a varié de 12 à 4 dollars la corde et même moins encore, à cause de la surproduction et du départ d'un grand nombre de bûcherons pour le cap Nome.

Durant l'automne de 1897, beaucoup de mineurs ne purent gagner Dawson en partant de Saint-Michel sur la mer de Behring à cause de l'insuffisance des moyens de communication; ils passèrent l'hiver sur la Fish River, affluent de la Golovin Bay, où existent des gisements d'or et d'argent. En septembre 1898, quelques-uns d'entre eux frétèrent une goëlette de 5 tonnes pour étudier les roches exposées le long de la côte. Poussés au rivage par une tempête, ils examinèrent les collines dénudées et les rivières voisines du cap Nome et découvrirent ainsi la richesse inattendue de cette région. L'histoire de ces premières explorations est donnée en détail dans le rapport qui décrit également les exploitations organisées et présente un aperçu de l'anarchie qui a régné. En janvier 1899, on découvrit de l'or dans les sables de la plage, et pendant l'été de nombreuses exploitations s'y développèrent. Plusieurs mineurs ont gagné 100 dollars par jour

durant un mois et plus. A 7 milles à l'ouest du cap Nome, trois hommes retirèrent en quarante jours 32,000 dollars. D'un trou de 12 pieds carrés et de 4 pieds de profondeur, ils retirèrent 9,000 dollars en trois jours.

Vers le 1er janvier 1900, on fora un trou dans la glace à 150 pieds du rivage et une pelletée de terre retirée donna une once d'or. On en conclut que la plage submergée devait être fort riche et que des opérations de dragage seraient fructueuses. La production de la plage était évaluée de 1,750,000 à 2 millions de dollars au moment où se rédigeait le rapport. On suppose que la tundra ou steppe glacée qui frange la mer de Behring durant des centaines de milles est aussi saturée d'or. On en a trouvé en quantités payantes à port Clarence et, dit-on, au Cap York. Ces gisements sont tous des placers, mais on a trouvé aussi du minerai d'or.

En octobre dernier, la famine a été menaçante et les compagnies commerciales ont augmenté tous leurs prix, tandis que les salaires ordinaires se sont élevés à 2 dollars l'heure. La crainte de la famine fit partir beaucoup de monde; par contre de nouvelles provisions arrivèrent, ce qui fait qu'en mars les prix étaient redescendus à ceux de l'été précédent. Le 1er janvier, 12 bouteilles de bière se payaient 5 dollars, 30 douzaines d'œufs 40 dollars, 100 livres de farine 5 dollars, le jambon 40 cents la livre. En août dernier, un repas revenait à 4 ou 5 dollars. A cette époque un bifteck de filet coûtait 3 dollars, du jambon et des œufs 2 dollars, etc. Une petite bouteille de champagne revient actuellement à 7.50 dollars. Les salaires durant la saison dernière ont été communément de 1 dollar par heure. Durant l'hiver nombre d'hommes furent employés à 100 dollars par mois avec pension. A la fin de la navigation, le prix régulier du charbon était de 75 dollars la tonne. Le stock n'étant que de 1,000 tonnes, on en obtint facilement 125 dollars la tonne en gros et 200 dollars la tonne en détail. Le bois s'est vendu de 35 à 75 dollars la corde.

En octobre 1899, la population du district de Nome s'est élevée à 5,000 personnes. A cause de l'exode dû à la crainte de la famine, elle était réduite à environ 2,500 personnes en mars. En septembre, on a organisé un gouvernement municipal. On projette un chemin de fer le long de la côte, de Port Safety à Port Clarence, soit une distance de plus de 100 milles, de façon à obvier aux difficultés d'abordage. Le rapport susmentionné conclut en prédisant au district du cap Nome un avenir aussi brillant et plus rapide même qu'au Klondike.

CULTURE DE LA LUZERNE (ALFALFA) DANS L'ETAT DE WASHINGTON.

La luzerne (alfalfa) qui, primitivement, poussait à l'état sauvage dans les terrains arides de l'Amérique Centrale, est devenue aujourd'hui une des cultures les plus importantes de certaines sections de l'Etat

de Washington. On prétend que cette année, dans une seule région, la culture de cette plante a rapporté aux cultivateurs près de $1,000,000. Plus de deux cents charges de vagons de luzerne ont déjà été expédiés et des quantités immenses se trouvent encore en magasins. Les fermiers intéressés dans cette culture prétendent, qu'en proportion du capital placé, elle rapporte davantage que n'importe quelle autre plante et que l'on peut la moissonner 3 ou 4 fois par an.

Non seulement sa qualité s'améliore considérablement chaque année, mais elle fertilise aussi la terre. On dépense annuellement pour cultiver, irriguer et moissonner un acre de luzerne, entre $10 et $15, le prix d'une meule de luzerne pesant une tonne variant de $4 à $6.50 et $7.50, délivrée en balles prêtes à être embarquées. Un acre produit en moyenne 6 à 10 tonnes de luzerne que l'on peut généralement moissonner 3 ou 4 fois par an et rapporte en moyenne au cultivateur un bénéfice de $30 à $50. La culture de la luzerne fut d'abord introduite en Californie, il y a près de cinquante ans et depuis a été cultivée à Utah qui fournit presque toute la graine nécessaire à l'ensemencement. Cette graine est vendue, en moyenne, sept cents la livre et les cultivateurs rapportent que pendant l'année passée ils en ont récolté dix boisseaux par acre, ce qui équivaut à $42 par acre pour la graine seule sans compter le foin et la menue paille qui donnent un bénéfice additionnel.

UNE VARIÉTÉ PRÉCIEUSE DE CANNE À SUCRE.

Mr. le Professeur William C. Stubbs, directeur de la station d'expérimentation du sucre dans la Louisiane "United States Sugar Experiment Station," la seule dans le pays, annonce qu'après plusieurs années d'expérience il a développé une canne à sucre qui produira 30 pour cent de plus de sucre que n'importe quelle canne cultivée dans la Louisiane, le Texas ou autres Etats du sud, et qui révolutionnera très prochainement l'industrie sucrière.

La canne à sucre en question vient de l'île de la Trinité et est une des diverses variétés importées de ce pays il y a six ans. Le professeur Stubbs a obtenu une canne spécialement adaptée à la culture dans le Sud et dont le rendement augmentera en proportion de l'aire en plantation.

Il y a actuellement deux variétés de canne qui dérivent des espèces originaires de la Trinité, qui rapporteront 38 tonnes par acre, et dont le suc contient 16 pour cent de sucre, tandis que la canne employée jadis ne rapportait que 30 à 35 tonnes par acre et son suc ne contenait que 12 pour cent de sucre.

La nouvelle canne a de profondes racines et est robuste. La station d'expérimentation de la Louisiane a suffisamment de canne pour en fournir aux planteurs de cannes à sucre de l'Etat désireux d'en planter et approvisionnera aussi les autres parties des Etats-Unis aussi bien que les stations qui se trouvent à Cuba et dans les Iles Sandwich.

LES RESSOURCES DU TERRITOIRE D'ALASKA.

Il semble que l'impression générale est que les ressources du territoire d'Alaska sont limitées à la production de l'or, mais ce n'est pas l'avis du Colonel P. H. Hay, de l'armée des Etats-Unis, qui prétend que dans cette portion de territoire des Etats-Unis il y a autant de champs ouverts à l'activité industrielle que dans n'importe quelle autre partie de la République. Dans un discours qu'il prononça devant la Société Géographique d'Alaska, de Seattle, Washington, cet officier supérieur exprima l'opinion que les ressources d'Alaska, à part l'or que cet Etat produit, sont plus grandes que celles des Etats situés sur la côte du Pacifique, à l'exception seulement du bois de construction. On peut cultiver, dit-il, dans presque toute la vallée de Yukon des avoines, du blé et d'autres espèces de grains.

Il ajoute qu'il a vu quatre acres de terre produire 1,400 boisseaux de pommes de terre, pendant que la fléole des prés (timothy) pousse à l'état sauvage et atteint une hauteur de quatre pieds. En fait de pêcheries, celles d'Alaska sont immenses et ont une plus grande valeur que celles de la Mer du Nord et de Terre-Neuve réunies. Dans un rapport qu'il a adressé au Ministère de la Guerre, le Colonel Hay recommande que des encouragements spéciaux soient donnés au Scandinaves afin de les faire immigrer dans ce pays, le peuple de cette race étant plus familiarisé avec toutes les conditions d'existence de cette latitude. On dit que le climat d'Alaska est plus rigoureux que celui des plaines de Wyoming, de Montana et de quelques sections de la Nevada.

LE DÉVELOPPEMENT DE LA SYLVICULTURE DANS LES PHILIPPINES.

Pour se conformer à la politique du Gouvernement de développer les ressources forestières, le conservateur des eaux et forêts de Manille vient de prier l'Ecole forestière de l'Etat de New York de lui envoyer six forestiers pour l'aider dans ses travaux. Les Bureaux officiels ont l'intention de réorganiser le système de cette administration afin de développer les 20,000,000 d'acres de bois dépendant du domaine public qui rapportent maintenant $1,000,000 par an. Ce revenu peut, dans l'opinion du Capitaine Ahern, directeur des travaux, augmenter considérablement sous de forestiers compétents. De nouveaux aides s'obtiendront en envoyant les gradués des écoles des Philippines suivre un cours spécial de sylviculture à l'Université Cornell.

IMPORTATIONS DU MEXIQUE.

D'après un rapport publié le 16 octobre dans le journal "Les Deux Républiques," les Etats-Unis auraient importé annuellement du Mexique, de 1895 à 1899, pour $13,600,110 en moyenne de produits

agricoles, soit une valeur totale de $68,000,552. Les principaux articles importés étaient, les fibres végétales, le café, les cuirs, les peaux, le bétail et l'agave (*sisal grass*), ce dernier produit étant à la tête et dont l'importation est estimée être en moyenne $4,778,000 par an. L'ixtle, espèce d'agave de Tampico fut aussi importé en très grande quantité, quant aux importations de café, elles se chiffrent annuellement à $4,178,000.

NOUVELLES MINES DE MERCURE.

La rareté du mercure dans le monde a excité les recherches de ce métal dans la Californie et a eu pour résultat la revendication des droits de propriété et la perspective est que cet Etat produira plus de mercure que jamais. Il y a dans le comté San Luis Obispo de nouvelles mines qui promettent beaucoup et on est en train de prendre des mesures pour creuser une grande mine dans le Comté Modesto.

LA SECTION DE LA PRESSE LATINE-AMÉRICAINE À L'EXPOSITION DE BUFFALO.

Dans une communication que Mr. Mark Bennett, directeur géneral de la Presse à l'Exposition Pan-Américaine de Buffalo, vient d'adresser au Bureau des Républiques Américaines, il est dit que la section de la Presse Latine-Américaine de son Département a été placée sous la direction de Mr. John Vavasour Noel, auquel devront être adressées toutes les communications de la Presse Latine-Américaine.

GUATÉMALA.

CONDITION INDUSTRIELLE.

On lit dans le "Nouveau Monde" du 29 septembre, que cette année l'exportation excédera l'importation, parce que celle-ci, en comparaison des années précédentes, a diminué d'une manière assez importante, par cette raison que la consommation, vu les prix élevés des marchés et différentes difficultés d'ordre général, se ralentit de plus en plus.

La différence disproportionnée qui existe entre la valeur de notre monnaie courante et celle de l'or, a rendu exportables beaucoup de produits qui, auparavant, ne méritaient même pas l'attention, comme la quinine, la salsepareille, l'ipécacuana et autres plantes et racines médicinales poussant à l'état sauvage. Mais ce qui a excité un véritable enthousiasme, ce sont les bois fins et ceux de teinture qui se trouvent en grande abondance dans les forêts vierges, surtout dans les vastes territoires de Petén. Diverses compagnies exploitent déjà cette richesse sur une grande échelle, et un nombre important de demandes de terrains et de permis pour établir des coupes, ont été présentés au Gouvernment.

Cette exploitation qui s'effectue par les ports de l'Atlantique, sera très productive d'ici à peu de temps.

La direction générale de l'agriculture, établie récemment comme dépendance du ministère de Fomento, s'applique à augmenter la production agricole en général. Pour le faire, elle tente de donner un plus grand développement aux cultures existantes, en même temps qu'elle essaye d'en créer de nouvelles selon que le permettent les climats et les diverses qualités des nombreux terrains encore incultes.

Il est possible d'étendre sur une très grande échelle la culture du blé, du riz, du maïs et d'autres grains et céréales qui aujourd'hui ne produisent pas suffisamment pour satisfaire aux besoins de la consommation du pays.

La gomme, le tabac, le henequen, le cacao et les autres produits de valeur sont appelés, en augmentant et en améliorant leurs conditions de culture, non seulement à couvrir le déficit qui, en temps normal, existe entre l'importation et l'exportation, mais même à produire un excédent qui accroîtra considérablement les revenus publics.

HONDURAS.

RÉGIONS AURIFÈRES.

On lit dans "La Paz" de Juticalpa que la région aurifère de Mangulile, où existent les filons dénommés La Trinidad et La Firmeza, est une des plus riches du continent américain. Le rendement en est estimé à 230 onces d'or par tonne. Les filons contiennent en outre une grande quantité d'argent. La découverte de ces veines et la confirmation des renseignements relatifs à leur teneur en or ont attiré de nombreux prospecteurs et provoqué un grand mouvement d'affaires dans cette région.

Le Gouvernement a approuvé le contrat intervenu entre le sous-secrétaire du Fomento et un syndicat nord-américain, pour la construction d'un chemin de fer entre Omoa et Trujillo, port sur l'Atlantique. Les concessionnaires s'engagent à livrer la ligne à l'exploitation dans un délai de sept ans.

MEXIQUE.

TRAITÉ FRANCO-MEXICAIN.

Le 10 avril 1899, une convention importante a été signée à Mexico par Señor Don Ignacio Mariscal, Secrétaire d'Etat des relations extérieures, représentant le Président de la République Mexicaine, et Mr. Hugues Boulard de Pouqueville, Secrétaire de l'Ambassade

Française au Mexique, représentant le Président de la République Française. Ce traité fut ratifié par le Congrès Mexicain le 30 mai 1899 et par la Chambre des Députés de France le 26 juin 1900. Ces ratifications furent échangées au Mexique le 11 septembre 1900 et le traité fut mis en vigueur à partir du jour du dit échange. L'objet de cette convention est de protéger la propriété industrielle, c'est-à-dire, les brevets d'invention et les marques de fabrique, particulièrement les dernières. Une traduction des principales clauses de ce traité montre que la tenenr en est très sévère, quoique cet acte en général ait attiré une attention considérable. Voici quelles en sont les principaux articles:

"ARTICLE 1er. Les citoyens de chacune des deux hautes parties contractantes auront, sur le territoire de l'autre, les mêmes droits que les nationaux en ce qui concerne les brevets d'invention, les marques de fabrique, étiquettes, enseignes, noms de commerce et de fabrique, raisons sociales, dessins et modèles de fabrique ainsi que pour les noms des lieux et les indications de provenance.

"ART. 2. Pour s'assurer la protection garantie par l'article précédent, les ressortissants de l'un et de l'autre Etat ne seront pas astreints à établir leur domicile, leur résidence ou une représentation commerciale dans le pays où la protection sera réclamée, mais ils devront remplir les autres conditions et formalités prescrites par les lois et règlements de ce pays.

"ART. 3. Les marques auxquelles s'applique la présente convention sont celles qui, dans les deux pays, sont légitimement acquises aux industriels et négociants qui en usent, c'est-à-dire que le caractère d'une marque mexicaine doit être jugé, en France, d'après la loi mexicaine.

"Il est toutefois entendu que chacun des deux Etats se réserve le droit de refuser le dépôt et d'interdire l'usage de toute marque qui serait, par sa nature, contraire à la morale et l'ordre public ou aux bonnes mœurs.

"ART. 4. Les noms commerciaux, les raisons de commerce et les enseignes seront protégés, dans les deux Etats, sans obligation de dépôt.

"ART. 5. Le fait d'apposer ou de faire apposer, sur un produit, une fausse indication de provenance, dans laquelle un des Etats contractants ou un lieu situé dans l'un d'entre eux serait directement ou indirectement indiqué comme pays ou comme lieu d'origine, sera puni conformément à la législation de chaque Etat. Si l'une des législations n'a pas prévu ce fait, celui-ci sera soumis à l'application des dispositions édictées contre la falsification de marque.

"ART. 6. Tout produit portant une fausse indication de provenance, dans laquelle un des Etats contractants ou un lieu situé dans l'un d'entre eux serait directement ou indirectement indiqué comme pays ou comme lieu d'origine, sera saisi à l'importation dans chacun des dits Etats.

"La saisie pourra aussi s'effectuer dans l'Etat où la fausse indication de provenance aura été apposée ou dans celui où aura été introduit le produit muni de cette fausse indication.

"Si la législation de l'un des deux Etats n'admet pas la saisie à l'importation, cette saisie sera remplacée par la prohibition d'importation. Si la législation de l'un des deux Etats n'admet ni la prohibition à l'importation ni la saisie à l'importation ou à l'intérieur, cette prohibition ou cette saisie sera remplacée par les actions et moyens que les lois de cet Etat assurent ou assureront au ministère public ou aux nationaux en pareil cas.

"Art. 7. L'application des dispositions contenues aux articles 3, 5 et 6 aura lieu à la requête, soit du ministère public, soit d'une partie intéressée, individu ou société, conformément à la législation de chaque Etat.

"Sera réputé partie intéressée tout fabricant, commerçant ou producteur, engagé dans la fabrication, le commerce ou la production du produit et établie dans la ville, la localité, la région ou le pays faussement indiqué comme lieu de provenance.

"Les autorités ne seront pas tenues d'effectuer la saisie en cas de transit.

"Art. 8. Les présentes dispositions ne font pas obstacle à ce que le vendeur indique son nom et son adresse sur les produits provenant d'un pays différent de celui de la vente; mais, dans ce cas, l'adresse ou le nom doit être accompagné de l'indication précise et en caractères apparents du pays ou du lieu de fabrication ou de production.

"Art. 9. Les tribunaux de chaque pays auront à décider quelles sont les appellations qui, à raison de leur caractère générique, échapent aux dispositions de la présente conventions. Les appellations régionales de provenance des produits vinicoles ne sont pas, cependant, comprises dans la réserve édictée par cet article."

NOUVEAU CHEMIN DE FER ÉLECTRIQUE À TAMPICO.

Plusieurs capitalistes de Tampico viennent de former une compagnie à l'effet de construire un chemin de fer électrique qui, partant du centre de la ville, aboutirait à la Barre, en passant par Doña Cecilia.

L'extension de la ligne sera de dix kilomètres environ.

NOUVELLE VOIE FERRÉE.

Le Ministère des Communications vient d'autoriser M. M. Henkel frères, ou la compagnie qu'ils formeraient, à construire une voie ferrée reliant Toluca à Tenango et qui, de là, sera prolongée jusqu'à Santa María ou Tenancingo, au choix des concessionnaires. La ligne pourra être étendue jusqu'à l'Etat de Morelos, où elle se reliera à celle de Cuernavaca au Pacifique, sur un point situé près de la localité d'Amacusac.

La concession est accordée pour 99 ans.

DÉCOUVERTE DE GISEMENTS CARBONIFÈRES.

On vient de découvrir, à peu de distance de Jalapa, dans l'Etat de Jalisco, de riches gisements carbonifères, qui vont être très prochainement mis en exploitation.

Une compagnie a été organisée à cet effet; le capital nécessaire est, paraît-il, entièrement souscrit.

LE CHEMIN DE FER DE VERA-CRUZ AU PACIFIQUE.

On poursuit avec la plus grande activité les travaux de construction du chemin de fer de Vera-Cruz au Pacifique.

De nouvelles commandes de matériaux de construction, traverses, rails, acier pour les ponts, etc., ont été faites et des ouvriers d'art ont été engagés tant au Mexique qu'en Europe et aux Etats-Unis.

NOUVELLE LIGNE DE VAPEURS.

Sur la demande de plusieurs commerçants établis à Mexico et qui importent des produits italiens, une compagnie italienne de navigation a décidé d'établir une ligne de vapeurs entre l'Italie et le Mexique.

Ce service sera inauguré le 7 août par un voyage de Gênes à Progreso, avec escales à Vera-Cruz et Tampico.

Il paraît qu'une compagnie allemande va également créer un service entre l'Italie, l'Espagne et le Mexique.

La création de ces services prouve, ce que les statistiques ont d'ailleurs mis en évidence, que le trafic entre le Mexique et l'Italie s'accroît sans cesse. On commence à exporter en Italie du henequen et de grandes quantités de textiles.

DÉCOUVERTES ARCHÉOLOGIQUES.

Pendant l'exécution des travaux d'assainissement dans les rues de Santa Teresa et Escalerillas, on a découvert une idole ayant 75 centimètres environ de hauteur, et que M. Batres affirme représenter la déesse de la mort. Quelques pas plus loin la pioche du terrassier a mis à jour une pierre de dimensions énormes, dont une partie seulement a été découverte et que l'on suppose être la base d'un gigantesque escalier.

Le ministère de la justice a décidé d'affecter un crédit pour que des fouilles soient faites dans le quartier où ces découvertes ont été faites.

PÉROU.

TRAVAUX PUBLICS.

On lit dans le "Moniteur Officiel" du 11 octobre, qu'il vient de se former au Pérou une compagnie nationale pour l'irrigation d'une immense plaine située au sud de Lima, près de la côte, et reliée à celle-ci par un chemin de fer; cette plaine est connue sous le nom de Pampa de Noco. L'exécution de ces travaux sera prochainement mise en adjudication.

On étudie également en ce moment un projet de canalisation pour le ville de Callao, port de Lima, ainsi que la construction d'un grand tunnel pour l'exploitation de la région minérale dite du Cerro de Pasco.

ÉCHANGE DE COLIS POSTAUX.

Le Pérou a notifié le gouvernment de la République Suisse de son adhésion à la convention concernant l'échange des colis postaux signée à Washington le 15 juin 1897.

VÉNÉZUÉLA.

PROSPÉRITÉ DE L'AGRICULTURE ET DE L'ÉLEVAGE.

On lit dans une récente publication française que l'agriculture et l'élevage, sources principales de la richesse du Vénézuéla, sont aujourd'hui dans une ère de prospérité qui s'accroîtra encore.

Le Vénézuéla abonde en terrains d'agriculture et d'élevage, propices à la colonisation; il possède des mines d'or et de cuivre en exploitation, des sources de pétrole et d'asphalte, que l'on commence également à exploiter; des mines d'argent et de fer; des forêts de bois de construction; des textiles comme le henequen, le chiquechique, la cocuiza et diverses autres espèces. Il approvisionne les marchés extérieurs en café, en sucre, en tabac, en coton, et en cacao reconnu comme égal au meilleur du monde, en cuirs, en laines, etc.

La république fait un important commerce de bestiaux sur pied avec les Antilles, principalement avec Cuba et Porto Rico. L'exportation des fruits se fait avec les Etats-Unis.

LA MARINE MARCHANDE DU MONDE.

D'après "Lloyd's Register," la marine marchande du monde est représentée par 28,422 navires, ayant une capacité totale de 29,043,728 tonneaux. Dans ce nombre, la Grande-Bretagne est comprise pour 10,838 navires, ayant une capacité totale de 14,261,254 tonnes. Les Etats-Unis viennent après le Royaume-Uni avec 3,135 navires jaugeant ensemble 2,750,271 tonneaux. L'Allemagne a 1,710 bâtiments de 2,650,033 tonneaux. Viennent après la Norvège, avec 2,380 navires, ayant une capacité de 1,640,812 tonneaux; la France, avec 1,214 navires de 983,655 tonneaux; la Suède, avec un plus grand nombre de bâtiments que la France (1,433); mais comme ils sont beaucoup plus petits et de toutes espèces, ils ne jaugent seulement que 637,272 tonneaux; le Japon possède 1,066 navires de 574,557 tonneaux; la Hollande, 406 de 530,277 tonneaux; le Danemark, 802 navires, ayant une capacité totale de 416,084 tonneaux. La Grèce, le Brésil, la Belgique, le Portugal et le Chili ont tous un tonnage qui dépasse 100,000 tonnes. Le tonnage des bâteaux à vapeur de la marine marchande de la Grande-Bretagne est supérieur à celui de la marine marchande de tous les autres pays réunis, mais presque la moitié du tonnage des Etats-Unis est représentée par des bâteaux voiliers.

PARALLÈLES ENTRE LES RÉCOLTES DE BLÉ DE L'ARGENTINE ET DE L'INDE.

Un numéro du journal "Crop Reporter," publié par le Ministère de l'Agriculture des Etats-Unis, attire une attention toute particulière sur la République Argentine et l'Inde, en ce qui concerne la production et l'exportation de blé. Dans ces pays les récoltes se font généralement pendant la saison connue, dans les autres parties du monde qui produisent cette céréale, sous le nom de "morte saison," la moisson, en Argentine, commençant généralement vers la fin du mois de novembre dans les latitudes septentrionales et continuant du côté du midi jusque vers les premiers jours de mai, tandis que les récoltes dans l'Inde commencent dans le sud vers la fin de février, en continuant vers le nord jusqu'aux premiers jours de mai. Ces blés arrivent conséquemment sur les marchés du monde quand les stocks en magasin sont presque épuisés, et c'est pourquoi cette provision tardive a une influence sur les prix. Il est donc évident que dans les années comme celle de 1900, quand la récolte du blé du monde promet d'être considérablement moins abondante que celles des deux années précédentes, qu'un intérêt exceptionnel soit concentré sur les récoltes de ces deux pays.

La teneur des rapports de la République Argentine est un tant peu

contradictoire en ce qui concerne la quantité de blé produite mais elle a été estimée au moins à 70,000,000 boisseaux dont 70 pour cent environ peuvent être exportés.

Un fait curieux c'est que la République Argentine, quoique n'occupant aucune place parmi les sept grands pays qui produisent ce froment, ne vient encore qu'après les États-Unis, comme exportatrice. A ce sujet, une comparaison avec l'Inde montre un contraste frappant, car ce dernier pays figure le quatrième parmi les pays producteurs du monde pendant que le percentage de ses exportations varie seulement de 2 à 14 pour cent de la récolte.

EXTRACTION DU CAOUTCHOUC DES FEUILLES DE DIFFÉRENTS ARBRES.

On lit dans le "Bulletin Commercial" de Bruxelles, du 20 octobre, que le Dr. Axel Preyer a fait à Ceylan, en décembre 1899 et janvier 1900, des expériences sur l'extraction du caoutchouc des feuilles de différents arbres gommifères.

Il résulte de ces essais que les feuilles de la plupart des plantes traitées ne fournissent qu'un caoutchouc de qualité très inférieure et que, même pour les autres, l'exploitation en grand du procédé ne semble pas devoir être rémunératrice.

Voici comment le "Tropenpflanzer" rend compte des expériences du Dr. Preyer:

Tous les arbres et lianes énumérés ci-dessous contiennent dans le latex exsudant des sections de leurs feuilles détachées, les corpuscules de caoutchouc caractéristiques, impossibles à distinguer extérieurement de ceux charriés par le latex circulant dans les troncs; mais le latex des feuilles en contient toujours moins que celui des troncs. Par la dessiccation ou par la chaleur ou par les coagulents chimiques ou, mieux, par simple coagulation spontanée au repos, on peut extraire, de tous ces latex de feuilles, des corps solides dont les propriétés sont comme suit:

Ficus elastica.—Visqueux s'étirant en fils, non élastique.

Manihot Glaziovii.—Mou, plastique, se déchirant facilement, non visqueux.

Urceola esculenta.—Visqueux, s'étirant en fils, non élastique.

Hevea brasiliensis.—Bon caoutchouc, non visqueux, élastique.

Castilloa Markhamiana et *Landolphia Kirkii.*—Contiennent si peu de latex dans leurs feuilles qu'il n'a pu en être extrait assez de matière solide pour se rendre compte de la valeur de celle-ci.

Tous les latex de feuilles nommés ci-dessus cèdent le caoutchouc (ou ce qui en tient lieu) beaucoup plus rapidement que ne le font les latex des troncs; ceci par simple coagulation spontanée au repos. Le docteur

en tire cette conclusion que les latex de feuilles contiennent des substances coagulantes (des acides organiques?).

Avec les feuilles d'*hevea brasiliensis* le docteur fit deux expériences quantitatives:

Première expérience.—Arbre âgé de vingt-deux ans; nombre de feuilles mises en œuvre: 500; procédé d'extraction du latex: exprimé avec les doigts qu'on passe et repasse le long de la feuille en appuyant dessus; procédé de coagulation: acide citrique. Résultat: 0 gr. 27 de caoutchouc utilisable.

Lorsque l'on voudra réaliser l'extraction en grand, on sera arrêté par la difficulté de tirer des feuilles le latex qui coagule avec une très grande rapidité. Autrement, un essai de culture se présenterait dans les conditions suivantes: Des *Hevea* de dix-huit mois n'ont besoin que de 10 centimètres de distance entre eux; chacun des *Hevea* porte quarante à soixante feuilles, disons cinquante, ce qui répond à Ogr. 027 de caoutchouc; on aurait donc à l'hectare 1,000,000 de plantes et 27 kilogrammes de caoutchouc.

Le procédé d'expression manuelle employé par le docteur ne laisse dans les feuilles que des quantités minimes de caoutchouc; mais en admettant même que le rendement soit doublé par l'emploi d'un procédé d'extraction perfectionné (presse mécanique), il demeurerait toujours trop insignifiant pour rémunérer la culture.

LES BOIS INDUSTRIELS DE LA CALIFORNIE.

La livraison de septembre du "Journal de la Societé Nationale d'Horticulture de France" publie un intéressant article relatif aux bois industriels. D'après cet article, dont les renseignements ont été fournis par M. Marais, représentant commercial de la Commission Californienne à l'Exposition Universelle de 1900, on compte en Californie, suivant les altitudes, trois zones différentes de bois de construction. Dans les terres basses qui constituent la première abondent le chêne et le pin commun, sans compter les vergers et toutes les espèces et variétés d'arbres cultivés.

Vient ensuite la zone moyenne, à environ 1,000 mètres d'altitude, la terre des grands pins résineux, droits comme des flèches et dont la hauteur est de 30 à 60 mètres, la circonférence variant de 7 à 8 mètres. La troisième zone, comprise entre 1,200 et 2,800 mètres d'altitude, renferme les véritables richesses de l'Etat, car c'est là que l'on rencontre le gigantesque *Sequoia gigantea*, le bois rouge, les pins jaunes et blancs, des pins sucrés qui atteignent fréquemment une centaine de mètres de hauteur avec une circonférence de 18 mètres. Un de ces arbres abattus fournit 850 mètres cubes de bois de commerce. On trouvera dans le Bulletin Mensuel du mois de juillet (page 246) un article sur les forêts de Sequoia de la Californie. Il est estimé que la région des

bois rouges occupe environ 900,000 hectares, et qu'elle contient 56,497,170 mètres de bois. Le *Sequoia gigantea* se trouve fréquemment avoir de 8 à 14 mètres de diamètre et une hauteur dépassant 100 mètres.

Cette région longe la côte sur l'océan Pacifique, depuis la baie de Monterey jusqu'au Nord, vers la frontière de l'Etat de l'Orégon, et se divise en plusieurs forêts nommées: Santa-Cruz, Mendocino, et Humboldt. Le comté de Humboldt possède une région de bois rouge, comprise dans toute la partie montagneuse, mesurant 350,000 hectares; il possède en outre 100,000 hectares de pins, sapins et cèdres (*juniperus virginiana*), et 100,000 de chênes et de *madrones*. Le comté de Mendocino, au sud de Humboldt, contient une forêt de bois rouge de 450,000 hectares.

Le comté de Santa Cruz a le tiers de sa superficie couvert de forêts de bois rouge d'une telle densité qu'un hectare fournit 5,650 mètres cubes de bois de commerce.

Les montagnes Sierra Nevada constituent la principale région forestière de la Californie; les forêts occupent une superficie de 6,100,000 hectares; elles abondent en pins jaunes, blancs et sucrés, le cèdre, les chênes, l'érable, le noyer, le madrone, le laurier, l'aulne, et autres essences de moindre importance; c'est ici que le pin sucré (*Pinus Lambertiana*) atteint des proportions gigantesques: 100 mètres et plus de hauteur et 13 mètres de diamètre.

Les comtés de la région des Sierra Nevada où la richesse forestière est incalculable, mais peu ou pas exploitée, faute de voies de communication et de moyens de transport, sont: Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Kern, Lake, Lassen, Mariposa, Modoc, Mono, Placer, Plumas, Tulare, Trinity.

Les scieries fonctionnant dans les comtés forestiers en exploitation sont au nombre de 260, d'après un relevé fait en 1896.

On estime que ces scieries occupent en moyenne 60 hommes chacune (les scieries du comté de Humboldt en emploient au delà de 100 par scierie) d'où un total de 15,600 hommes employés dans cette industrie.

Les forêts appartiennent à ceux qui les ont achetées de l'Etat. On peut dire que toutes les forêts exploitables en raison de leur accessibilité par des voies de communication et moyens de transport ont des propriétaires privés; les autres restent à l'Etat, quant à présent.

L'arbre le plus élevé est le "Key stone," comté de Calaveras, ayant 120 mètres; celui qui a le plus grand diamètre est le "Général Grant," 33 mètres, comté de Tulare.

Statistique de la production en 1898.

	Mètres cubes.
Bois rouge (redwood)	772,500
Pin sucre (sugar pine)	117,750
Pin jaune (yellow pine)	504,000
Sapin (spruce)	63,500
Cèdre (cedar) (Juniperus virginiana)	5,250
Pin (fir)	66,500
	1,529,500

Environ 80 pour 100 de cette production a été employée en Californie pour la construction d'habitations de ville et de ferme, bâtiments industriels, etc.

Les pays importateurs des bois de la Californie sont:

Les Etats de l'Est des Etats-Unis, le Mexique, les États de l'Amérique centrale et de l'Amérique du Sud, la Chine et le Japon, les îles de l'océan Pacifique et l'Angleterre.

BIBLIOGRAPHIE.

Les livres et les brochures qui seront envoyés au Bureau des Républiques Américaines, et qui contiendront des sujets ou matières traitant des pays de l'Union internationale des Républiques Américaines, seront mentionnés dans le Bulletin Mensuel sous le titre "Bibliographie."

"Un siècle de Diplomatie Américaine" (A Century of American Diplomacy) tel est le litre d'une œuvre remarquable dont l'auteur est l'Honorable JOHN W. FOSTER.

Mr. FOSTER occupe le premier rang parmi les diplomates américains et a représenté le Gouvernment des Etats-Unis dans plusieurs pays étrangers, revêtu des plus grandes dignités.

Pendant l'administration du Président HARRISON et après la mort de Mr. BLAINE, il fut Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, poste qu'il remplit avec une habileté et une distinction remarquables. Mr. FOSTER a occupé la chaire de diplomatie à l'Université Colombienne de Washington. Son livre commence à l'époque de la révolution et contient l'histoire diplomatique du pays jusqu'en 1876. Le chapitre XII est un exposé habile de la Doctrine Monroe et mérite d'être étudié avec un soin particulier dans tous les pays de l'Hémisphère occidental.

Mr. FOSTER attire l'attention sur les nombreux devoirs imposés au Ministre des Affaires Etrangères tant au point de vue politique qu'à celui social, obligations auxquelles ne sont pas assujettis, proprement parlant, les autres membres du cabinet. L'ouvrage de Mr. FOSTER sera, sans aucun doute, traduit dans les langues différentes qui se parlent en Amérique, car il mérite d'être lu dans tous les pays du continent occidental.

M. ROSA RODRIGUES, le directeur du jardin botanique de Rio de Janeiro, vient de publier une brochure très intéressante intitulée: "As Heveas ou Seringueiras."

Ce travail, publié à la suite d'une demande d'information sur le caoutchouc et la gomme élastique adressée par le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères du Vénézuéla au Gouvernement brésilien, est pour ainsi dire uniquement établi sur l'hévéa dont il décrit l'origine,

les conditions nécessaires à son développement et les différents procédés d'extraction.

A ce sujet, l'auteur s'élève énergiquement contre le mode actuel d'exploitation, qui a détruit les immenses forêts d'hévéas de l'Amazone et qui menace sérieusement tout le bassin supérieur, si de nouvelles mesures de culture et de protection ne viennent pas enrayer les dégâts causés actuellement par des exploitants trop avides de bénéfices.

L'auteur consacre un chapitre spécial à l'exportation et présente dans un tableau récapitulatif les quantités et la valeur du caoutchouc exporté de l'Amazone et du Para de 1825 à 1898.

En examinant ce tableau l'on constate que le prix de ce produit a monté de 4½ milreis en 1825 à 135 milreis en 1899 par arrobe de 15 kilogrammes.

Sous le titre "Le manque général de bois de construction est-il éminent?" le "Forum" du mois d'octobre contient un article de la plus grande importance en ce qui concerne les conditions économiques et les arts industriels. L'auteur de cet article, Mr. GANNETT, Géographe en Chef du Service Géologique des Etats-Unis, a calculé qu'il y a encore sur pied aux Etats-Unis assez de bois de construction pour environ 50 ans pourvu que la consommation se maintienne dans les mêmes proportions qu'aujourd'hui. Mr. GANNETT arrive à la conclusion que la moyenne des bois de construction sur pied dans les terrains boisés qui se trouvent dans la partie orientale du pays n'excède probablement pas 1,500 pieds par acre, la surface des pays boisés pour cette section étant un peu moins de 500,000,000 acres. Il estime qu'il y a dans le pays 1,380,000,000,000 pieds de bois de charpente sur pied. En 1890, on a coupé environ 25,000,000,000 pieds de bois, et depuis cette époque la coupe a augmenté un tant soit peu tous les ans. Il y a des espèces qui se renouvellent plus rapidement que d'autres; quelques-unes se conservent plus longtemps, comme le pin austral, le bois rouge, le sapin rouge, tandis que les rapports disent que le noyer noir et le sapin blanc sont déjà presque épuisés.

Mr. A. W. BUTT, capitaine de volontaires des Etats-Unis, est l'auteur d'un article paru dans le "Cosmopolitan" relatif au transport des chevaux aux Philippines en traversant le Pacifique et qui a pour titre: Le problème du transport dans l'armée ("Problem in Army Transportation"). Cet officier étudie la question au point de vue du service de l'Intendance, laquelle a perfectionné le système de transport à un tel point que la perte moyenne de chevaux dans un voyage ne dépasse pas 3 pour cent. Il fait remarquer que les autres gouvernements en effectuant le transport des chevaux comptent sur une perte de 15 pour cent. Le Capitaine BUTT fut le premier qui essaya de traverser le Pacifique sans s'arrêter pour débarquer des chevaux et seulement un sur 456 fut perdu. Des éventails électriques et à vapeur furent employés pendant la traversée pour renouveler l'air aux animaux.

Ces derniers furent embarqués dans des stalles portatives et mis ensuite, sur le transport, dans des stalles stationnaires dans lesquelles ils furent attachés au moyen de cordes, leur permettant de se mouvoir dans un espace de 3 pieds. Les chevaux apprirent à suivre le mouvement du vaisseau auquel ils étaient complètement habitués après six heures de mer houleuse.

Progrès des travaux d'irrigation dans l' ouest ("Progress of Irrigation Work in the West"); tel est le titre du premier rapport sur les expériences qui ont été faites sur l'irrigation par les établissements qui en sont chargés "office of experiment stations," et qui a été publié par le Ministre de l'Agriculture des Etats-Unis. Ce rapport traite des méthodes en usage dans les Etats arides pour distribuer et employer les eaux d'irrigations; donne un grand nombre de mesures prises pour déterminer le volume d'eau nécessaire à l'irrigation d'une certaine étendue de terrain, les pertes occasionnées par l'absorption et l'évaporation dans les canaux et décrit les méthodes au moyen desquelles la provision d'eau pourrait être employée d'une manière plus efficace et plus économique. Ce rapport contient des gravures, des diagrammes et des cartes montrant la location et le caractère des investigations qui ont été faites. L'édition est limitée à 1,000 copies.

Sous le titre: Histoire, Méthodes et Administration des Bureaux de liquidation ("Clearing Houses: Their History, Methods and Administration"), Mr. CANNON, Vice-Président de la quatrième Banque Nationale de la ville de New York, vient de faire paraître un ouvrage contenant les renseignements relatifs aux différentes institutions de ce genre existant dans le monde. Mr. CANNON a une connaissance parfaite de la manière dont fonctionnent les bureaux de liquidation de New York et les chapitres les plus importants de cet ouvrage, ont été, avant d'être publiés, soumis à la critique des personnes qui dirigent ces bureaux. Les éditeurs sont P. APPLETON & CIE., New York.

On vient de publier, sous les auspices de Mr. FERD. F. KAISER, St. Louis, Missouri, un ouvrage qui intéressera vivement tontes les personnes versées dans l'étude des belles-lettres et dont le titre est, Les meilleurs discours du monde "The World's Best Orations." Ces œuvres oratoires contenues dans les volumes III–VII ont été éditées par Mr. DAVID J. BREWER, juge à la Cour Suprème des Etats-Unis, et comprennent une grande variété de sujets parmi lesquels on trouve les chefs-d'œuvre de l'art oratoire de toutes les nations et même les discours des orateurs moins faneux ayant une importance, historique, religieuse, scientifique, artistique ou littéraire.

La troisième édition de "American Trade Index" annuaire qui décrit et classe les membres de l'Association Nationale des Manufacturiers, vient de paraître. Cette édition est la première dont le sujet est publié en français, anglais et espagnol.

MONTHLY BULLETIN

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, INTERNATIONAL UNION OF AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the International Union of American Republics was held in the Diplomatic Reception Room of the Department of State on Monday, November 26, 1900.

The meeting was called to order by Hon. JOHN HAY, Secretary of State, chairman.

The other members present were:

Señor Don JOAQUÍN BERNARDO CALVO, Minister from Costa Rica.

Señor Don ANTONIO LAZO ARRIAGA, Minister from Guatemala.

Señor Dr. Don EDUARDO WILDE, Minister from the Argentine Republic.

Owing to the temporary absence of the Director of the Bureau, Mr. W. W. ROCKHILL, the Acting Director, Dr. HORACIO GUZMÁN, was present.

The Acting Director stated the purpose of the meeting, and presented the annual report of the Bureau. The same was dated November 26, 1900, and is hereto appended.

The report was found to be entirely satisfactory, and, upon motion of Mr. CALVO, an expression to this effect was adopted.

In referring to the report, the Secretary of State said:

"I think we will all agree that the report is an admirable one, showing a most satisfactory state of affairs, a great step forward, and a great change for the better in the condition of the International Union. I am especially gratified by this report as exhibiting a remarkable degree of intelligence and energy, and a spirit of economy which has brought

the International Union to a state of power and prosperity such as it has never attained before."

The Committee then adjourned.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *November 26, 1900.*

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR.

BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS,
Washington, November 26, 1900.

The Secretary of State, Chairman, and Members of the Executive Committee of the International Union of American Republics.

GENTLEMEN: The temporary absence of the Director, Mr. W. W. ROCKHILL, makes it incumbent upon me to transmit herewith the annual report of the Bureau.

The accounts of the Bureau for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900, are as follows:

Receipts and expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900.

RECEIPTS.

Annual appropriation, 1900			$36,000.00
Balance from receipts from sales, rents, etc., July 1, 1899	$1,234.70		
Contributions from Latin-American Republics	$18,849.90		
From advertisements	$5,083.81		
From sale of publications	1,169.47		
	6,253.28		
		25,103.18	
			26,337.88
Total receipts			62,337.88

EXPENDITURES.

From annual appropriation, 1900		$36,000.00	
From receipts from sales, rents, etc		24,882.51	
			60,882.51
Balance July 1, 1900			1,455.37

Detailed statement of expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900.

	From annual appropriation, 1900.	From receipts from sales, rents, etc.	Total.
Compensation	$32,908.79	$385.59	$33,294.38
Stationery		828.57	828.57
Rent	1,833.34	166.66	2,000.00
Library		832.23	832.23
Postage	17.26	1,128.68	1,145.94
Furniture		985.43	985.43
Printing		18,592.01	18,592.01
Final settlement for mailing bulletins (New York to Buenos Ayres) prior to March 1, 1899	1,240.61		1,240.61
Miscellaneous		1,963.34	1,963.34
Total	36,000.00	24,882.51	60,882.51

From the foregoing statement it would appear that there was a credit balance of $1,455.37 on July 1, 1900. This account does not, however, include the amount due the Public Printer for work done for this Bureau during the fiscal year then ending.

At the commencement of the fiscal year 1900, as will be seen from the last annual report, there was a balance due the Public Printer of $6,388.09. It has been possible therefore to pay the amounts due and to so reduce the indebtedness that the balance unpaid on the past fiscal year is $3,314.78, as is shown by the following statement:

Account of the Public Printer for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900.

Balance due from fiscal year 1899		$6,388.09
Total amount of bills rendered for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900		20,932.59
Total amount to be paid		27,320.68
Deduct for amount charged for composition and stereotyping credited to the Bureau by an arrangement with the Public Printer	$7,005.90	
Paid from receipts from sales, rents, etc., during fiscal year 1900	$11,000.00	
Paid during current fiscal year	6,000.00	
	17,000.00	
		24,005.90
Balance unpaid on fiscal year 1900		3,314.78

The following estimate of receipts and expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1901, is herewith submitted:

Estimated receipts:		
Appropriation		$36,000.00
Contributions from Latin-American Republics		16,156.70
Advertisements		4,000.00
Sale of publications		1,200.00
Total		57,356.70
Estimated expenditures at present ratio:		
Pay roll	$33,600.00	
Rent	2,000.00	
Printing	14,000.00	
Stationery and furniture	1,500.00	
Library	1,000.00	
Postage	1,150.00	
Miscellaneous	3,000.00	
		56,250.00
Balance		1,106.70

This estimate does not take into account the balance due the Public Printer for the past fiscal year. If this were done there would be an apparent deficit of $2,208.08. It is hoped, however, and the results of the past fiscal year seem to justify it, that the receipts will so far exceed those estimated as to practically offset this.

The matter of advertising remains the same as stated in the last annual report. It is possible that the receipts from this source may reach the sum of $4,000 during the next fiscal year.

It is to be noted that in the estimates for the past fiscal year the amount of contributions from the Latin-American Republics is given at $15,813.53, whereas the actual sum received was $18,849.90. This gratifying condition is due to the fact that a number of the Republics which had delayed payments remitted their quotas for past years.

THE MONTHLY BULLETIN.

The edition of the MONTHLY BULLETIN is 11,000 copies, of which about 9,000 are sent to the various countries of Central and South America. The following statement shows the number of copies of the BULLETIN sent to the various countries for the month of October, 1900, and will serve as an index to its circulation:

Distribution of Bulletin during month of October.

Argentine Republic	452	Jamaica	60
Bolivia	57	Mexico	5,090
Brazil	376	Nicaragua	104
British Honduras	28	Paraguay	29
Canada	171	Peru	134
Chile	246	Porto Rico	201
Colombia	187	Salvador	31
Costa Rica	101	Santo Domingo	141
Cuba	287	United States	1,468
Ecuador	113	Uruguay	143
Europe	80	Venezuela	540
Guatemala	496	West Indies (small islands)	30
Haiti	197		
Honduras	208	Total	10,970

The circulation of the BULLETIN remains, comparatively speaking, about the same as during the past fiscal year, but the lists are continually being changed in order that the recipients may be those only who would most appreciate it.

The Congress of the United States has provided for an edition of the BULLETIN of 5,000 coppies per month for distribution in the United States, as a means of promoting a better knowledge of the resources and the commercial possibilities of the Latin-American Republics. Senators and Members will receive, at the commencement of the present Congress, due notice of this fact, to the end that they may supply the Bureau with the names of parties in the various sections of the country who would be most interested in receiving it.

In the preparation of the MONTHLY BULLETIN valuable assistance has been rendered by prominent and trustworthy persons in the various capitals who act in the capacity of "Honorary Corresponding Mem-

bers" of the International Union. The Bureau is represented in nearly all the Republics by such members, and it is confidently expected that before long there will be an Honorary Corresponding Member in each of the Latin-American countries. The hope expressed by the Director in his last annual report that the information furnished by these gentlemen would materially increase the fund of the Bureau's knowledge has been fully realized, the matter contributed by them being of great interest and value.

During the past fiscal year the Republics of Salvador and Uruguay have granted the Bureau the postal franchise for its publications. This privilege is now enjoyed by the Bureau in eleven Republics, as well as in Canada, Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Philippine Islands.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS.

The Bureau has completed a publication of some 400 pages entitled "Mexico: A Geographical Sketch, with Special Reference to Economic Conditions and Prospects of Future Development." This book has been very generally and favorably noticed in the press of the country, and there has been a considerable demand for it.

Of the other publications in course of preparation, the one upon Brazil is completed and practically ready for the press; those upon Guatemala, Costa Rica, and Chile are well in hand and will appear in due course.

The Director is particularly desirous of producing a work in the Spanish language upon the United States, and has himself prepared the first chapter upon the Government. Other chapters will be written by men of recognized ability and authority in their special fields of labor.

Matter has been collected from official sources in the several Republics, giving the lists of newspapers and periodicals published there. These lists have, from time to time, appeared in the BULLETIN, and, when entirely completed, will be issued in the form of a separate publication.

MAPS.

One of the principal features of the work of this Bureau, and one in which the Director is deeply interested, is the publication of maps. The services of an experienced draftsman were secured, and two maps of Mexico have now been completed—one a general map, the other a map showing elevations and agricultural features. They are at present in the hands of the printer, and will very soon be ready for distribution. The maps of Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Brazil have been commenced, and, as soon as certain official data are obtained, will be pushed toward completion, after which the work on those of the other countries will be taken up.

LIBRARY.

A considerable portion of the last annual report of the Director was devoted to the library, a part of the Bureau most essential to its work and one which had not in latter years received that attention which would enable it to discharge thoroughly its proper functions. A plan was suggested for a practical reorganization of the library, which has been carried into effect to a great extent.

A collection of (approximately) 5,000 miscellaneous volumes, which constituted the library at the last report, has been increased by an addition of 1,120 volumes and 7,795 pamphlets; a large number of these have been bound and all have been catalogued. For these accessions to the library the Bureau is indebted, in large measure, to the courteous aid of the Diplomatic Representatives of Latin America in Washington and to the United States Representatives abroad, who have brought to the attention of the proper officials the need of the Bureau of live official data upon which to base its work. Publications requested have been promptly supplied by the various Governments.

Letters sent to leading American publishers requesting new books pertinent to the interests of Latin America, for review in the MONTHLY BULLETIN, have brought valuable additions to the library. Heretofore very little money has been appropriated for the building up of the library. About $800 was expended during the past year, special attention being given to the purchase of geographical matter, new maps, and important works of general reference. The estimated expenditure during the present fiscal year is $1,000.

Special efforts are now being made to obtain a complete collection of the laws and treaties of Latin America.

The library is now receiving hundreds of periodicals on trade, commerce, and matters of general interest. Important articles in these are indexed so that data of interest may be easily found. The card index, which will form a catalogue of permanent value, is rapidly growing, 9,000 cards having been added since the last report. Leading periodicals and newspapers from the various Latin-American Republics are kept permanently filed and are much in demand.

It is desired to build from the present nucleus the best practical collection of Americana in the country, one which will be a thoroughly trustworthy source of information on the history, geography, resources, and commercial features of all the countries of this continent.

THE PAN-AMERICAN EXPOSITION.

The Congress of the United States provided for an exhibit of the Bureau at the Pan-American Exposition to be held in Buffalo during the summer of 1901, and the Chief Clerk of the Bureau has been designated as its representative upon the Board of Government Manage-

ment of the Exposition. A suitable sum of money has been allotted from the appropriation made by the Congress of the United States, and contracts have been executed and other steps taken to make the exhibit a creditable one.

INTERNATIONAL AMERICAN CONFERENCE.

The most important incident in the life of the Bureau since its creation a decade ago will be the International American Conference, to be held in the City of Mexico, commencing October 22, 1901, and it is fully expected that the results obtained at that conference, in the light of the ten years' experience, will be to materially increase the value of the Bureau as an effective working organ in making stronger the bonds of confidence and friendship between each and every country of the Union.

I have the honor to be, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

HORACIO GUZMÁN,
Acting Director.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT.

In a report on the foreign commerce of the Argentine Republic for 1899, with observations relative to the French commerce there, Mr. FRANCASTEL, French Consul at Buenos Ayres, reports as follows regarding industrial and agricultural developments to which in part is due the decline in imports of French products, France now occupying fifth place among the importing nations, whereas in 1889 it was second.

In the last few years, says Mr. FRANCASTEL, numerous dairy farms and cheese factories have been established which have caused a falling off in the imports of foreign cheeses of over a million kilograms. In 1899, the Argentine Republic exported 1,179,496 kilograms of butter and to-day competes with similar French products in the Brazilian market.

The flour mills of Rio de la Plata have made such progress that not only have they stopped the importation of foreign flours but they are beginning to export. Rio de Janeiro is the market they are aiming at principally, where they are attempting to compete with North American flour.

Of the 2,500,000 hectoliters of wine actually necessary for consumption, the Republic to-day produces more than 1,000,000. The ordinary wines which enter into consumption are for the most part mixed wines, composed, per hundred liters, of 35 liters of Mendoza and San Juan wine, 40 liters of wine from raisins, and 25 liters of Italian or Spanish wine.

The sugar industry has progressed so rapidly in the last twenty years that it is obliged to moderate its production to avoid a return of the crisis brought on by the overproduction of 1895 and 1896. When the needs of the country did not exceed 95,000 tons, the sugar mills were producing 170,000 tons yearly. The stock on hand at one time reached 165,000 tons. The sugar syndicate could not keep up the prices and dispose of the excess of its production abroad except by means of different legislative measures, for which it obtained the vote of Congress (establishment of a protective tariff and export premiums). If the cost price of Argentine sugar does not permit its entering normally the foreign markets, it is at least sure of the home market, thanks to the essentially protective duties.

Manufacturing industries of products other than purely agricultural ones are less developed in the Argentine Republic. Nevertheless, there is a serious tendency toward their establishment.

In the city of Buenos Ayres alone there are 2,928 factories or workshops, among which are to be remarked 207 jewelry and watchmaking factories, 182 furniture factories, 151 liquor distilleries, 89 carriage factories, 85 for the manufacture of wagons and carts, 66 for boots, 26 for hats, 22 for gloves, 25 for shirts and collars, 13 for artificial flowers, 27 for iron beds, 3 for safes, 6 for canned goods, 4 breweries, etc.

According to a report by the French Chargé d'Affaires at Buenos Ayres, the wool exports from the Argentine Republic to the various foreign ports from October 1, 1899, to September 15, 1900, were as follows, in comparison with the previous year:

Bales of wool.

	1899–1900.	1898–1899.		1899–1900.	1898–1899.
Dunkirk	158,449	217,419	Marseilles	5,875	7,007
Antwerp	116,648	66,422	Barcelona	350	83
Hamburg	45,342	91,439	Rotterdam	493	.....
Bremen	36,050	35,719	English ports	21,590	13,127
Genoa	10,318	7,852	Havre	5,227	12,221
United States ports	21,613	10,776			
Bordeaux	1,744	440	Total	423,699	462,505

From the 1st of July, 1899, to June 30, 1900, about 74,000 bales of skins were exported from all ports of the Republic, of which 3,000 were for Dunkirk, 59,000 for Bordeaux and Marseilles, and the rest for Italy, England, and the United States.

IMPORTANT RAILWAY LINES.

"La Prensa," of Buenos Ayres, under date of October 10, 1900, contains an interesting article concerning the new railroads of the Argentine Republic and the branches now contemplated and in course of construction.

One of the most important of these is the Central Argentine Railway, which recently united with the Western Santafecino line, thereby securing the concession of that company for the building of a railroad between San José de la Esquina and Rio IV. Work has been commenced and is being actively pushed, as the company is desirous of reaching Rio IV before the expiration of a year. The new branch will allow the people of Rio IV and of other villages of the prosperous Province of Córdoba to ship their products to Rosario direct over a single railway line, obtaining in this manner better and quicker service and a corresponding reduction in transportation charges.

The Buenos Ayres and Rosario Railway Company, which is the owner of the Sur de Santa Fe and Córdoba railroads, has been authorized by its board of directors in London to lay the rails between La Carlota and Rio IV, uniting in this manner Buenos Ayres with the city and port of Rosario.

The Entre Rios railroads have made plans for the construction of three branches, which, when completed, will give a direct outlet for the whole Province to the ports. The board of directors in London is considering these estimates and plans, and, it is said, will soon authorize the proposed construction.

The narrow-gauge railway, whose terminal point is now the city of Rosario, contemplates extending its line to the capital of the nation, thereby placing Buenos Ayres in direct communication by rail with the northern and central parts of the Republic. The concessionaire of the road referred to has made final arrangements for the realization of this plan, and the work of construction will be commenced at no distant date.

The Western Railway has decided to prolong its line 60 kilometers in the direction of San Rafael, and doubtless within a year will have completed construction to the important capital of the Province of Mendoza. This part of the Argentine Republic is badly in need of a railway, and the vast commerce of this rich Andean Province will furnish the railway company with an abundance of traffic.

The new line to Bahía Blanca is an established fact. The Southern Railway has received the first consignments of materials for use in this work, and construction will be actively carried forward to completion.

The Pacific Railway is preparing to extend its Italó branch to Esperanza, which will open up most valuable zones to colonization.

DEATH OF MICHAEL G. MULHALL.

Michael G. Mulhall, noted the world over as a reliable statistician, died in the city of London, December 13, 1900. Mr. Mulhall was the son of a lawyer and was born in Dublin, Ireland, in 1836. He received his education in the Irish College in the city of Rome. In 1861 he founded "The Buenos Ayres Standard," the first daily news-

paper printed in the English language in South America. This paper was the means of attracting the attention of the English-speaking nations to the Argentine Republic and the city of Buenos Ayres. It was a great factor in causing the investment of British capital in Argentine trade establishments and railroads. The effects have been noticeable ever since, and to-day the great bulk of the foreign trade of the Republic is with British ports.

In later years Mr. MULHALL became widely known through his efforts to popularize the knowledge of statistics of the growth of trade and population. For the last twenty years he had been a regular contributor to the "Contemporary Review" and to Section F of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. His principal works are: "The Progress of the World," 1880; "Dictionary of Statistics," 1886, and "Industries and Wealth of Nations," 1896.

In an article contributed to the July, 1900, number of the "North American Review," entitled "A forecast of the Twelfth American Census," Mr. MULHALL predicted that the census of 1900 would show that the United States had a population of 76,200,000. The count showed that 76,295,220 inhabitants were enumerated, demonstrating how very accurate and precise statistical science may prove in skillful hands.

FOREIGN COMMERCE FOR NINE MONTHS.

According to the returns of the National Statistical Department, the value in gold of the foreign commerce of the Republic for the first nine months of 1900 was as follows: Imports, $87,461,371; exports, $122,518,293; total, $209,979,664. In 1899 the value of imports for the period named was $87,251,806, and that of the exports $127,418,788, or a total of $214,670,594.

For the first nine months of 1900 the principal exports of the Argentine Republic were as follows: Dry oxhides, 1,314,540; salted oxhides, 821,409; dry horsehides, 60,773; salted horsehides, 18,250; sheepskins, bales, 31,552; goatskins, bales, 2,257; wool, bales, 216,001; hair, bales, 3,681; frozen wethers, 1,832,022; beef quarters, 168,027; tallow, 14,085,800 kilograms; butter, 25,048 cases; wheat, tons, 1,856,-288; flour, tons, 27,162; bran, tons, 51,747; maize, tons, 543,763; linseed, tons, 197,464; oilseed, bags, 100,131; pollards, 111,591 bags; hay, bales, 1,225,061; tobacco, bales, 6,744; quebracho, tons, 167,237; sugar, tons, 10,708.

About one-half of the dry oxhides (625,568) were sent to the United States. Other products sent to the United States were 7,480 salt oxhides, 18,942 bales of wool, 15,590 tons of quebracho, 1,617 bales of goatskins, 366 bales of hair, 428 tons of linseed, and 42 bales of sheepskins.

All of the frozen wethers and quarters of beef, and also all the sugar and all the cases of butter excepting 488, were sent to Great Britain.

Great Britain also took 271,826 tons of wheat, 90,689 tons of maize, 44,144 tons of linseed, 1,509 tons of flour, and 20,275 bags of pollards.

About all the other exports named were taken by Germany, France, Belgium, and Italy. The exports to Brazil, however, included 52,555 tons of wheat, 21,397 tons of flour, 14,990 tons of maize, 488 cases of butter, and 289,254 bales of hay.

THE DEMANDS OF PATAGONIA.

In a recent report, says the "Bulletin Commercial," of Brussels, the commercial attaché to the German Consulate-General indicates various articles which would probably find a good sale in Patagonia, Argentine Republic.

The attention of exporters is particularly called to the enormous consumption of fencing wire in this country. Sheep raising is constantly developing in Patagonia, and as the cattle raisers all have their pastures fenced in, it is certain that the demand for wire will increase in large proportions. This article is now included in all shipment sent to this country.

Besides the five and six rows of smooth wire and the row of barbed wire, some of the owners of *estancias* reenforce their fences by means of a wire cable in order to protect them from the depredations of *guanacos* (sort of alpaca or llama).

Corrugated and galvanized sheet iron is also a good selling article in Patagonia, where they are almost exclusively employed for roofing, and sometimes for the outside walls of houses.

Agriculture being still in a comparatively undeveloped state, the demand for agricultural machinery is consequently unimportant. On the other hand, light wooden wheelbarrows find a good sale, as well as hoops and coarse sheets of jute for covering bales of wool. Stoves and easily transported heating apparatus also sell well, as do canned meats and vegetables and potatoes. All articles destined to Patagonia should be very carefully packed, on account of the length and difficulties of transportation.

REPORT OF THE GOVERNOR OF NEUQUEN TERRITORY.

The annual report of the Governor of Neuquen Territory contains some interesting particulars with reference to that part of the Republic. According to this document, the Territory has mines of copper and silver, 50 square leagues which contain beds of coal, some only 2 leagues distant from the river Neuquen, and large deposits of auriferous sand, upon which more than 500 persons are engaged in a crude manner in extracting gold. With regard to silver and copper mines, it is stated that they can not be worked to advantage until there is railroad communication. It is believed that the coal might be made a source of wealth by removing some shoals of rock in the Neuquen

River, so that lighters towed by small steamers might ascend the river to the coal region. The population of the Territory is estimated at 25,000, and is increasing.

ARGENTINE EXPORTING COMPANY.

A dispatch from Norfolk, Virginia, dated November 15, 1900, states that the court has granted a charter to FLINT, EDDY & Co., Limited, New York. The purposes of this firm are to conduct a general exporting business between the United States and the South American Republics, preferably the Argentine Republic. The capital stock is given at $500,000. The officers are: President, W. B. FLINT, New York; Vice-President, LEWIS E. ODIO, Buenos Ayres; Treasurer, DIEGO CAMPBELL, of Buenos Ayres; Secretary, W. H. STEVENS, of New York. The members of the Board of Directors are all citizens of the United States.

IMPORTS OF JUTE GOODS.

In an article on the industrial position and prospects of the jute and flax industries, the "Statist," of London, states that the best markets for English jute goods are in South America, and especially in the Argentine Republic. During the last three years the exports to the Argentine Republic have been as follows in yards: 13,492,800 in 1897, 25,530,500 in 1898, and 38,895,000 in 1899.

PRODUCTION OF WINE IN MENDOZA.

The "Argentinisches Wochenblatt" says that the production of wine in the Province of Mendoza during the past year amounted to 815,400 hectoliters. The revenue to the State from this production up to September 30, 1900, was $1,169,061.

The "Review of the River Plate" of November 3, 1900, states that the area of the vineyards of the Argentine Republic in 1885 was 23,000 hectares. In 1900 this had increased to 36,000 hectares. In 1890 the Province of Mendoza had 3,500 hectares of vineyards, which had increased in 1900 to 16,000 hectares.

AREAS IN WHEAT AND LINSEED.

The Agricultural Department reports that the number of hectares of land reported at the end of the seeding season as being sown in wheat and linseed are as follows:

Provinces.	Wheat.	Linseed.
Buenos Ayres	917,000	108,684
Córdoba	626,000	91,500
Entre Rios	285,295	58,800
Santa Fé	1,482,854	348,278
Remainder of the Republic (estimated)	72,000	.....
Total	3,383,149	607,262

NEW STEAMSHIP LINES.

The large number of Italian colonists in the Argentine Republic has led to the formation of a new "Society of Navigation," called "L'Italia," whose vessels will be destined especially for the transportation of Italian emigrants and merchandise to the River Plate countries. The first steamer of that line, the *Toscana*, sailed for Buenos Ayres in November, 1900. It was built in the Otero shipyards, at La Foca. It measures 115 meters in length, carries 6,000 tons, is expected to make 14 knots an hour, and can easily transport several hundred passengers, third class, in the steerage.

The "La Plata Post" states that a new steamship line has been established by the Messrs. MIHANOVICH between Buenos Ayres, Rosario, Diamante, Parana, and Colastine. The first steamer left on November 27, and weekly trips will be made thereafter.

BRAZIL.

PROJECTED RAILROAD IN THE STATE OF SAO PAULO.

According to the "Bulletin Commercial" (of Brussels), the Commission of Public Works of the State of Sao Paulo has elaborated a plan authorizing the Government to grant concession for the construction of a narrow-gauge railroad (1 meter gauge) destined to connect the capital of the State with Iguape, the most suitable point on the Ribeira River.

The following advantages will be assured the concessionaire:

(1) Guaranty of 6 per cent interest per year on the capital, not exceeding 20,000 *contos*, for a maximum period of twenty years, counting from the date of the contract, the cost of the construction not to exceed 80 *contos* per kilometer.

(2) Exemption from taxes due the State as long as the clause guaranteeing interest is in force.

The interest will be paid every six months on the sums annually authorized by Congress and which will have been effectively employed in the building of the railroad. To this end the concessionaire will submit to the Agricultural Department, in suitable time, a statement of the work designed to be executed during each year.

The preliminary expenses which the concessionaire may have incurred before beginning work on the road will be included in the guaranteed capital as soon as the same have been approved by the Government. They must not, however, exceed 130 *contos*.

A part or the entire road being in operation, the interests corresponding to the capital will be paid after an examination of the balance sheets of receipts and expenditures presented by the concessionaire and approved by the Government.

The concessionaire binds himself:

(1) To remit every six months to the Government a detailed report of the state of the work under construction, as well as statistics of the traffic of merchandise and passengers, and authorize the examination of his books by the Government agents at any time whatsoever.

(2) To submit to the approval of the Government, before beginning the exploitation, the list of employees, giving their respective salaries, as well as notifications of any modifications which may be made later.

(3) To establish mutual traffic between other rail or water ways.

When the net returns of the road shall exceed 8 per cent per year, half of this excess, at least, shall be remitted to the treasury in compensation for the expenses arising from the guaranty of interest and fiscalization.

The choice of the concessionaire will be determined principally by:

(1) The most suitable plan offered.

(2) Schedule of rates and its modification in proportion to the receipts of the road.

(3) The shortest time during which the guaranteed interests are to be enjoyed, as well as for the reimbursement of the amounts paid on this account.

It is optional with the Government to grant the unoccupied lands on either side of the road and in the basin of the Ribeira, either at the moment of concluding the contract or during the progress of the work, according to the terms of law No. 675, of September 9, 1899, article 2.

The bidders must submit with their propositions a security in silver, or in bonds of the public debt, to the value of 20 *contos*. The one whose proposition is accepted will increase his security 100 *contos* at the moment of signing the contract. In case he should refuse to sign the contract he will lose the first security, which will then become the property of the treasury. The concessionaire can only demand the return of his securities when he has proved that he has expended an equivalent sum on the construction of the road. On securities deposited in silver a yearly interest of 6 per cent will be paid.

In the edict which will be published to serve as basis for the public award, besides the conditions imposed by the present law, the Government can have published all those which it judges conformable to the interests of the State.

With the exception of the above-mentioned stipulations, this line will remain subject to the rules of law No. 30, of June 13, 1892, wherein the same is applicable.

BANKS IN RIO DE JANEIRO.

Mr. W. A. Lowrie, Vice Consul-General of the United States at Rio de Janeiro, has forwarded to the Department of State at Wash-

ington a list of the banks—German, English, and French, as well as Brazilian—located in that city. These banks, with their capital stock, etc., are as follows:

Banco Agricolo do Brazil.—Capital stock, 4,000 *contos* ($800,000); chartered 1897.

Banco Allianca do Porto.—Capital stock, 4,000 *contos;* reserve fund, 520 *contos;* founded 1863.

Banco Brazil e Norte America.—Capital stock, 10,000 *contos.*

Banco Commercial do Rio de Janeiro.—Capital stock, 10,000 *contos;* reserve fund, 4,000 *contos.*

Banco do Commercio.—Capital stock, 16,000 *contos;* founded 1875.

Banco Constructor do Brazil.—Capital, 24,000 *contos;* organized to contract for the construction of railroads, factories, and engineering work, and for undertaking emigration for the various States.

Banco de Credito Real do Brazil.—Capital stock, 8,000 *contos.*

Banco de Credito Rural e Internacional.—Capital stock, 5,426 *contos.*

Banco de Depositos e Descontos.—Capital stock, 5,000 *contos;* reserve fund, 790 *contos.*

Banco da Lavoura e do Commercio do Brazil.—Capital stock, 20,000 *contos.*

Banco da Republica do Brazil.—Capital stock, 100,000 *contos;* special reserve fund, 6,275 *contos.* This is last year's report; bank in liquidation at present.

Banco Rio e Matto Grosso.—Capital stock, 20,000 *contos.*

Banco Rural Hypothecario do Rio de Janeiro.—Capital authorized, 20,000 *contos;* capital realized, 15,000 *contos.*

Brasilianische Bank für Deutschland.—Founded in Hamburg December 16, 1887; capital stock, 10,000,000 *marks* ($2,380,000).

Caixa Economica e Monte de Socorro.—Established under guaranty of the Government in 1860; receives deposits of 1 *milreis* (about 20 cents) and its multiples up to 10,000 *milreis* ($2,000). This is the business of the *Caixa Economica*, while the *Monte de Socorro* is the national pawnshop. The latter will loan any amount from 5 *milreis* upward, secured by gold, silver, or jewels. The loans are made at four-fifths the value of the objects offered, at 9 per cent interest a year, it being permitted to redeem them before the expiration of that time on the payment of the pro rata interest. If not redeemed within the stated time, the objects of value are sold at a public auction announced ten days before the sale, and in case the sum realized is more than the amount of the loan, the balance remains on deposit for five years, at the disposition of the borrower or his legal representative.

London and Brazilian Bank, Limited.—Capital stock authorized, £1,000,000 ($4,866,500); capital stock realized, £900,000; reserve fund, £600,000.

London and River Plate Bank, Limited.—Capital stock, £1,500,000; realized capital, £900,000; reserve fund, £1,000,000.

Banco Francez do Brazil.—Capital stock, 10,000,000 *francs* ($1,930,000), authorized by decree of 1897.

British Bank of South America.—Capital stock, £1,000,000; capital stock realized, £500,000; reserve fund, £300,000.

A charter has been granted a Belgian company to establish a bank in Rio de Janeiro, with a capital stock of 25,000,000 *francs* ($4,825,000). The bank will deal exclusively in loans and mortgages. It is authorized to operate for ten years. The main office is in Antwerp.

COFFEE TRADE AT RIO DE JANEIRO.

According to a report of the Austro-Hungarian Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro the first half year of the 1899–1900 crop brought an unexpected improvement in the position of the international and especially of the Brazilian coffee market. It began with the most unfavorable prospects possible. The world's stock had reached a higher figure than previously recorded; it amounted on July 1, 1899, to 368,160 tons, as against 324,720 tons on July 1, 1898, and 182,980 tons on July 1, 1895, showing therefore, as compared with 1895, an increase of 185,180 tons. In addition to this there was the prospect of a large crop for 1899–1900, which was estimated at 9¾ to 10 million bags. In view of this position of the market, exporters as well as dealers concluded contracts for delivery at long terms at prices which were far below the existing market value, it being practically possible only on such terms to do any business at all.

At the commencement of the half year 10,000 *reis* per *arroba* was paid for the New York type No. 7, which price dropped to the lowest point, 9,000 *reis* per *arroba*, in the first half of September. But at the end of September prices went up rapidly, so that New York type No. 7 brought 11,200 to 11,400 *reis* per *arroba* during the first half of October. At the end of that month they had risen to 12,800 *reis* per *arroba*. The prices then fluctuated, rising to 15,000 *reis* in November, and closing at 14,000 *reis* at the end of the year. The supplies at Rio amounted to 2,007,500 bags in the second half year of 1899, to which have to be added the stocks in the interior, 1,242,500 bags, which represents an aggregate crop of 3,250,000 bags. The shipments amounted to 2,070,600 bags, 525,500 of which went to Europe, 1,278,400 to the United States, 97,400 to Cape Colony, and the remainder of 176,000 bags to various other countries.

EXPOSITION IN MINAS GERAES.

The Secretary of Agriculture of the United States has received from the Hon. Charles Page Bryan, United States Minister to Brazil, a communication stating that early in 1901 there will be inaugurated at Belle Horizonte, the capital of the State of Minas Geraes, under

Government and municipal support, a permanent exposition of the products and manufactures of that State. The population of the State exceeds 4,000,000, and its industries, mineral and agricultural, are being actively developed, the gold product in 1899 exceeding $3,000,000, an increase of $1,000,000 over the previous year.

Several citizens of Minas Geraes, who are interested in promoting United States enterprises, have suggested and are willing to undertake the erection of a pavilion in which to exhibit machinery of the forthcoming exposition. Manufacturers of agricultural, dairy, electrical, and mining appliances who desire to avail themselves of an inexpensive opportunity to exhibit their improved machinery are requested to communicate on the subject with the United States Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro.

MONTHLY STEAMSHIP SERVICE TO AMAZON CITIES.

A report from Hamburg mentions the successful attempt of the Hamburg-American Line in establishing a regular monthly steamship service to the northerly Brazilian ports of Para and Manãos. A steamer will leave regularly on the 15th of each month. The first trip of this line was made by the *Canadia* in seventy-six days for the round trip, by way of Baltimore. The *Canadia* touched at Havre, Oporto, and Lisbon. The cargo consisted chiefly of manufactured German goods and cement. Vegetables and wine were taken from Portugal. The trip from Para to Manãos was accomplished without any difficulty. The shipping heretofore on the Amazon has been entirely in the hands of two English corporations. The return cargo of the *Canadia* comprised the products of the country, especially rubber, for which article the creation of a large market in Hamburg is expected.

IMPORTANT CONCESSIONS.

"Handels Museum" reports that four concessions of considerable economic importance have been granted by the State of Paraná during the months of April and June, 1900. One was given to the Lemburg Colonizing and Trading Company for 50,000 hectares of land for the establishment of an agricultural colony; the second was given to a Parisian capitalist for putting up and working one or more paper factories; two others fell to Brazilian capitalists, one being for the establishment of a cotton-spinning factory and the other for working the deposits of iron and manganese ore at Antonina. The capital for these two projects is now being raised in Belgium. An import firm is also building a match factory in Paranagua, a port town. Its erection is being rapidly pushed and is to commence operations during the present winter.

OPPORTUNITY FOR COTTON GROWING.

The "Brazilian Review," in the course of an article regarding the dependence of the English mills upon the cotton of the United States, says that enough cotton could be grown in the northern part of Brazil to clothe the whole world. If undertaken on a large and comprehensive scale, it could be grown at much less cost than in the United States. Some of the reasons for this are the low price of labor and cheap currency. The "Review" states that the cotton-growing States of Brazil are the most densely populated of the country. "A powerful association for the plantation (*sic*) of cotton in the northern States could not fail to be as profitable to planters as advantageous to home manufacturers if properly undertaken, and deserves to be seriously considered."

During the ten months ending with October 31, 1900, Great Britain imported from Brazil (according to the official returns) 24,490,200 pounds of cotton, valued at £604,954. During the same period in 1899 the imports aggregated only 673,800 pounds, at a total valuation of £11,674. The total value of all kinds of cotton piece goods exported to Brazil from Great Britain during the first ten months of 1900 was £903,905, against £1,013,545 during the same period in 1899.

CONSULAR INVOICES.

According to an order of the Government, as published in the "Gazeta Oficial" of October 20, 1900, all invoices for goods shipped to Brazil will, from December 9, 1900, have to be certified by a Brazilian Consul residing in the town or Province from which the goods are sent.

The "Bulletin Commercial" of Brussels says that the application of the measure demanding consular invoices for imports of merchandise destined to the United States of Brazil has been postponed from December 9 to January 1, 1901.

PRECIOUS STONES AND MINERALS.

It is stated that there were exported from the State of Minas Geraes in the first half of the present year precious stones and minerals to the value of 12,623,000 *milreis*. Of this sum, diamonds were represented by 255,000, gold by 7,034,000, and manganese by 5,334,000 *milreis*.

PORTO ALEGRE CUSTOM-HOUSE.

The Belgian Consulate at Porto Alegre has informed the Department of Foreign Affairs at Brussels that, according to a communication from the Brazilian Treasury delegate, the customs bureau of Porto Alegre was reopened the 1st of last September.

CHILE.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF HYGIENE, PHARMACY, AND DENTISTRY.

The Bureau of the American Republics has been supplied with a programme of the Exhibition of Hygiene, Dentistry, and Pharmacy that is to be held in Santiago de Chile under the auspices of the Chilean Government (mentioned in the MONTHLY BULLETIN for September, 1900, p. 523), beginning December 25, 1900. The Legation of Chile in Washington has issued a large number of invitations in the name of the Organizing Committee of said exhibition to United States manufacturing or business firms producing or trading in the several articles mentioned in the programme, to attend as exhibitors. At the same time these persons were informed that W. R. GRACE & Co., of New York, and W. R. GRACE & Co.'s agency at San Francisco would undertake to receive and ship (and transship, where necessary) any goods forwarded to this exhibition, and that the agency of this firm at Valparaiso was willing to act as consignees of such exhibits in the ordinary commercial terms. The firm also granted special freight rates on its "Merchant's Steamship Line."

This exhibition is being held concurrently with a Latin-American Medical Congress, of which Dr. JOSÉ JOAQUIN AGUIRRE, President of the High Counsel of Hygiene, ex-Rector of the National University, ex-Dean and ex-Professor of the Faculty of Medicine, is the Honorary President; Dr. MANUEL BARROS BORGONO, ex-Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Professor of Clinical Surgery, and Member of the Board of Public Instruction, is President; Dr. OCTAVIO MAIRA, Professor of Internal Pathology at the Faculty of Medicine and member of the Superior Board of Hygiene, is Secretary; Dr. AGUSTIN GANA URZUA, President of the "Union Medica" and Hospital Physician, is Treasurer, together with a Board of Commissioners of fifteen distinguished physicians.

The exhibition is under the following plan:

I. Instruments of research and demonstrations of hygiene: These are exhibited under eight separate classifications.

II. Demography: Hanging scrolls or placards on general demography and specially concerning Latin-American demography.

III. Drinking waters: Plans, models, etc., for the distribution of drinking waters in houses, manufacturing establishments, towns, and cities. Water purification, filters, etc., with an annex of samples of mineral waters, schedules of analyses, photographic views, etc.

IV. Drainage: Models divided into six classes for the disposal of night soil, garbage, polluted waters, etc.

V. Dwellings: Plans for perfect hygienic dwellings; building

material; samples of bathrooms and appliances; toilet rooms, etc., in thirteen classifications.

VI. Street hygiene: Divided into eight classes of samples, plans and appliances.

VII. Public baths: Plans for workingmen's and general public baths, two classifications.

VIII. Hygienic dress: Six classifications of textile and rubber materials and garments, including hats and shoes.

IX. Foodstuffs and beverages: Eight classifications of articles of food and drink, with plans of model hygienic slaughtering and sales establishments. Diseases of cattle and those contracted from diseased animals are subclassified under this head. Alcoholism is a separate classification.

X. Protection to infancy: Three classifications of food, milk, and cradles.

XI. Nursing of the sick: Three classifications of articles for sick rooms and hospitals, two classifications for transportation and assistance of the sick, and material for antiseptic treatment.

XII. Public buildings: Eight classifications, including plans of schoolhouses, hospitals, asylums, libraries, prisons, slaughter houses, etc., together with furniture and appliances.

XIII. Epidemology: Referring especially to epidemic diseases and the way to prevent them and their spreading, including samples of disinfectants and disinfectant apparatus for public and private places. Smallpox, tuberculosis, diphtheria, rabies, carbuncle, typhus, and bubonic plague are specialized.

XIV. Hygiene of railways, tramways, and public carriages.

XV. Hygiene in the navy.

XVI. Hygiene in cemeteries.

XVII. Hygiene in hair-cutting saloons.

XVIII. Fire brigades: Hygienic buildings, etc.

XIX. Industrial hygiene, in manufactories and shops.

XX. Military hygiene: In barracks, on the march, and in the field.

XXI. Pharmacy: Exhibits of apparatus and instruments. Plans of plants for manufacturing nineteen different classes of articles.

XXII. Dental exhibition: Divided into four principal sections.

XXIII. Pan-American hygienic literature: Books, maps, plans, tables, diagrams, reviews, periodicals, and daily papers on hygiene.

The articles imported for this exhibition were admitted free of duty, with the privilege of remaining in Chile for six months, but should any of them be sold then the duty will be collected by the Chilean Government. The Institute in Santiago will probably purchase some of them to serve as a basis of a museum now being formed. Doubtless the report of this exhibition will be published, and if so, copies can be procured of the "Secretaría General del Congreso Medico," Calle de los Rosas, Num. 1063, Santiago, Chile.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE REPUBLIC.

"When considering," says the "Südamarikanische Rundschau," "the relatively short time in which the industrial development of Chile has been going on, as well as the unpropititous geographical position of the country, the rapid advance of a number of Chilean industries is simply astonishing. While this success is due in part to foreign influence, not the least of which is the numerous German element, it must, on the other hand, be conceded in all fairness that the Chilean people have in no sense been dilatory.

"The Chilean possesses ability and energy and displays that application which is necessary to progress. The oldest industries of the country are those of mining and agriculture. The first furnishes to the chemical and agricultural industries of Europe for more than 2,000,000,000 of *marks*' worth of iodine and saltpeter; further, large quantities of silver, copper, and gold—the 'Chanarcillo' mine alone for 138,000,000 *pesos*—and the ultimate possibilities have by no means been reached. Just as soon as the means of communication are further completed an increase in the production may be surely expected.

"The condition of agriculture is not so good. This is especially the case with the vineyards, in which 760,000,000 *pesos* have been expended. The production is large and the quality is good, but it does not seem possible to compete with the importation, as the population gives preference to the European wines. The state of the sugar industry is better. In order to make the country independent of the refined sugar of Europe and Peru a refinery was established in 1871 in Vina del Mar, near Valparaiso, which has continually prospered and has a capital of 5,000,000,000 *marks*. This was succeeded by other establishments, and finally a factory for the production of beet sugar was erected, and extensive complexes have been planted to furnish the necessary beets. Oil mills have been built, in which not alone the olive of the country, but also the cocoanut and copra from Samoa and Tahiti are worked.

"The importation of beer has entirely ceased since the product of the local breweries, chiefly in German hands, supply the Chilean market and further export the product to the value of 8,000,000 *marks* yearly to Central America, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia. Chile has further a number of preserve and chocolate factories, all supplied with the newest machinery of the best construction.

"The textile industry of the Republic is somewhat backward; considerable progress has been made, however, notwithstanding. Protected by the tariff, which permits the free importation of yarns, but which levies duty upon the manufactured goods, a number of English industrial undertakings have been established, which in all probability will have a bright future. At the present time the Chilean press is

deprecating the fact that the home manufacture of machinery, etc., is not sufficiently protected by duties. According to them the revision of the tariff in the year 1897 did not take this branch sufficiently into consideration. The first mechanical workshops in Chile were established fifty years ago. They now occupy a very important position and receive orders from all the neighboring countries.

"The establishments of BALFOUR, LYON & Co., boilers and bridges; HARDIE & Co., piping, cylindrical, and agricultural machinery; MURPHY, LEBER & Co., locomotives, railway, and shipbuilding material; and MORRISON & Co., mining and agricultural machinery, have customers throughout all South America, and rank with the great European concerns in their various branches. The manufacture of cement is conducted on a large scale and competes successfully with the German, English, and Belgian article. German activity and German capital early recognized the importance of Chile as an industrial State, and there are still many opportunities for German investments. Numerous mines still lack necessary capital for development, notwithstanding they promise large profits. The same is also true of agricultural undertakings."

A correspondent of the "London Times," writing from Valparaiso under date of September 7, 1900, states that there has been marked industrial progress in Chile during the three months previous. A fair amount of capital has been attracted to a hitherto languishing copper district near the port of Antofagasta. Existing copper mines, such as those of Copiapo, are steadily increasing their output. After a period of depression, due to the flooding of the deeper levels, the Huanchaca silver mine is once more in a condition of profitable working. This mine, though located in Bolivia, is essentially a Chilean industry, as it is directed from Valparaiso, and its shares are chiefly held by Chileans. Attention is being paid to the development of new coal and copper properties in the south of Chile.

The system of protection lately adopted is already bearing fruit in sugar refineries, boot manufactories, establishments for tinning meat and canning fruit, for the galvanizing of iron, and, if reports current are true, of the successful floating in England of companies, woolen and cotton factories will soon be established in the country. An attempt is being made to grow beet roots on a large scale. A movement is on foot to amalgamate the four large breweries in the country, all of which produce excellent beer. As a result of this industrial activity, the correspondent says, the exports have, of late, been materially in excess of the imports, and the equilibrium of exchange has so far been restored that the paper dollar is almost at par. The value of local shares in banks and gas and other industrial companies has risen from 10 to, in some cases, more than 20 per cent. The rate of interest

at the banks is being reduced and an expectation prevails of a restoration of the condition of commerce which prevailed previous to 1891.

RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT.

The "London Times" states that the present Government of Chile is credited with a special anxiety to provide the Republic with a complete system of internal communication in the form of a trunk railway line traversing the country from north to south and connected, where necessary, with the ports on the coast and the rich Andean valleys by lateral branches. In another article of the present issue of the MONTHLY BULLETIN it can be seen that the Government is asking bids for certain railway material, and it would seem that the time is opportune for engineers and dealers in railway material in the United States to secure contracts from Chile.

From a recent number of the "Chilian Times" it is learned that the tender of TOMAS JACOBSEN & Co. for the construction of a branch railway from Talca to San Clemente has been accepted. The contract price is $191,600 and the time allowed for construction is 420 days. For every day exceeding this time the contractor will be required to pay a fine of $100, but should he complete the work in less than the number of days specified he will be entitled to a premium of $50 for each day's time saved.

The offer of LEVER, MURPHY & Co. to supply 25 ballast cars of 1 meter gauge for $1,130 each, delivered in Talca, has been accepted by the Ministry of Public Works.

Work on the railway from Punta Arenas to the Loreto coal mine has been commenced.

The grading for the Elqui Railway was completed as far as Huancara, near Vicuña, on the 1st of December, 1900.

There are now open for traffic, in the city of Santiago, 36 kilometers of electric railways.

The "South American Journal" of November 10 states that negotiations are in progress between the Chilean Government and the firm of GRACE & Co. for the completion of the Central Railway up to Tarapaca. It appears that there are some 1,300 kilometers of line still to construct, the cost of which would be $25,000 per kilometer, or $30,000,000. As the work could be started at several places, it is believed that the whole line could be finished in five or six years. The most difficult parts to construct are from Serena to Vallenar, 200 kilometers, and from Antofagasta northward about 250 kilometers.

"Commercial Intelligence," of London, in its issue for November 24, 1900, states that "in Chile until lately no other than English goods would be considered by the importers of Santiago and Valparaiso. Recent shipments, however, show that American (United States) goods

are gradually being bought." At the present time there are chances to secure in Chile orders for railway material. Reports from that country show that Mr. José Pedro Alexandri has been awarded the contract for building a new railway from Temuco to Carahue, to cost about £295,000. Victor Romero Silva has secured the contract for railways from Alcones to Pickilemua, and Juan de la Fuente has the contract for a tunnel on the line to Cardonal. It is stated that the Government will spend about £50,000 in improving the railway from Trapiche to Ovalle, and has purchased the line from Tongoy to Trapiche, and the branch line to Tamaya. Señor R. Garcia is the Director-General, and Señor E. Vigneaux is the Chief Engineer, and both can be addressed at Santiago de Chile. These appear to be excellent opportunities for United States exporting houses and for American engineers.

The Belgian Consul at Santiago, says the "Bulletin Commercial" of Brussels, states that recently the important American house of Grace & Co. has been engaged in conference with influential Chileans for the agreement upon some economical plan for the completion of the longitudinal railway of northern Chile.

This line will extend from Calera to Pisagua, a total length of nearly 2,300 kilometers, more than 1,300 kilometers of which are still to be built. The width of the road being uneven in certain isolated portions of the line, it will be necessary to relay the greater part of it. The length of the road which can be used is 942 kilometers.

It would be premature, says the Consul, to express any opinion as to the value of this enterprise now, as the plans are not yet finished. However, the cost of this enterprise will not be less than £6,000,000, an amount equal to about one-third of the actual public debt of Chile. The mining resources of the country, its satisfactory financial situation, thanks to its heavy receipts from saltpeter, make the realization of this project possible, and it should attract the attention of foreign capitalists.

"Chile has always been interested in the construction of this line, the strategic value of which is of first importance. It will open up the northern Provinces rich in saltpeter which at the present time can only be reached by water. While this line will prove a great factor in the development of the northern Provinces, it does not seem destined to yield large profits. Consequently the construction and exploitation will not be the object of private enterprise, as is the case for the other northern lines. But the Chilean Government, having a direct interest in its completion, will undoubtedly be disposed to lend its financial aid to any serious proposition within the financial means of the country."

CALL FOR TENDERS FOR RAILWAY MATERIAL.

Through the Chilean Legation the Board of Directors of the State Railways of Chile have decided to call for tenders from national and

foreign manufacturers for the provision of rolling stock as follows: Three sleeping cars, 12 first-class passenger cars, 8 second-class passenger cars, 6 consolidated freight engines, 3 railway breakdown steam cranes, and 100 pressed and rolled steel coal cars of 24 tons capacity.

Specifications can be seen at the Legation in Washington. The bidders will be required to deposit a certified check with the cashier of the Chilean Railways for 5 per cent of the amount of the tender. Drawings and detailed specifications of the latest improved rolling stock, with the weight, must accompany the bids. The directors may accept any bid they prefer without prejudice, and the award will be made on February 6, 1901.

In the United States the 5 per cent guaranty on the amount of the tenders may be deposited in a national bank to the order of the Minister of Chile to the United States, Señor Don C. Morla Vicuña, No. 1719 De Sales street, Washington, D. C.

The tenders, together with the necessary general drawings and detailed specifications, should be addressed to Chile on or before December 25, mail day, by the way of New York, Colon, Panama, in order to be certain of reaching Santiago in time.

EXHIBITS AT THE BUFFALO EXPOSITION.

A translation from an article in "El Ferrocarril," of Santiago, conveys important information regarding that South American Republic at the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo. The most extensive and representative exhibition of the products of the country will be made at the Exposition, and an appropriation of 500,000 *pesos*, equal to about $185,000 gold coin of the United States, has been provided for the purpose of defraying its expenses. A decree of the Department of Industry and Public Works, addressed to a large number of societies, gives notice that the invitation of the United States to participate in the Pan-American Exposition has been accepted, and that in order that a fitting selection may be made of the intellectual and material resources of Chile a National Exposition will be held as the best means to the attainment of that end. In this way the products best calculated for displaying the resources of Chile will be collected, and after the National Exposition is over will be forwarded to Buffalo for the Pan-American Exposition.

The National Exposition was opened on December 8, 1900, in the Normal School of Agriculture of Santiago, and will close on January 6, 1901. The decree sets forth the classification to be followed in collecting and grouping the exhibition and creates an executive committee for the Pan-American Exposition composed of 11 members, including the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Washington, the Secretary of the Legation, the Consuls of Chile at Buffalo and New York, and the Commissioner-General of the Chilean section,

who will be the Vice-Chairman of the committee and the Secretary-General of that section. The decree also creates an organization for the direction of the National Exposition. The latter will be of a quite extensive character, and will doubtless result in the collection of a most representative exhibit for the Buffalo Exposition.

COMMITTEE OF THE PORT AT VALPARAISO.

The Chilean Minister of Finance has issued a decree establishing a Committee of the Port of Valparaiso to consist of the Intendente of Valparaiso as president, the Administrator of the Customs, the Director of the Maritime Territory of the Republic, the Maritime Governor of Valparaiso, four merchants nominated by the Chamber of Commerce from among the shipowners or agents and consignees of steamship companies, one delegate elected by the municipality, and a hydraulic engineer appointed by the Government. This committee is charged with the duty of suggesting and superintending maritime works which will add to the safety and convenience of the shipping visiting the port. It will also draft and propose to the Government laws and regulations tending to meet the requirements of the commerce of the port and improve the arrangements and carrying on of the maritime works. The committee will also suggest each year the new works required to be effected, with the estimates of their cost. The manner in which the money voted by the Government to meet these estimates is said to be laid out and the control of the works during their construction are intrusted to the committee. The dredging of the bay, the lights, signals, buoys, etc., are placed under the care of this new body.

WHEAT AND BARLEY CROPS.

According to the report to the German Government from the Imperial Consul-General at Valparaiso, made under date of June 21, 1900, the exports of wheat from Chile since January 1 of this year amounted to only about 6,000,000 kilograms, or about 220,000 bushels. The exports for 1899 amounted to 45,812,687 kilograms (1,683,328 bushels), against 76,964,606 kilograms (2,827,964 bushels) in 1898. The very small export in the early part of 1900 is due to the short crop of 1899–1900. Up to the date of the Consul-General's report the weather has been favorable to the wheat newly sown for the crop of 1900–1901.

The exports of barley rose from about 18,000,000 kilograms (826,733 bushels) in 1898 to about 25,000,000 kilograms (1,148,240 bushels) in 1899.

NEW MINISTRY.

The United States Minister at Santiago reported to the Department of State at Washington, under date of October 23, the formation of a

new Ministry in Chile. The personnel of the new Cabinet is as follows:

Minister of the Interior, Don Elias Fernández Albano.
Minister of Foreign Relations, Don Manuel Salinas.
Minister of Justice, Don Emilio Bello-Condecilo.
Minister of War and Marine, Don Ricardo Matte Pérez.
Minister of the Treasury, Don Ramón Santelices.
Minister of Industry and Public Works, Don Rafael Orrego.

ORGANIZATION OF FIRE INSURANCE COMPANIES.

The "Diario Oficial," of Santiago, under date of October 25, 1900, publishes in full the by-laws of the newly organized insurance company called "La Propietaria." The company is incorporated for a period of one hundred years, and its capital stock is $2,000,000, divided into 4,000 shares of $500 each. A general fire insurance business will be transacted from the principal offices of the company in Valparaiso, and branches may be established in other cities of the Republic as the necessities of the business require.

Another important fire insurance company recently organized in Chile, with its main offices at Valparaiso, is the Italian insurance company, "La Roma." This company will transact a fire and marine insurance business throughout the Republic, and may establish branch offices in various parts of the country as the exigencies of the business may require. Its capital is $2,000,000, divided into 10,000 shares of $200 each.

NEW COMMERCIAL ORGANIZATION.

A commercial company has been organized at Lebu under the name of "Armadores de Lebu and Cañetes." This company will engage in the purchase and sale of all kinds of maritime vessels and equipments, will transport freight and passengers, acquire the buildings and real estate necessary for its operations, and in general will transact all kinds of business belonging to the maritime service. The company is organized for a period of nine years, and may be prorogued at the expiration of that time if desired. The capital stock is $30,000, which may be increased whenever the shareholders may deem it necessary.

FORFEITURE OF WATER-RIGHT CONCESSION.

The "Diario Oficial" of October 18, 1900, publishes a decree declaring forfeited the concession granting the use of the water rights of Cachinal de la Sierra to Mr. Julio Braun on November 4, 1892. The same decree grants these water rights to The Lautaro Nitrate Company, Limited, for use in the preparation by that company of nitrate for the market.

ANTOFAGASTA COPPER MINING COMPANY.

The Antofagasta Copper Company of Valparaiso has recently been organized with a capital of £65,000. The principal object of the company is the exploitation of twenty-nine copper mines purchased by it in the district of Chuquicamata, in the Department of Antofagasta. The company also contemplates establishing a smelter in the vicinity of its mines, and will engage in the business of buying and smelting of copper ores.

IMPORTANT PATENTS.

Mr. George Asa Barnes has been granted a patent for nine years covering certain improvements made in his machines for the manufacture of paper boxes; also on improvements made in match-making machinery of his invention.

A patent has been issued to Señor Don Juan Francisco Elgue protecting his metallurgical process for the smelting of copper ores. This patent is good for twenty years.

BRICK MANUFACTORY.

The National Steam Brick Factory of Valparaiso, with a paid-up capital of $150,000, was organized in September, 1900. This company will engage on a large scale in the manufacture of bricks and tiles, and will make a specialty of supplying the needs of the cities of Valparaiso and Santiago with first-class building materials of the kinds mentioned. In the equipment of its plant the company proposes to purchase the most modern and approved machinery used in the manufacture of these products, and will make this plant one of the most complete manufactories of the kind in the Republic.

COSTA RICA.

BUDGET FOR 1900–1901.

The Congress of Costa Rica has fixed the amount of the budget for the fiscal year 1900 to 1901 at 6,760,707.90 *colones*. Of this sum 80,880 *colones* have been set aside for the expenses of the Legislative Department, 6,436,787.90 *colones* for the use of the Executive Department, and 243,040 *colones* for the use of the Judicial Department. "La Gaceta," of San Jose, the official organ of the Costa Rican Government, in its issue of November 4, 1900, contains a detailed estimate of the expenditures covered by the amounts mentioned above.

FIRE PROTECTION—FREE ADMISSION OF CERTAIN BUILDING MATERIAL.

The Congress of the Republic of Costa Rica, bearing in mind the destructive conflagration that recently almost completely destroyed the city of Limón, and wishing to avoid as far as possible the recurrence of such a lamentable catastrophe, and in order to better protect the people and at the same time encourage and develop the commerce of that important port, promulgated, under date of November 3, 1900, the following decree:

"ARTICLE 1. The use of lumber (wood material) for the covering of roofs and the exterior walls of buildings that may be hereafter erected in the city of Limón is hereby prohibited.

"Temporary structures erected within the two years following the publication of this law, built in blocks 17, 18, 28, and 29 of the official plan of the city, are excepted from the foregoing prohibition, provided also that said buildings be only one story high, and with the understanding that at the expiration of said term the owner is obligated to remove them.

"ART. 2. For a period of two years, counting from this date, the introduction of iron posts, girders, and frames for the construction of buildings are free from customs and wharfage duties, as are also brick, cement, clay pipes for sewer connections, lime and cloth for fireproof roofs, and dressed and undressed lumber, beams, joists, scantling, and round and hewn logs destined exclusively for use in said city."

RAILWAY MATERIAL EXEMPT FROM DUTIES.

"La Gaceta Oficial" of November 2, 1900, publishes a decree exempting from customs and wharfage duties for ten years longer the material and rolling stock brought into the country for the construction of railroads that may be built on lands adjoining the Atlantic railway referred to in decree number 3 of November 12, 1898.

CUBA.

MAIL SERVICE WITH THE UNITED STATES.

According to a notice issued to postmasters in the United States by the Superintendent of Mails at Washington, arrangements have been made under which mails for the Province of Santiago will be made up at the post-office in Philadelphia and dispatched thence by means of the contract mail steamers of the American Mail Steamship Company, which sail from Philadelphia every Thursday morning, arriving at

Santiago early the following Monday morning. The steamers of the New York and Cuba Mail Steamship Company sail from New York on alternate Thursdays for Santiago, but as seven or eight days are occupied by these steamers in the trip, preference is given by the Department to the steamers from Philadelphia for articles for Santiago. "Hereafter mails for the Province of Santiago, Cuba, will be forwarded as far as possible via the steamers sailing from Philadelphia, thereby securing the most expeditious route for the transmission of mails from this country destined for the above-mentioned offices in Cuba."

PAN-AMERICAN MEDICAL CONGRESS.

The Pan-American Medical Congress, which was to have been held at Havana from December 26 to 29, 1900, has been postponed till February 5, 1901. This congress will be in session from and including the date named up to and including February 9.

DUTY ON OLEOMARGARINE.

In the MONTHLY BULLETIN for September it was stated that there was no tariff duty upon the imports of oleomargarine into Cuba. This was an error, as, according to No. 244 of the Customs Tariff of the island, the duty is $7 per 100 kilograms, or at the rate per pound of slightly less than 3.18 cents. The reference in the September BULLETIN was intended to be limited to the internal-revenue regulations relating to the sale of oleomargarine.

CUSTOMS AND INTERNAL REVENUE RECEIPTS.

The Division of Customs and Insular Affairs of the War Department of the United States has prepared a statement of receipts from all sources at the custom houses in Cuba for the first ten months of 1900. The total receipts were $13,215,499.03. For the same ten months of 1899 the receipts were $12,120,991.59. This shows an increase of $1,094,507.44. The increase for October, 1900, over October, 1899, was $76,174.55.

The internal revenue collections for the month of August, 1900, amounted to $59,469.91. These were derived from the following sources:

Conveyance and inheritance tax, $27,414.68; industrial and commercial tax, $23,874.70; redemptions of rent charges, $88.33; interest of rent charges, $3,299.95; interest of liabilities, $215.04; rents of State properties, $416.50; sale of material, $81.45; eventual proceeds, $4,079.26.

ECUADOR.

INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS.

During the first six months of 1900, writes Mr. JOURJON, French Counselor of Foreign Commerce at Guayaquil, a decrease of 93,445 quintals is noted in the cacao crop in comparison with that for last year. However, last year's crop was not a normal one, but exceptionally good, so that this year's production is not so far below the average except by comparison with an exceptional one.

The exports of Ecuadorian cacao to France for this first half year have greatly decreased not only from last year but since 1895.

The exploitation of rubber, which at present is only practiced on a limited scale here, is very profitable. There are immense regions in the east practically unexplored where rubber grows in abundance. A few companies are already established here to gather the rubber, but there is room for many more.

The methods of exploitation generally practiced are deplorable; the trees are cut instead of simply being tapped.

During the last three years the exports were:

Year.	Quantity.	Value.
	Kilograms.	*Sucres.*
1897	87,656	121,212
1898	177,283	355,824
1899	150,496	345,105

Thanks to the new monetary law and to the putting into circulation of the new gold money, the *condor* being equivalent to £1 or 10 *sucres*, exchange has fallen a few points and has a tendency to fall still lower.

Exchange was maintained in 1898, 1899, and in the beginning of 1900 at 100 per cent maximum by a contract signed by the exporters.

To-day the rates can be fixed at three days' sight.

Exchange on Paris, bank, 95 per cent; commercial, 94 per cent.

Exchange on London, bank, 97 per cent; commercial, 96 per cent.

Exchange on New York, bank, 102 per cent; commercial, 101 per cent.

During the first six months of 1900 the following insurance policies were issued:

Month.	Policies.	Premiums.
	Sucres.	*Sucres.*
January	1,096,670	60,730.21
February	1,094,200	59,809.16
March	1,158,306	61,601.16
April	882,755	45,984.18
May	951,150	52,120.04
June	891,700	33,892.20
Total	6,074,781	314,136.95

RAILWAY NEWS ITEMS.

It is reported that a commission has been appointed by the Government of Ecuador to inquire into the merits of a proposal submitted by Mr. E. Catsafort with reference to the construction of a railroad from Quito to Bahia. A concession for a period of ninety-nine years is asked for, together with a grant of the necessary lands and a guarantee of interest at the rate of 4 per cent per annum on the capital employed in carrying out the undertaking.

According to recent information much activity is exhibited in pushing forward the works connected with the construction of the Southern of Ecuador Railway.

GUATEMALA.

IMPROVED EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES.

"El Gualtemalteco," of Guatemala, official organ of the Government, in its issue of October 17, 1900, contains an important decree with reference to the promotion of public instruction in that prosperous Republic. The liberal-minded representatives of the Guatemalan people in the Congress of the nation, in harmony with the manifest wishes of a majority of the inhabitants of that Republic, are keenly alive to the necessity of an extensive and gradual improvement in the system and methods of instruction now in force in the public schools of the country, and are making strenuous efforts for the betterment of educational facilities and improvements in every department of public instruction.

With this object in view, the Government has therefore called together a conference of teachers and others interested in this subject for the purpose of discussing educational matters, and in order to formulate a system or plan for a better and more satisfactory advancement in the teaching of the primary, secondary, and normal grades of instruction. With the intention of interesting to a greater extent the teachers and educators of the Republic, the Government, in the decree above referred to, offers a prize of $10,000 for the most desirable plan of instruction presented, in writing, to its consideration. These plans must be submitted to the Department of Public Instruction on or before the 15th of December, 1900. A jury will be appointed to examine the plans and make the award. The accepted plans will serve as a basis or foundation for the proposed educational law that will be presented to the Guatemalan Congress with respect to primary, secondary, and normal instruction.

PROPOSED MOUNTAIN ROAD.

General JUAN LUIS BUERON, of Guatemala, who is known as one of those who accompanied Gen. JOHN C. FREMONT on his second hazardous trip across the Rocky Mountains, arrived in the United States for the second time in November, 1900. General BUERON's errand was to interest capitalists in a financial way. He has a concession from his Government for a line of road over the Chuepache Mountains, around the great volcano of Santa Maria, which is 14,000 feet high. There is a road from Champerico to San Felipe, the former being the seaport. From San Felipe the proposed road, which will be a Cremallaire cog-wheel line, will ascend 7,000 feet to the summit and go down 1,000 feet to Quesaltenango.

The grades will be about 9 per cent, and as there is in the Samala River water power to develop 8,000 horsepower of electricity, that will be the agent used. This will open a rich country, as the high plateaus will, it is said, grow anything that can be found in the Ohio Valley in the United States. There are also many mines in tributary regions.

THE ALTOS RAILWAY.

The Government has approved the plans and survey of the Altos Railway, recommending, however, that the curves of the line be made as large as possible, and in no case are they to be less than 30 degrees. The $30,000 in bonds of the national debt, deposited as a guarantee for the fulfillment of the terms of the contract, will be returned to the concessionaire.

MEXICO.

INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT DÍAZ.

President PORFIRIO DÍAZ, escorted by his military staff and the Presidential Guards, left his home at 9 o'clock on December 1, 1900, and passing through streets lined with troops went to the Hall of the House of Representatives, where he took the oath as President of the Republic for the next four years.

The only occupants of the diplomatic box in the Chamber of Deputies when the President took the oath of office were the United States Ambassador, Gen. POWELL CLAYTON, Baron MONCHEUR, the Belgian Minister, and FENTON R. MCCREERY, WILLIAM HEIMKE, and PHILIP M. HOEFELE, first, second, and third secretaries, and Lieut. POWELL CLAYTON, Jr., military attaché of the United States embassy, and VINCENTE MORALES, introducer of ambassadors.

After the President had returned to the national palace and the Diplomatic Corps offered its congratulations, all the members of the corps were present in their state uniforms. As reported by the "Mexican Herald," General CLAYTON, as Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, spoke as follows:

"Mr. PRESIDENT: Upon this occasion of general rejoicing by the Mexican people over the accession of Your Excellency to another term of the great office to which they have called you, we, of the Diplomatic Corps, desire to add to theirs our hearty and cordial felicitations. The uniform kindness and courtesy Your Excellency has so graciously bestowed upon us in the past, and the amity and justice with which we have been met in the conduct of the affairs of our respective Governments with yours, cause us to congratulate each other upon the continuance of the Chief Magistracy of Your Excellency.

"We have noticed with great pleasure the eminent success of the national administration which has just closed, and, with equal pleasure, we observe the very auspicious circumstances attending that which has just commenced. Permit us to express the fervent wish that Your Excellency's health and strength may be preserved for the arduous duties that are before you, and that the term of office commenced to-day, may, at its close, mark the era, up to that time, of Mexico's greatest prosperity.

"Again Mr. President, we tender our most sincere felicitations, and beg that Your Excellency will accept our best wishes for yourself, your Government, and the Mexican people."

The President's answer was in substance as follows:

"Mr. AMBASSADOR: I express my sincere thanks for the felicitations of the diplomatic corps on this occasion and to yourself for the cordial terms in which they were conveyed. Mexico esteems highly the good will of the nations with which she is on friendly relations, and desires to facilitate the missions of the honorable Diplomatic Corps residing here by every means in her power. It has been a pleasure to me to receive its members here to-day, and while thanking you again for your good wishes I beg you to accept the expression of my sincere desires for the health and happiness of the rulers of your respective nations and the prosperity of their people."

HENEQUEN PRODUCTS.

The "Südamerikanische Rundschau" reports that the Exposition of the Colonial Committee in the Museum of the Botanical Gardens in Berlin showed a large number of fibers from Mexico, which have attracted particular attention to that country on account of its richness in this class of products, which is unsurpassed in the world. It is a fact that various kinds of *agave* and *bromelie* were known for

many centuries by the Aztecs, and used by them for different textile purposes, and that the National Museum in the city of Mexico to-day possesses tapestries made entirely from these fibers, and further, that the cultivation of *agave* fibers is one of the most important industries of the country.

Of especial value is the *henequen* or sisal, the *pulque*, and *mezcal*. The *henequen agave*, from which the *henequen* or sisal hemp is produced, is the most sought of any of a similar kind in the world and is cultivated chiefly in the Peninsula of Yucatan on the Gulf of Mexico. There are to be found some 300 plantations of a total area of 35,000 hectares with 16,000 laborers. The largest of the plantations are supplied with the most modern appliances, such as electric light, steam power, narrow-gauge railroads, etc. The exportation of *henequen* hemp from Yucatan in the past three years amounted to 1,275,000 bales, of 150 kilograms each, the average price being $16.60 per 100 kilograms. The cost of production, including shipping charges, export duty, etc., is $3.10 per 100, so that the planter has a profit of about 450 per cent. It is possible to obtain a by-product from the leaves from which a very good paper could be made, but to date nothing has been done in this line.

Recently a German, Alfred Heydrich, of Cologne, established a large factory near Merida, with a capital of 2,500,000 *marks*, for the purpose of manufacturing products from the *henequen* hemp. Notwithstanding that the culture of the *henequen* exists in Cuba and the Bahamas, and recently has been established in the provinces of German East Africa, it is conceded that the fiber degenerates in these countries and that their product is of less value than that of Mexico. Another kind of Mexican *agave* which has a bright future for industrial purposes is the *maguey agave*, or the *Agave americana*, from which the Mexican national drink, *pulque*, is obtained. This fiber grows on the high plateaus and, like the *henequen* plant, has no appreciable effect upon the soil. The value of the *pulque*, a milky juice obtained from this plant, is said to be 4,500,000 *pesos* yearly. It might prove of greater value, however, to the Mexican agriculturists if this plant were used for some profitable industries. It contains a very fine fiber, exceeding in durability and beauty the ramie. There are at present on the Plains of Apam, in Mexico, 278 *maguey agave* plantations, each with an average of 500,000 plants. From these plants it would be possible to obtain 690,000,000 kilograms of fibers, which, at an estimated value of 10 *pesos* per 100 kilograms, would mean a revenue of 69,000,000 *pesos*. As the life of the plant is ten years, a profit of 69,000 *pesos* per annum would thus be obtained. The attempt to plant the Indian jute has been productive of good results, so that great success is expected with this plant in Mexico.

WONDERFUL RESOURCES OF THE REPUBLIC.

As the wonderful natural resources of Mexico are being revealed, not only mineral but agricultural as well, and as opportunities and inducements for manufacturing establishments are being made public, the attention of the capitalists of all the leading commercial countries is being attracted to that Republic as a field of investment. In commenting upon this fact the "Philadelphia Bulletin," in a recent issue, pays the following tribute to our sister Republic:

"Mexico is rapidly disclosing in her rich, tropical soil new fields for commercial conquest which are attracting the attention of capitalists from England, Germany, and the United States. The abundant yield of her rubber, coffee, sugar, and tobacco plantations has afforded surprising statistics on the growth to the acre until the fertility of the land has become one of the agricultural marvels of the age. To the staple articles already mentioned may be added cocoa, vanilla, oranges, lemons, pineapples, and bananas.

"Heretofore the agricultural development of those choice lands situated in the State of Chiapas, about 60 miles from the Gulf of Mexico, and watered by the famous Grijalva River, has been largely confined to Mexicans and Spaniards. It was impossible, however, longer to conceal from the world the great fertility of the soil which yielded them such handsome returns, and in a little while English and German capitalists bought up hundreds of thousands of acres and proceeded to work the land into all manner of plantations. Steamship communication was promptly established with the markets of the world, and prosperity rewarded enterprise by pouring the most bountiful crops into the laps of the aliens. But after all, this vast area, with its wonderful agricultural resources, has scarcely been touched, and presents a field for development capable of yielding greater fortunes than the gold fields of Alaska and Colorado combined, and with the advantage that its yielding powers are not only perpetual, but increased year by year by the careful nurturing of the fertile soil.

"But what of her great timbered tracts of mahogany, Spanish cedar, and other merchantable woods? The finest mahogany in the world grows along the Grijalva River, and not even the world's demand can deplete the unlimitable supply, quantities of which are now being cut and shipped to every market. Imagine thousands of acres of mahogany and try to approximate its value. There it stands in stately grandeur, calmly awaiting the woodman's summons to leave its native forests and go forth into the world to be petted and talked about as 'real' mahogany. Civilization is at last awakening to the fact that Mexico is the garden spot of the world. The exports from this favored country are increasing by leaps and bounds, and every dollar's worth of goods sent out brings back two in return—one in exchange for the product and the other to increase the development of the industry."

RICE PRODUCTION.

In a recent issue, "Modern Mexico" speaks of the Mexican method of preparing rice for the table, and also of the increased production of this cereal in the Republic.

Much more rice is used in Mexico to-day than formerly because more is grown there, and it is very much cheaper. In 1893 the crop of the country amounted to about 10,250,000 kilograms and was worth $2,000,000. In 1898 the crop of 21,000,000 kilograms was worth but $2,500,000. The chief rice-producing State is Morelos, whose crop in 1898 was valued at $685,000. The other States that raise rice, with the value of the crop in the same year, are as follows: Veracruz, $539,000; Michoacan, $306,000; Colima, $202,000; Tepic, $153,000; Oaxaca, $123,000; Puebla, $91,000; Jalisco, $76,000; San Luis Potosi, $47,000; Guerrero, $46,000, and Tabasco, $23,000.

DRAINING AN ANCIENT MINE.

An interesting mining operation is being completed in the Guanjuato district, famous as the richest mining territory in Mexico, in removing the water from the Sirena gold mine, which, after being worked from the year 1550, has been flooded and abandoned ever since the Mexican war of independence in 1822. There are at least 9 miles of workings in the old mine, and it has taken two years' labor with powerful electric pumps to remove the water already in the workings and to fight the incoming flow. The water was 1,000 feet deep when the work began, now it is less than 400 feet.

Just how much of the workings remains to be uncovered and what there is in and beyond them no one knows. Record keeping and chart making were done in very primitive fashion by the early Mexican miners. As the clearing of the mine has prospered curious relics have come to light. In one place, far below the water level, it is stated that the explorers came upon a stable half full of skeletons of mules and men who had been caught there by the rising flood.

The Sirena is the first of the old mines in the district to be drained. The project is carried out by a New York company, and it indicates the new channel in which modern mining methods in the old districts run. The company counts on making an immediate profit by going over the old workings and treating the ore out of which the Mexican miners with their mule power and hand labor could obtain no paying results. Electricity is being used where mule power failed, and when the water is all out of the mine the workings will be driven deeper than the old-time miners could ever have dreamed of operating them.

The same method is now being undertaken in other parts of the district. A German syndicate has acquired the famous Valenciana mine in the same vein, out of which many millions have been taken by the Mexicans. Another mine in the Veta Madré vein, which runs

through the district, yielded the King of Spain $17,000,000 in royalties. The feasibility of methods for removing the water from these mines has been discussed since the time of HUMBOLDT, who had a project for doing it by driving a tunnel 12 miles long into the vein, but it is only now that American enterprise has given a start to the work.

SALE OF GOLD MINES.

The rich gold mines of Escuadra and San Juan Bautista, in the district of Ocotlan, Oaxaca, are said by the Mexican papers to have been sold for $800,000 to a company of United States capitalists. This company is represented as having a capital of $2,000,000. The owner of the mines will receive $200,000 in cash and the balance of $600,000 in shares of the mining company.

THE MEXICAN RAILWAY.

The report of the Mexican Railway Company shows that the exceptional traffic in stone which the line has secured in recent years in connection with the construction of the Vera Cruz harbor is coming to an end. The quantity carried in the first half year of 1900 was 29,883 tons less than in the first half of 1899. The high price of coal appears to have seriously checked the importation of that article by Mexico, the quantity carried by the Mexican Railway having been only 8,000 tons up to July 1, 1900, as against 22,000 tons in the first six months of 1899. The shrinkage in these two articles is responsible for the decline of 42,000 tons in the quantity of goods carried by this railway. The increase of high-class goods has more than made up for the loss as noted above; for instance, the quantity of coffee carried has been 14,100 tons, as against 11,900 tons for the first six months of 1899, and the quantity of miscellaneous freight was 31,000 tons in comparison with 22,000 for the period compared. The gross earnings of the road increased £3,000 and the expenses £9,000. The road declared a dividend of 3¾ per cent as against 3¼ in 1899.

The Mexican Railway is the oldest railroad in Mexico, having been started in 1858. After a series of stoppages it was open from the City of Mexico to Vera Cruz in 1872. This road follows the general route taken by CORTEZ from the Gulf of Mexico to the ancient city of Tenochtitlan, now the City of Mexico. This railway recently established offices in the city of St. Louis, and it receives much of its income from freight charges on exports to and imports from the United States.

GENERAL USE OF ELECTRICITY.

The British representative in the City of Mexico, in the course of his annual report to the home government in London, refers to the extensive use of electricity and electrical appliances in the Republic. Electric batteries imported during the year 1899, he states, showed an

aggregate of 100 tons, valued at $46,960, gold. Of these 72 tons, worth $31,825, came from the United States; 10 tons, worth $8,880, from Germany; 2½ tons, worth $660, from France; 1½ tons, worth $2,045, from England, and 3 tons, worth $2,910, from Sweden. The electric incandescent lamps imported were valued at $9,495. More than one-half of these were from the United States, while Germany came next in importance, England's share being comparatively insignificant. There will always be a demand for electrical material, the English report says, as nearly every town of importance in the Republic is now lighted by electricity.

From trade journals of the United States the following items with reference to electrical matters have been taken:

The Mexican Telephone Company has recently completed the extension of its metallic system in the City of Mexico. The entire business section now has a metallic telephone system, whereas previously but a small area was thus supplied. The work upon the extension was commenced in the early spring of 1900, and has cost about $22,000, all of which has been paid from the earnings of the company.

The Governor of the State of Tabasco has issued an order that the telephone line systems in that State shall be at once extended from Chontalpa del Paraiso to Ceiba and Dos Bacos, the last-named town being located on the seacoast.

A new electric-light plant is being installed in the town of Zacoalco in the State of Jalisco.

LERMA WATER-POWER CONCESSION.

The Department of Public Works has made a contract with Señor Don Martín de Irigoyen, representing Messrs. Gastinel, Arnaud and Urquija, for the use, as motive power, of the waters of the Lerma River in the State of Michoacán.

In conformity with the terms of this contract the concessionaires may employ up to 4,000 liters of water per second, diverting same from the channel of the Lerma River in the district of Maravatio at the natural falls which exist at a point called "Arroyo Hondo," situated on the boundary of the "Las Piedras" plantation, where it joins the village of Yurécuaro.

The concessionaires are obliged to produce all the hydraulic power that may be obtained from the quantity of water mentioned, and to use same upon the spot or transform it into electric force and transmit it to such points as may best suit their convenience. For the transmission of the electric energy produced, overhead or underground wires may be employed.

A complete description, together with plans and detailed drawings, must be submitted to and approved by the Government. Construc-

tion is to be commenced within four months from the date of this approval, and must be completed within a period of five years from said date.

The concessionaires have the right to import, free of duty, the scientific instruments and apparatus necessary for the making of the survey and the construction and exploitation of the works.

IMPORTANT PATENTS.

The Mexican Government has issued a patent to the Security Cash Register Company, covering improvements made on cash-registering machines by Mr. EUGENE W. APPLEGATE, who cedes and transfers to the company all his rights and interest in the same. The life of the patent is twenty years.

A valuable twenty-year patent has been granted to FRANZ WALTHER WARTENBERGER, protecting his process for tanning hides.

A patent has been granted to Mr. EDWARD CANDISH MILLARD, conceding him exclusive privilege for a period of twenty years on the improved belts, bands, and similar articles of his invention.

Messrs. HENRY PALMER and JOHN WILLIAM DENMEAD have transferred the rights they have in a machine of their invention for the manufacture of matches from paper to the Diamond Match Company, to whom a patent has been issued by the Mexican Government covering the use, manufacture, and sale of said machine for a period of twenty years.

A patent has been granted to Mr. WILFRED I. OHMER covering a machine of his invention for the printing of railroad tickets.

The Government has issued a patent to the Illinois Reduction Company covering certain improvements or processes of their invention with respect to the extraction of metals from ores. Exclusive rights in the Republic are granted for a period of twenty years.

EXTENSION OF BOUNDARY TREATY.

Hon. JOHN HAY, Secretary of State of the United States, and Señor Don MANUEL DE ASPIRÓZ, Ambassador to Washington on behalf of the Government of Mexico, have signed a treaty extending the time allowed for the survey and definition of the water boundary between Mexico and the United States. There had previously been several extensions, in each case for a year, but the present arrangement will continue until the work is entirely completed.

SONORA ORANGE CROP.

A dispatch from Hermosillo estimates that the number of carloads of oranges exported from Hermosillo and other points in the orange district to the United States will aggregate about 250. In 1899, 370

carloads of oranges were exported from Sonora to the United States. The shipping season closes about December 15. The principal market in the United States has been the city of St. Louis.

SALE OF OIL LANDS.

A press dispatch from Monterey, dated December 4, 1900, states that the most important industrial enterprise undertaken in Mexico, for some time, is reported from the State of Tamaulipas. A syndicate of California oil men is reported to have just purchased 400,000 acres of prospective oil lands situated near the port of Tampico. It is said that there are large deposits of liquid asphaltum on this tract, which the new owners are arranging to develop as well as to prospect for petroleum on an extensive scale. The amount to be invested is given at $3,000,000.

THE SALE OF UNITED STATES BOOKS.

According to the "Mexican Herald," Mexico buys more books from the United States than France does, and nearly as many as are purchased by Germany. To quote the "Herald:" "Much of this trade is due to the large resident American (United States) population to be found in Mexican cities and to the demand from mining camps where Americans are living, and not a little is due to the growing spread of the English language among the Mexican people. There is a strong tendency here (City of Mexico) in favor of popularizing the English language, and the learners of that tongue comprise professional men in middle life as well as thousands of youth. Some large institutions of learning have put English ahead of French."

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

Col. J. A. ROBERTSON has purchased the "Monterey Daily News." This paper has been incorporated under the Federal and State laws with a capital of $25,000, known as the Monterey News Company, Limited. The "News" is the only paper that is published in the English language and that takes the Associated Press dispatches in the northern States of Mexico.

On November 13, 1900, Señor MANUAL S. CARMONA, of the City of Mexico, was granted a patent (No. 66849) in the United States on a typewriter. Señor CARMONA has previously received several other patents on typewriters in the United States.

According to the census that was taken on the 28th of October, 1900, Monterey has a population of 72,250, an increase of 15,665, or 22 per cent, in five years.

NICARAGUA.

STEAMSHIP CONCESSION.

A press dispatch from Managua, dated November 5, 1900, states that the Government of Nicaragua has granted to Mr. JOSEPH FRYE, of the Bluefields Steamship Company, of Bluefields, Nicaragua, a concession to operate a weekly service of steamships by way of San Juan del Norte (Greytown), to Port Limón, Costa Rica, thus opening a weekly mail route between the United States, via New Orleans, Bluefields, and San Juan del Norte, to Managua and the western, or Pacific, side of Nicaragua. This route, it is claimed, if operated properly, will reduce the time now made over the Panama route, between the United States and western Nicaragua.

Mr. FRYE is also endeavoring to obtain permission to erect for the Government a telegraph and telephone line connecting Bluefields and Rama. This would effect direct telegraph communication between Bluefields, Nicaragua's principal Caribbean seaport, and the Pacific Ocean side of the country.

PROVISIONS OF THE PATENT LAW.

The present Nicaraguan patent law was published in the "Diario Oficial" of Managua, under date of February 9, 1900. It provides that letters patent be granted to every inventor of any new and useful improvement, discovery, method, or process, except such inventions as are prejudicial to the public health or contrary to the laws of good morals. Foreign inventions and processes can only be patented in the Republic when they are the means of establishing new industries in the country. The term for which patents are granted varies from five to ten years. An annual charge of from $20 to $100, according to the importance of the invention, is made on each patent issued.

REGULATIONS FOR CONSULAR INVOICES.

Under date of May 4, 1900, an important decree was promulgated regulating the importation and exportation of merchandise and specifying the rules governing the storage of goods in the custom-houses of the nation. This law provides that a detailed written manifest, prepared in triplicate on sealed paper of the Republic of the value of one *peso* a sheet, shall be presented to the administrator of the custom-house where the transaction occurs. This document, which is known as a "policy," must contain complete information, and must state, among other things, the name of the ship, the destination of the goods, the names of the owners of the goods, the marks and numbers on each package and the contents of each bundle classified according to the

specifications and nomenclature of the existing tariffs, and indicating the number of the section under which each article is governed in said tariffs. With reference to importations the "policy" must be accompanied by at least two consular invoices and bill of lading. Where these documents are lacking, the administrator of the custom-house will have copies made, compared, and duly authorized.

CONTRACT FOR A RAILROAD.

On November 1, 1900, the Government of Nicaragua conceded to Mr. Julio Wiest the contract for about 38 miles of railroad, which is to connect the capital directly by rail with Leon and Corinto, by a road around the lake, connecting at La Paz with the western division now in operation. This will avoid the delay and cost of changing freights from the cars to steamboat at Managua and from steamboat to cars again at Momotombo. The railroad is to be finished within two years and is to cost $23,000 in Nicaraguan currency per mile, which at the present rate of exchange is about $8,000 in United States gold. Although very desirous to build the Rama Railroad, connecting Lake Nicaragua with the Rama River, and thus with the Atlantic navigation through Bluefields, no contract has yet been given for its construction, owing to lack of funds to assure its completion. This is a good opportunity for United States capitalists desirous of investing money in foreign enterprises.

PARAGUAY.

AUTHORIZATION OF SHIP SUBSIDIES.

Considerable interest is being manifested in Paraguay with respect to the shipbuilding industry. The construction of ships at home is being encouraged by the Government in every possible way, as will be seen by the following law which was promulgated in the "Diario Oficial" of Asunción, under date of October 3, 1900:

"Article 1. On and after the publication of the present law there shall be allowed to the builders of steam or sailing vessels the following subsidies on ships constructed in the docks of the Republic:

"(1) Fifteen dollars gold for each ton whether the vessel be of wood, mixed construction (wood, and other materials), or iron or steel, provided steam be the motive power.

"(2) Five dollars gold per ton for each ton of wooden sailing ships or mixed construction of a capacity of more than 50 tons.

"(3) Two and one-half dollars gold for each ton of the class of vessels mentioned in the preceding clause that do not exceed 50 tons.

"Art. 2. The payment of the subsidies mentioned in the foregoing articles shall be made by the Government in the form established by

the law governing accounts, in warrants against the custom-houses, the report of the General Administrator of the Ports being previously made, stating the class, material, and capacity of the ships, the day on which they were launched, and the names of the builders or directors.

"ART. 3. The warrants against the custom-house referred to in the foregoing article shall be received by the latter in payment of importation duties on articles intended for naval construction.

"ART. 4. Each dockyard shall be obliged to employ from fifteen to twenty Paraguayan youths as apprentices, whose salaries shall be paid by the company."

OFFICIAL DAILY PAPER.

The Republic of Paraguay has established an official daily paper at Asunción, capital of the nation, for the purpose of publishing all laws, decrees, official instruments, judicial decisions, and other interesting matters pertaining to the Government's business. This important publication is under the immediate direction of the Minister for Foreign Relations, and is known as the "Diario Oficial," the first number having appeared under date of October 2, 1900. It is the official organ of the Government and will be sent free to the heads of the departments and political divisions of the nation, to the different courts of justice, to the foreign diplomatic and consular representatives of other nations residing in the Republic, and to Paraguay's official representatives abroad.

ELECTRIC-LIGHT PLANT FOR ASUNCIÓN.

The city of Asunción is to be lighted with electricity. Bids have been called for by the city council and a contract for the installation of the plant will be made with the successful bidder. One of the conditions of the contract is that the machinery must be set up and the plant put in working order within eighteen months from the date of the signing of the contract. A full text of the concession granted by Congress to the capital city of the Republic is published in the "Diario Oficial" of October 4, 1900.

CONCESSIONS FOR CANNING FACTORIES.

The Government of Paraguay, in order to encourage the establishment of canning factories in the Republic, has passed a law allowing the free importations of the machinery and materials required for the necessary buildings and installations, as well as materials for the bottling and canning of the products, etc. Exemption of the products and by-products of the industry referred to from exportation duties is also conceded.

PATENTS GRANTED.

A patent has been granted to the American Cigar Machinery Company, of Sharon, Connecticut, covering their improvements on machines for the manufacture of cigars.

Mr. ARTHUR KITSON, of Germantown, Pennsylvania, has also secured a patent on an improved lamp burner of his invention. These patents run for a period of ten years.

A patent has been granted to Señor Don JUAN PIGRAU, of Asunción, covering a machine of his invention for the breaking of cocoanuts. The concession grants the manufacture of this machine, under the name of "Ideal," for a period of ten years.

REGULATION APPLICABLE TO COMMERCIAL TRAVELERS.

According to the terms of the law of November 28, 1900, says the "Bulletin Commercial," of Brussels, salesmen traveling in the Paraguayan Republic, with or without samples, are subjected to the payment of a fixed tax, personal and nontransferable, of $500 for six months, which must be paid to the municipality of Asunción.

The Customs Administration requires commercial travelers or commission merchants importing samples which could be sold as merchandise to furnish security for the amount of the duties on these articles in case of sale. This security is returned if the samples are not sold and are reexported.

STEAMSHIP LINE TO THE UNITED STATES.

An Asunción telegram published in Buenos Ayres states that the Export Shipping Company of New York proposes to establish a direct line of steamers between the United States and Paraguay on the following terms: The service to be started with two 3,500 ton, 14-knot boats, each capable of carrying 1,500 tons up the river to Asunción, making monthly trips. The Government is to pay a subsidy of $2,500 for every round trip, the company being conceded the right to transship mails, passengers, and cargo in the event that there is not enough water in the river for the steamers to ascend to Asunción. The item is yet to be verified in the United States.

NEW BANK.

"Caja de Credito Comercial" is the name of a new bank established in the city of Asunción, Paraguay, so Consul RUFFIN at that place informs the State Department. The bank proposes to promote local and foreign commerce, and also offers to facilitate all commercial and financial correspondence between the United States and Paraguay. The man-

agers, adds the Consul, are very energetic, and wish to have their institution brought to the attention of American bankers and merchants.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

Congress has authorized the President to construct telegraph lines from Villeta to Villa Encarnación, and from Villa Concepción to Villa Rosario and San Estanislao. Estimates have been solicited by the Government, and the contracts will be awarded to the lowest bidders.

A mining concession has been granted to Señor Don Rodolfo Alurralde to prospect for gold, silver, copper, and other ores. The zone covered by the concession lies between the Paraguay and Paraná rivers.

Mr. C. P. Ogilvie, owner of the Asunción street railways, has been authorized by the Government to change his line from a narrow-gauge to a standard-gauge line, and extend the tramway into the suburbs.

The National Congress has passed a law exempting from duties the importations of carriages and harness for the use of the artillery of the nation during the year 1901.

PERU.

THE NEW MONETARY LAW.

"El Economista" of Lima, a weekly publication devoted to the furtherance of commerce, agriculture, and mining in the Republic, in its issue of November 10, 1900, publishes an important monetary law enacted by the Congress of the nation on the 11th of October last, and which was duly approved and promulgated by the Executive Power on October 13, 1900, a translation of which is as follows:

"That, whereas it is necessary to adopt such means as tend to maintain the parity of value between the national silver and gold coins in the proportion of 10 *sols* of silver to £1 of Peruvian gold, the Congress of the Republic of Peru has passed the following law:

"Article 1. The Peruvian pound is a legal tender of a canceling power of 10 *sols*, or at the rate of 10 *sols* per pound.

"Art. 2. The coinage of half pounds is hereby authorized subject to the arrangements and conditions that the Executive Power may establish.

"Art. 3. The English pound sterling is hereby declared to be the equivalent of the Peruvian pound until Congress may otherwise determine."

CREATION OF NEW PROVINCES.

On November 3, 1900, the law passed by the Congress of the Republic on October 25 of the present year, creating the Province of Santiago de Chuco in the Department of La Libertad, was duly promulgated. The new Province contains the following districts:

Santiago de Chuco as capital, embracing also the villages of Huarán, Pueblo Nuevo, and Cachullo, as well as the ranches of Calipuy, Sagual, and Uningambal; Cachidan, a new district having for its capital the town of the same name, and including within its boundaries the village of Chuca, and the ranches Hospital, Llaray, and Porcón Angasmarca; Mollepeta, the capital of which is the town of that name, is made up of the village of Mollebamba and the Tulpo ranch; and Citabamba, also a new district formed out of the town of Citamba as capital of the same, and the village of Usshñoball.

The Province of Huamachuco is formed out of the following districts: The district of Huamachuco which has for its capital the town of the same name, and includes also the villages of San Antonio, Curgos, Yanás, and the Yamobamba ranch; the districts of Sartimbamba and Mancabal have not been changed, but remain as formerly; the new district of Sanagoran is composed of the town of the same name as capital, and the villages of Querequepampa and the ranches of Caracmaca and Chullugual which were separated from the district of Huamachuco.

GOLD-WASHING CONCESSION.

The October, 1900, number of the "Boletín de Minas" of Lima, an important publication devoted to the development of the mining industry of Peru, publishes a Government decree, promulgated under date of September 7, 1900, relative to the dredging of the Inambari River and some of its tributaries for the purpose of working the famous gold-bearing sands for which these streams are noted.

The concession referred to grants to Messrs. Emile Delallée and Fernando Fuchs the exclusive privilege, for a period of four years, to explore the beds of the rivers mentionnd. The exploration must be made in sections, the concessionaires indicating to the Government the portions of the streams they desire to exploit, leaving the remainder subject to the disposition of the nation.

Under the terms of the concession the public has the free use of the roads, bridges, and bridle paths that the company may construct. The constructions of canals, waterworks, and other installations necessary for the washing of the gold-bearing sands shall be done in conformity with the mining laws of the Republic.

The company is obligated to furnish annually to the Government drawings or plans showing the zones explored and the development

work done during that period. As a guarantee for the faithful performance of the contract the concessionaires have deposited in the National Treasury 20,000 *sols*.

NAVIGATION CONCESSION.

In consideration of certain improvements in the channel of the River Mantaro, a concession has been granted for a period of ten years to Messrs. Elias Malpartida and Francisco García Calderon for the exclusive navigation of that stream between the village of Oroya and the Upamayo bridge, distant about 25 kilometers from the Cerro de Pasco mines. The company has also the right to construct and use for navigation a canal between the Mantaro River and the Angeles Bridge, using the waters of the Rancas River. Exact drawings showing the improvements agreed upon must be presented to the Government within six months, and the entire work must be completed within two years from the approval of the definite plans.

Upon the conclusion of the work a freight and passenger service will be maintained, and large quantities of ores from the rich Cerro del Pasco district will be transported. At the expiration of ten years the improvements made by the concessionaires will revert to the Government.

DONATION TO GALVESTON SUFFERERS.

The bond of sympathy that unites the people of the United States with the people of the Peruvian Republic has been strengthened in an unexpected manner recently by the action of the inmates of the Lima Orphan Asylum. This was the gift of a magnificent ancient urn, which is to be sold in the United States and the proceeds applied for the sufferers from the recent storm and flood which almost destroyed the city of Galveston. This remarkable expression of the sympathy of the Peruvian orphan children is accompanied by an address printed in Spanish, Italian, and English, giving the reasons why the urn is forwarded and a brief history of the gift itself.

Aside from the sentimental value which now attaches to it, the urn is valuable as a historical discovery. It is reported to have been found June 19, 1899, in an ancient burying ground of the prehistoric races of South America, on an estate called "Monte Rio Grande," not far from the city of Lima. It weighs 7 ounces. The metal is similar to the "Electrum" of Pliny and that called by Herodotus "Aaukos Xouoos." It has on each side the outlines of a human head, with the large nose which is typical of the prehistoric races of the whole continent. It is looked upon as an exceedingly rare archæological curiosity, and no doubt will be bought at a large price by some collector, either for a private collection or a public museum.

IMPORTS OF WHEAT.

The greater part of the wheat consumed in Peru is of foreign production. During the month of August, 1900, the quantity of this grain which passed through the custom-houses was about 5,500,000 kilograms. The countries of origin were as follows, the number of kilograms from each being given: Chile, 49,910; Australia, 1,297,170; United States (California), 4,089,300. A duty of 1½ per cent per kilogram is collected, while there is an additional charge for wharfage and storage. It is estimated that Peru spends 3,000,000 *sols* per year for foreign wheat.

THE PERMANENT EXHIBITION.

Mr. Robert B. Crowe, the Consul-General of Peru in London, sends to the "Commercial Intelligence" particulars of a permanent exhibition conducted under the auspices of the Government at Lima. Attention has heretofore been called to this exhibition in the Monthly Bulletin. Mr. Crowe desires to call particular attention to exporters of the opportunity afforded of acquainting the people of Peru with their goods. He states that exhibitors are invited to send their products to the exhibition, where 40 meters square will be assigned to each exhibitor free of charge. The import duty is remitted except in case of goods sold, the only expenses which exhibitors incur being port charges, transportation to Lima, and the necessary labor for installing the exhibits, which are comparatively trifling.

SALVADOR.

REGULATIONS REGARDING SHIPS' MANIFESTS.

The Government of Salvador issued on October 20, 1900, the following instructions concerning consular invoices covering the importation of goods into that Republic:

"1. The captain of every ship that brings freight to any port of the nation, and which is not transported through the Isthmus of Panama, shall present four copies of his manifest or list, approved by the Consul of Salvador at the port of embarkation. These must be delivered on arrival to the Administrator of Customs or his representative.

"2. On all freight destined to ports of Salvador via the Isthmus of Panama the four lists or manifests must be approved by the Consul of Salvador at Panama, and the captain of the ship bringing them shall deliver them to the Administrator of Customs, or his representative, as before specified.

"3. The manifests or lists referred to shall specify in their headings

the name and nationality of the ship, that of the captain, the number of tons registered, the names of the crew, and the port of embarkation.

"In the body of the manifest and properly separated from it there shall be recorded the marks and numbers (if any), the quantity and class of the packages, the gross weight of each lot, the destination, the consignors and consignees, and at the bottom of same the date and signature and an affidavit that everything stated in the said document is true."

SANTO DOMINGO.

CABINET CHANGES—EXTRA SESSION OF CONGRESS.

Señor Don José Gabriel García, Honorary Corresponding Member of the International Union of American Republics in the Republic of Santo Domingo, in a recent communication to the Monthly Bulletin, states that due to the appointment of Señor Don Eugenio Deschamps as Governor of Puerto Plata, General Leovigildo Cuello has been made Postmaster-General and General Administrator of Government Telegraphs, and that Señor Don Fidelio Despradel has been assigned the important post of Minister of Fomento and Public Works, in place of General Leonte Vásquez, resigned.

Señor García further advises that the extra session of Congress, which was convoked by the President on the 25th of November, 1900, for the purpose of discussing and enacting legislation of importance, will have submitted to its consideration, among other things, a treaty of reciprocity and commerce with the United States.

UNITED STATES.

TRADE WITH LATIN AMERICA.

STATEMENT OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The following is the latest statement from figures compiled by the Bureau of Statistics, United States Treasury Department, showing the value of the trade between the United States and the Latin-American countries. The report is for the month of October, 1900, with a comparative statement for the corresponding month of the previous year; also for the ten months ending October, 1900, compared with the corresponding period of the calendar year 1899. It should be explained that the figures from the various custom-houses showing imports and exports for any one month are not received at the Treasury Department until about the 20th of the following month, and some time is nec-

essarily consumed in compilation and printing, so that the returns for October, for example, are not published until some time in December.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

Articles and countries.	October—		Ten months ending October—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Chemicals:				
Logwood (*Palo campeche; Pao de campeche; Campèche*):				
Mexico		$1,207	$11,995	$15,451
Coal, bituminous (*Carbón bituminoso; Carvão betuminoso; Charbon de terre*):				
Mexico	$15,745	4,747	168,137	62,619
Cocoa (*Cacao; Coco ou cacao crú; Cacao*):				
Central America	322	4	1,131	13,319
Brazil	66,280		328,094	825,514
Other South America	70,462	143,690	1,344,695	1,657,831
Coffee (*Café; Café; Café*):				
Central America	46,961	11,054	5,047,653	4,092,688
Mexico	155,029	26,174	2,686,364	2,799,753
Brazil	3,576,879	4,813,037	31,255,228	30,629,289
Other South America	388,538	354,933	5,703,566	4,358,972
Cotton, unmanufactured (*Algodón en rama; Algodão em rama; Coton, non manufacturé*):				
South America	2,401	76,209	119,325	311,085
Fibers:				
Sisal grass (*Henequén; Henequen; Hennequen*):				
Mexico	748,411	609,416	7,031,307	9,707,593
Fruits:				
Bananas (*Plátanos; Bananas; Bananes*):				
Central America	194,692	210,717	1,771,175	2,059,170
South America	70,281	42,031	879,757	716,455
Oranges (*Naranjas; Laranjas; Oranges*):				
Mexico	49,805	44,760	65,997	57,145
Fur skins (*Pieles finas; Pelles; Fourrures*):				
South America	4,761	18,722	147,488	121,564
Hides and skins (*Cueros y pieles; Couros e pelles; Cuirs et peaux*):				
Central America	39,377	87,827	302,727	533,971
Mexico	149,404	215,359	1,696,406	2,006,318
South America	782,341	790,012	8,712,269	8,293,072
India rubber, crude (*Goma elástica; Borracha crua; Caoutchouc*):				
Central America	61,163	43,181	714,709	629,010
Mexico	20,333	11,573	157,263	152,092
Brazil	1,400,387	1,323,107	14,793,088	13,964,479
Other South America	80,512	90,556	850,108	514,540
Lead, in pigs, bars, etc. (*Plomo en galápagos, barras, etc.; Chumbo em linguados, barras, etc.; Plombs en saumons, en barres, etc.*):				
Mexico	154,513	154,180	1,825,003	2,140,987
Sugar, not above No. 16 Dutch standard (*Azúcar, no superior de la escala holandesa; Assucar, não superior ao No. 16 de padrão hollandez; Sucre, pas au-dessus du type hollandais No. 16*):				
Central America	3,927	3,491	172,512	56,295
Mexico	9,201	355	74,905	11,761
Cuba	196,595	81,263	17,657,468	16,730,179
Brazil		128,546	681,865	1,914,000
Other South America	376,552	777,711	4,051,877	4,343,865
Tobacco, leaf (*Tabaco en rama; Tabaco em folha; Tabac en feuilles*):				
Mexico	2,169	4,392	29,661	42,113
Cuba	691,617	885,100	5,417,387	6,706,588
Wood, mahogany (*Caoba; Mogno; Acajou*):				
Central America		400	252,509	320,906
Mexico	24,009	32,916	347,202	414,626
Cuba	12,992	22,922	62,488	278,018
South America	7,344	219	18,265	18,169

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	October—		Ten months ending October—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Wool (*Lana: Lã: Laine*):				
South America—				
Class 1 (clothing)	$60,935	$10,375	$540,414	$2,249,869
Class 2 (combing)			101	52,607
Class 3 (carpet)	40,505	74,406	483,671	904,912

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE.

Agricultural implements (*Instrumentos de agricultura; Instrumentos de agricultura; Machines agricoles*):				
Central America	$107	$5,284	$5,904	$9,978
Mexico	27,729	63,855	262,398	506,668
Santo Domingo	495	33	1,239	1,444
Cuba	13,976	7,476	93,202	143,066
Argentine Republic	121,840	214,568	1,787,054	1,234,830
Brazil	3,525	1,846	28,770	23,414
Colombia	134	185	711	1,720
Other South America	4,956	22,404	247,442	279,881
Breadstuffs:				
Corn (*Maíz: Milho: Maïs*):				
Central America	2,872	6,836	33,751	27,925
Mexico	19,394	8,955	124,872	300,431
Santo Domingo			315	327
Cuba	47,988	48,787	385,946	541,485
South America	28,664	2,039	71,142	15,505
Wheat (*Trigo: Trigo: Blé*):				
Central America	1,700	2,900	15,644	20,969
Mexico		626	609	744
South America		60,084	69,318	523,357
Wheat flour (*Harina de trigo; Farinha de trigo; Farine de blé*):				
Central America	75,599	82,603	730,803	739,262
Mexico	8,286	12,894	127,783	116,277
Santo Domingo	17,208	4,220	120,712	157,070
Cuba	144,582	156,511	1,664,653	1,648,610
Brazil	198,575	255,506	2,158,202	2,517,222
Colombia	40,268	18,784	382,973	185,127
Other South America	118,883	112,155	1,333,716	1,200,818
Vehicles:				
Carriages, cars, etc., and parts of (*Carruages, carros y sus accesorios; Carruagens, carros e partes de carros; Voitures, wagons et leurs parties*):				
Central America	589	8,726	15,401	39,473
Mexico	58,798	227,939	716,046	1,141,471
Santo Domingo	627	527	12,382	19,091
Cuba	25,805	55,810	138,544	326,835
Argentine Republic	29,648	36,905	227,822	401,403
Brazil	3,587	6,049	189,915	51,792
Colombia	834	390	14,277	11,228
Other South America	2,853	6,194	43,229	69,740
Cycles and parts of (*Bicicletas y sus accesorios; Bicyclos e accessorios; Bicyclettes et leurs parties*):				
Central America	340	464	4,483	2,064
Mexico	2,064	733	37,601	12,249
Santo Domingo	25		323	232
Cuba	13,039	1,235	77,543	65,133
Argentine Republic	26,080	1,934	258,598	70,231
Brazil	2,521	1,402	28,914	16,794
Colombia	848	49	7,638	3,470
Other South America	5,943	2,457	55,881	35,424
Minerals:				
Coal (*Carbón; Carvão; Charbon*):				
Central America	1,850	2,217	15,244	28,462
Mexico	117,922	162,970	1,214,917	1,627,790
Santo Domingo	866	3,017	7,740	18,294
Cuba	35,336	73,185	559,497	708,187
Brazil	1,200	19,102	99,785	179,558
Colombia	224	8,935	49,830	42,324
Other South America	2,812	51,439	56,041	211,219
Copper (*Cobre; Cobre; Cuivre*):				
Mexico	38,429	7,141	248,736	475,392

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	October—		Ten months ending October—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Cotton, etc.				
Cotton, unmanufactured (*Algodón no manufacturado; Algodão não manufacturado; Coton, non manufacturé*):				
Mexico	$11,002	$180,900	$439,118	$959,631
South America				6,607
Cotton cloths (*Tejidos de algodón; Fazendas de algodão; Coton manufacturé*):				
Central America	58,887	70,046	523,631	635,306
Mexico	51,929	23,433	462,127	307,579
Santo Domingo	4,226	17,174	142,502	177,288
Cuba	40,474	23,043	658,311	188,241
Argentine Republic	9,494	6,823	105,918	76,388
Brazil	54,205	33,112	369,717	251,376
Colombia	27,806	28,806	333,776	201,863
Other South America	40,872	210,168	894,534	1,396,534
Wearing apparel (*Ropa de algodón; Roupa de algodão; Vêtements en coton*):				
Central America	27,741	45,591	237,621	342,518
Mexico	49,685	43,520	379,885	446,315
Santo Domingo	269	2,191	14,148	46,173
Cuba	16,623	12,536	162,804	97,668
Argentine Republic	1,420	1,325	37,677	11,817
Brazil	5,096	3,176	28,518	32,867
Colombia	4,561	1,737	36,784	34,116
Other South America	2,006	6,950	57,653	61,494
Instruments:				
Electric and scientific apparatus (*Aparatos eléctricos y científicos; Apparelhos electricos e scientificos; Appareils électriques et scientifiques*):				
Central America	1,884	4,516	50,988	53,787
Mexico	32,950	35,288	402,613	300,357
Argentine Republic	34,425	28,915	252,638	267,032
Brazil	12,988	10,959	127,523	188,938
Other South America	6,813	14,029	105,631	207,723
Iron and Steel, Manufactures of:				
Steel rails (*Carriles de acero; Trilhos de aço; Rails d'acier*):				
Central America	6,994	9,502	24,728	18,626
Mexico	77,832	72,475	418,644	972,184
South America	3,801	182,165	106,092	628,072
Builders' hardware, and saws and tools (*Materiales de metal para construcción, sierras y herramientas; Ferragens, serras e ferramentas; Matériaux de construction en fer et acier, scies et outils*):				
Central America	8,787	11,340	73,800	98,304
Mexico	41,444	47,960	375,085	456,836
Santo Domingo	1,050	628	8,063	15,576
Cuba	35,834	24,072	349,656	249,192
Argentine Republic	21,626	37,507	213,440	254,663
Brazil	6,571	16,272	188,234	187,148
Colombia	33,264	2,689	112,258	34,070
Other South America	18,384	44,749	210,493	319,791
Sewing machines and parts of (*Máquinas de coser y accesorios; Machinas de coser e accessorios; Machines à coudre et leurs parties*):				
Central America	1,529	4,551	17,502	30,361
Mexico	30,028	28,008	252,969	292,020
Santo Domingo		268	1,369	6,146
Cuba	6,698	16,803	39,291	108,319
Argentine Republic	4,663	32,253	140,601	174,496
Brazil	14,510	5,198	114,677	100,127
Colombia	1,383	595	40,382	7,222
Other South America	11,525	19,552	111,946	150,474
Typewriting machines and parts of (*Máquinas de escribir y accesorios; Machinas de escribir e accessorios; Machines à écrire et leurs parties*):				
Central America	526	570	1,879	3,105
Mexico	7,050	7,122	51,586	61,461
Santo Domingo			187	860
Cuba	2,124	3,786	23,445	34,498
Argentine Republic	1,587	1,645	34,837	27,413
Brazil	1,294	473	7,939	8,212
Colombia	129	157	2,500	1,616
Other South America	858	3,743	22,531	28,732

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	October—		Ten months ending October—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Leather, Manufacturers of:				
Leather, other than sole (*Cuero, distinto del de suelo; Couro não para solas; Cuirs, autres que pour semelles*):				
Central America	$1,843	$1,867	$11,662	$27,152
Mexico	1,841	2,851	18,908	26,612
Santo Domingo	17	824	1,074	7,281
Cuba	3,444	3,431	27,749	35,143
Argentine Republic	3,429	4,321	44,106	88,559
Brazil	3,065	7,530	58,123	84,215
Colombia	715	724	3,906	2,304
Other South America	2,806	9,957	34,511	53,563
Boots and shoes (*Calzado; Calçados; Chaussures*):				
Central America	12,041	25,357	105,468	125,941
Mexico	22,196	25,248	257,817	284,902
Colombia	3,728	5,101	34,661	45,561
Other South America	3,842	8,056	22,010	46,784
Naval stores:				
Rosin, tar, etc. (*Resina y alquitrán; Resina e alcatrão; Résine et goudron*):				
Central America	677	778	12,092	9,289
Mexico	276	914	7,974	5,956
Santo Domingo	334	175	3,426	2,837
Cuba	940	924	11,191	11,429
Argentine Republic	14,179	21,131	86,061	76,812
Brazil	10,047	17,451	178,487	121,712
Colombia	663	889	10,135	8,770
Other South America	3,392	17,650	54,854	75,287
Turpentine, spirits of (*Aguarrás; Agua-raz; Térébenthine*):				
Central America	529	862	4,384	7,105
Mexico	328	449	3,793	3,381
Santo Domingo	91	8	531	528
Cuba	2,966	3,149	44,807	33,149
Argentine Republic	7,528	17,593	67,958	153,366
Brazil	1,932	12,346	53,276	83,044
Colombia	531	269	5,676	2,844
Other South America	742	11,714	53,048	87,712
Oils, mineral, crude (*Aceites minerales, crudos; Oleos mineraes, crús; Huiles minérales, brutes*):				
Mexico		83	355,684	426,616
Cuba		16,096	181,644	291,485
Oils, mineral, refined or manufactured (*Aceites minerales, refinados ó manufacturados; Huiles minérales, raffinées ou manufacturées*):				
Central America	8,666	14,202	115,242	135,863
Mexico	18,385	10,601	176,398	165,542
Santo Domingo	2,163	2,203	31,989	54,432
Cuba	3,397	17,350	93,435	78,724
Argentine Republic	85,015	107,980	927,659	1,153,060
Brazil	168,094	222,291	1,318,772	2,030,573
Colombia	16,122	8,655	119,834	144,629
Other South America	54,839	133,620	949,730	1,347,949
Oils, vegetable (*Aceites vegetales; Oleos vegetaes; Huiles végétales*):				
Central America	962	461	5,035	5,282
Mexico	98,525	122,369	530,002	803,425
Santo Domingo	4,821	1,623	27,544	65,153
Cuba	3,927	3,174	31,941	16,092
Argentine Republic	1,693	8,021	32,354	68,200
Brazil	8,893	14,611	160,032	316,899
Other South America	6,072	13,934	101,595	136,127
Provisions, comprising meat and dairy products:				
Beef, canned (*Carne de vaca en latas; Carne de vacca em latas; Bœuf conservé*):				
Central America	3,975	2,877	19,933	22,198
Mexico	2,272	2,228	18,173	17,800
Santo Domingo		3	98	84
Cuba	1,923	490	12,956	3,470
Argentine Republic		38	1,484	1,045
Brazil	4,177	474	17,004	18,612
Colombia	577	538	5,806	5,966
Other South America	2,217	1,880	15,961	15,936

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	October—		Ten months ending October—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Beef, salted or pickled (*Carne de vaca salada ó en salmuera; Carne de vacca salgada ou em salmoura; Bœuf, salé ou en saumure*):				
Central America	$3,231	$4,221	$32,336	$32,964
Mexico	270	112	2,064	1,494
Santo Domingo	406	82	5,086	3,622
Cuba	672	700	21,547	13,646
Brazil	187	19	1,452	1,269
Colombia	2,131	1,499	15,503	18,654
Other South America	8,593	16,807	133,523	171,506
Tallow (*Sebo; Sebo; Suif*):				
Central America	6,563	10,685	75,371	91,987
Mexico	1,548	1,914	24,220	20,479
Santo Domingo	1,650	777	16,167	10,194
Cuba			2,129	3,529
Brazil	50	2,399	22,469	58,273
Colombia	529	524	16,509	5,108
Other South America	1,784	9,760	38,177	99,622
Bacon (*Tocino; Toucinho; Lard fumé*):				
Central America	2,126	2,514	17,041	25,472
Mexico	2,018	2,706	18,475	17,942
Santo Domingo	254	124	1,979	1,714
Cuba	78,610	40,506	790,475	501,809
Brazil	5,871	15,552	163,262	113,959
Colombia	75		1,592	2,171
Other South America	316	2,664	11,932	16,889
Hams (*Jamones; Presunto; Jambons*):				
Central America	3,406	2,919	22,107	24,977
Mexico	5,785	5,407	31,259	35,525
Santo Domingo	796	379	5,735	9,643
Cuba	55,836	59,919	616,035	521,071
Brazil	13	422	2,723	5,495
Colombia	2,322	1,249	15,586	16,745
Other South America	5,412	7,548	69,100	56,548
Pork (*Carne de puerco; Carne de porco; Porc*):				
Central America	5,276	11,882	54,713	83,185
Santo Domingo	1,097	384	6,168	7,659
Cuba	31,102	60,333	90,671	448,065
Brazil			3,001	1,527
Colombia	932	1,535	29,537	16,340
Other South America	14,400	19,231	160,528	209,528
Lard (*Manteca; Banha; Saindoux*):				
Central America	10,770	23,614	143,527	184,028
Mexico	42,219	53,252	251,295	360,034
Santo Domingo	3,211	1,486	22,819	32,608
Cuba	172,160	183,832	1,522,856	2,164,796
Argentine Republic	1,035	287	4,417	6,700
Brazil	56,514	51,555	844,803	736,400
Colombia	12,469	11,857	116,801	110,342
Other South America	26,933	113,016	594,387	821,152
Butter (*Mantequilla; Manteiga; Beurre*):				
Central America	4,305	4,778	40,052	39,339
Mexico	4,057	3,666	41,860	35,786
Santo Domingo	1,110	678	7,100	21,389
Cuba	4,679	1,306	90,644	26,176
Brazil	11,527	30,336	180,396	170,344
Colombia	1,212	852	13,501	11,607
Other South America	3,052	10,168	164,662	93,113
Cheese (*Queso; Queijo; Fromage*):				
Central America	2,228	2,515	15,368	19,849
Mexico	2,398	3,207	19,742	19,657
Santo Domingo	603	207	4,069	7,301
Cuba	2,281	964	56,760	28,196
Brazil			217	64
Colombia	821	641	6,695	5,341
Other South America	633	220	11,374	6,000
Other articles.				
Tobacco, unmanufactured (*Tabaco no manufacturado; Tabaco não manufacturado; Tabac non manufacturé*):				
Central America	1,595	1,698	24,494	28,100
Mexico	13,660	3,299	133,710	130,163
Argentine Republic	1,261	2,163	19,253	27,659
Colombia	1,371	653	6,300	10,497
Other South America	6,510	4,087	86,247	90,036

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	October—		Ten months ending October—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Tobacco, manufactures of (*Manufacturas de tabaco; Manufacturas de tabaco; Tabac fabriqué*):				
Central America	$4,294	$6,953	$45,591	$47,690
Mexico	299	6,831	15,116	15,772
Cuba	9,696	7,465	164,771	167,139
Argentine Republic	8,625	.....	16,754	6,853
Brazil	.....	354	352	459
Colombia	572	1,130	5,831	7,649
Other South America	432	3,755	50,976	65,820
Wood, unmanufactured (*Madera no manufacturada; Madeira não manufacturada; Bois brut*):				
Central America	747	2,317	21,019	35,765
Mexico	20,350	29,844	127,433	281,020
Cuba	5,412	9,045	47,740	44,881
Argentine Republic	.....	1,334	14,251	18,668
Brazil	.....	.....	240	17,992
Colombia	77	2,980	15,268	5,774
Other South America	305	4,592	46,004	43,380
Lumber (*Maderas; Madeiras; Bois de construction*):				
Central America	7,599	4,407	48,800	43,086
Mexico	80,045	116,861	826,998	1,138,545
Santo Domingo	5,167	2,135	33,809	38,271
Cuba	91,123	86,498	787,001	1,014,162
Argentine Republic	84,867	70,399	828,875	879,040
Brazil	47,078	10,016	385,025	172,036
Colombia	12,884	4,064	52,683	45,099
Other South America	28,804	137,806	501,146	538,558
Furniture (*Muebles; Mobilia; Meubles*):				
Central America	5,219	4,292	31,828	44,549
Mexico	32,676	32,528	258,786	339,713
Santo Domingo	337	1,752	6,609	18,734
Cuba	28,855	25,684	165,228	582,703
Argentine Republic	7,444	13,981	91,648	78,882
Brazil	2,666	3,699	29,796	24,595
Colombia	1,274	846	24,740	12,552
Other South America	2,189	11,455	55,465	58,949

THE GROWTH OF HAWAII.

The first census of the Hawaiian Islands was taken in 1832 and was followed by others in 1836, 1850, and 1860, which are said to have been very simple and rudimentary in character. A census to be taken at regular intervals was not provided for until 1855, when the Legislative Assembly made it "the duty of the Board of Education every sixth year, counting from the year 1860, to make a complete census of the inhabitants of the kingdom." Under the terms of this requirement a census of the Hawaiian Islands was taken every six years from 1866 to 1896, inclusive.

The census of 1900 has been taken as a part of the work of the Twelfth Census of the United States, the Director of the Census having been authorized by law to make suitable provisions for the enumeration of the population and products of these insular possessions.

The first census of the Hawaiian Islands taken in 1832 showed a population of 130,313, but each succeeding census up to and including 1872 showed a loss, the returns in 1872 giving a population of only 56,897, representing a loss since 1832 of 73,416, or 56.3 per cent.

The census of 1878 showed only a slight increase over that of 1872, but during the next six years the population increased rapidly, and the census of 1884 showed a population of 80,578, or an increase since 1878 of very nearly 39 per cent. From 1884 to 1890 the population increased 11.6 per cent, and from 1890 to 1896 21.1 per cent, the total in 1896 being 109,020.

During the four years from 1896 to 1900 the percentage of increase has nearly doubled, the present census showing a population of 154,001, representing an increase of 44,981, or 41.2 per cent. During the last ten years, from 1890 to 1900, or substantially the same interval as for the census of the United States proper, there has been an increase in population of 64,011, or 71.1 per cent.

The total land surface of the Hawaiian Islands is, approximately, 6,449 square miles, the average number of persons to the square mile at the last three censuses being as follows: 1890, 13.9; 1896, 16.9; 1900, 23.8.

The population of the city of Honolulu is 39,306. In 1890 it was 22,907. This is an increase of 16,399, or 71.5 per cent. In 1896 the population was 29,920, and the present census shows an increase in four years of 9,386, or 31.3 per cent.

COAL AND COALING STATIONS.

The New York "Herald" editorially calls attention to the fact that the Navy Department of the United States has found it cheaper to ship coal to the foreign coaling stations than to buy it of other nations. The average price paid by the Department in the markets of the United States last year was $5.88 per ton, while the price demanded by foreign dealers was $8.53 per ton. As the total quantity contracted for exceeded 225,000 tons, the difference of cost—freight and other charges included—represents a very important saving to the Government, while the quality of the home product is much superior to that offered abroad.

This question of coal supply is one of such importance to the sea powers that enormous quantities are being stored in fortified ports and outlying possessions. France is notably active in this effort to be self-sustaining in the event of war, and a part of the duty intrusted to the warships of that nation is to test the coal and report upon the possible markets that may be utilized in times of peace. Recently the *Cécille* and the *Suchet* of the French Navy visited the United States and upon their departure took on board unusual quantities of American coal; if the results are satisfactory large orders may be confidently expected by United States dealers.

A dispatch from Baltimore, dated November 28, 1900, stated that the Pittsburg Coal Company had closed a contract to ship 450,000 tons

of bituminous coal to Nantes, France, from that port. The value will be $2,500,000, and it will require 9,000 of the largest cars in 200 trains to transport it.

The United States Government has established coal depots in Hawaii, Samoa, the Philippines, Yokohama, Japan, Porto Rico, and in Pichilinque, and contracts have been made to keep these well stocked.

GROWTH OF BUSINESS BY PARCELS POST.

According to the report of the Superintendent of Foreign Mails, the parcels-post business of the United States is growing rapidly. The increase for 1899 over 1898 amounted to 28.52 per cent, and the Superintendent is strongly in favor of the extension of the system. The nation has made such progress in the export trade within the past few years that the manufacturers of the country may feel no apprehensions, though, as a general thing, they have heretofore opposed parcels-post agreements with countries from which the United States imports manufactured goods, while favoring like arrangements with countries to which the United States might export such merchandise. The National Manufacturers' Association recently took a broader view regarding this matter, and has been supporting the project of parcels-post agreements with European countries, in spite of the danger that small articles might be imported from those countries more freely than is done now.

One of the most recent parcels-post conventions concluded by the Postmaster-General of the United States was with the Republic of Venezuela on November 17, 1900. The documents in the case, already signed by President Castro, were brought from Caracas by Hon. Francis B. Loomis, United States Minister.

Mr. Loomis believes that this arrangement, which has been an object of diplomatic exchange for several years past, will be of advantage to the trade interests of both countries. It will enable the merchants of the United States to transmit samples and small articles of merchandise speedily and safely. A great volume of trade is said to have resulted from such arrangements between Venezuela and France, and as New York is much nearer Venezuelan cities than is Paris, it is not improbable that a considerable part of the trade will be diverted to the United States. The usual safeguards against the illegitimate use of the mails is provided for in the documents which were signed by both parties to the agreement.

Notice has been issued by the Post-Office Department that the parcels-post agreement with Venezuela will become operative on January 1, 1901. Parcels exchanged between the United States and Venezuela are limited to 11 pounds in weight, to not more than 3 feet 6 inches in length, and 6 feet in length and breadth combined. The rates of

postage are 12 cents, United States currency, per pound or fraction thereof, to be prepaid, and a delivery charge of 10 cents for each package, to be paid by the addressee.

RUBBER FOR CABLE INSULATION.

One of the great items of expense in the laying of a submarine cable is gutta-percha for covering the outside. Rubber was thought to be impracticable for this purpose. Reports to the Chief Signal Officer of the United States from Manila, however, indicate that the War Department has made a great discovery, and one which may be of especial importance to the rubber industry. One of the cables that was shipped to Manila and put down by the War Department for interisland communication happened to be of rubber insulation. The English experts predicted its speedy destruction by the "toredo," a submarine boring worm, which is exceedingly destructive to anything submerged in water. The English cable with gutta-percha insulation resists the encroachments for about a year, and it is necessary to insert in the cable armor a thin continuous wrapper of sheet copper to prevent the toredo from boring clear through to the conducting wires and "short-circuiting" the cable. The wrapper adds considerably to the expense of the cable without adding to its efficiency for telegraphic purposes. The cable with the rubber insulation laid by the United States has already been in the water for two years, and is yet in good working order, showing its superiority.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

The annual report of the Secretary of the Interior of the United States summarizes the operations of the Department of the Interior for the fiscal year 1900, and contains various recommendations relative to the different bureaus embraced therein.

The importance of irrigation in developing the industries of the West is pointed out by the Secretary, who urges the passage of a comprehensive act covering the entire subject of irrigation of arid lands. Legislation compelling the attendance of witnesses at hearings on complaints of timber-law violations is asked. The necessity of a general revision of timber-land laws is also pointed out.

In discussing the subject of pensions, the Secretary calls attention to the need of a thorough revision of the pension laws with a view to making their operations more uniform in character and to insure a more equitable distribution of their benefits.

Congressional action to enable native Alaskans to become United States citizens is strongly urged. Further legislation for the extension and care of national parks is proposed, and the report closes with the recommendation that a Hall of Records be provided for the preservation of public archives.

SPECIAL FORECASTS OF STORMS.

In the annual report of Prof. WILLIS L. MOORE, Chief of the United States Weather Bureau, the adoption of a system of special storm forecasts for the North Atlantic region is promised. Professor MOORE says that this innovation becomes possible by the completion of a cable system connecting Lisbon, the Azores, and New York City. It is proposed to include Bermuda and a number of important points on the western coast of Europe in the new system.

The report states that the forecast service has been strengthened and improved by the extension of the system of observing stations over the West Indies and the Caribbean Sea and by the active cooperation of the meteorological service of the Republic of Mexico. The approach of all dangerous tropical storms, the movement of cold waves, and the occurrence of killing frosts and heavy snows have been accurately forecasted.

SALE OF SHOES IN ENGLAND.

Among the means employed for developing the sale of American shoes in England, the establishment of retail houses in the United Kingdom by American manufacturers plays an important part, says a recent French publication. Some large dealers make considerable, thanks to certain peculiarities of the English shoe trade. The English dealer generally grants such long credit that he often finds himself the loser of such important sums that he can not keep up a large store. Consequently, the English houses do not carry the large assortment found in American shoe stores, where one can choose from five and seven different styles, while in the English houses generally only three styles are found. The dealer often finds for this reason that he can not satisfy his customers, and consequently advises them to have their shoes made to order, which many people dislike to be obliged to do. Besides, the branches of the American houses make themselves known by the low prices advertised in their show windows, and cash payments are the uniform rule. English customers prefer to purchase immediately and pay cash rather than to supply themselves insufficiently on credit, exposing themselves to considerable loss of time.

SPREAD OF YELLOW FEVER BY MOSQUITOES.

The transmission of yellow fever by means of mosquitoes is a feature of a report submitted to Surgeon-General STERNBERG, of the United States Army, by a board of medical officers which had experimented in Cuba. This board consisted of Dr. WALTER REED, surgeon, and Drs. JAMES CARROLL, A. AGRAMONTE, and J. W. LAZEAR, acting assistant surgeons.

Dr. LAZEAR died from yellow fever, due, it is reported, to the bite of a mosquito which had previously bitten a yellow-fever patient.

The doctor permitted the insect to bite him on the back of his hand to determine what the result would be. He was bitten on September 13 at Las Animas Hospital, Cuba, and died on September 25. Dr. CARROLL allowed himself to be bitten by a mosquito which had previously fed on several yellow-fever patients, and suffered a serious attack of the disease, but recovered. A young American was bitten by the same mosquito and died of yellow fever. The details of other cases are to be reported to the Department. The Board regards the mosquito as "an intermediate host of the parasite of yellow fever," and reports that it has been profoundly impressed by the experiments.

AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATIONS.

During the past ten years more than $10,000,000 has been expended in the United States in the maintenance of agricultural experiment stations, $7,000,000 of which has come from the Federal Government. According to the statements of Mr. A. C. TRUE, Director of the Office of Experiment Stations, the benefits which have come from the operation of such aids to agriculture, which are now established in about every State and Territory in the Union, are as follows: (1) The introduction of new agricultural methods and new crops, and the development of those already existing; (2) the removal of obstacles to agriculture, such as diseases of plants and animals, injurious insects and other natural enemies; (3) the defense of the farmer against fraud in the purchase of fertilizers, feeding stuffs, insecticides, and in other ways; (4) aiding in the passage and administration of laws for the benefit of the farmer and agricultural interests, and (5) in an educational way.

FRUIT TRADE WITH JAMAICA.

The fruit trade of Jamaica, especially with the United States, is reported to be increasing rapidly. This island of the British West Indies, formerly so prosperous through the sugar-cane industry, and which was badly crippled by the abolition of slavery in 1833, has in a measure regained its prosperity through the exploitation of its banana fields.

In order to divert a part of the fruit trade of Jamaica from the United States (the main purchaser of the Jamaican product), which American buyers export in part to Europe, the Governor of the Island has recently signed a contract with an English steamship company for the transportation of bananas to Great Britain. Beginning with May, 1901, a direct line of steamers is to run between English and Jamaican ports. The company is to receive a regular subsidy of £40,000 per year, half of which is to be paid by Great Britain direct and the other half by the Jamaican Colonial Treasury. This ought to have the effect of increasing the banana industry between Latin America and the United States.

SOUTH AMERICAN TRADE WITH PHILADELPHIA.

The press of the city of Philadelphia states that a valuable addition to the foreign commerce of that city is promised by the establishment of closer trade relations with the western coast of South America. Twelve steamships were chartered during the month of November, 1900, and are now en route to Chile, Peru, and Ecuador, with general cargoes. A number of other ships are also to be chartered for the same service, all of them being under contract to bring back silver ore and nitrates of silver. On December 6, the British steamship *Dart* was chartered for six months at the rate of £1,475 per month, to bring silver ore from Antofagasta to either Perth Amboy, New Jersey, or to Philadelphia.

LABOR FOR HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

Mr. William Haywood, for three years United States Consul-General at Honolulu, and since the organization of the Territory Collector of Internal Revenue, has been chosen by the Hawaiian Planters' Association to represent it in the United States. It will be part of Mr. Haywood's duties to seek to present labor conditions on the Islands in their true light and to set in motion a stream of emigration to Hawaii that will provide labor for the plantations. The first company of laborers has been secured from Porto Rico. These numbered 114 persons and are stated to be the advance guard of about 1,000 Porto Ricans who will become laborers on the sugar plantations of the Hawaiian Islands.

INVESTMENTS OF CAPITAL IN OHIO.

The annual report of the Secretary of State shows that during the year which ended November 15, 1900, the amount invested in new enterprises in the State of Ohio aggregated $77,593,199. Besides this there were additions to the capital stock of enterprises in operation previous to the beginning of the year of $35,446,900, making a grand total of investments in twelve months of $113,040,099.

RECOGNITION OF CONSULAR OFFICERS.

The following foreign consular officers have been recognized by the United States Government:

Paul E. Rapier, Consul of Costa Rica at Mobile, Alabama.

Salvador Amell Masó, Vice-Consul of the Dominican Republic at Aguadilla, Porto Rico.

Bruce Cartwright, Consul of Peru at Honolulu, Hawaii.

URUGUAY.

STATISTICS OF CEREAL PRODUCTION.

The Department of Agriculture of the Republic of Uruguay has recently published statistics giving the production of cereals (with the exception of corn) in that Republic during the fiscal year 1899–1900. The following figures have been compiled from this report:

	In cultivation.	Sown.	Harvested.	Production per hectare.
	Hectares.	*Kilograms.*	*Kilograms.*	*Kilograms.*
Wheat	377,988	22,231,414	187,553,161	496
Flax	1,325	46,872	1,009,411	761
Oats	40	2,547	33,024	825
Barley	643	42,699	424,774	660
Alpiste (birdseed)	1,010	31,664	518,855	513

The above table shows that oats are the most productive of these cereals, after which come flax, barley, *alpiste*, and wheat, respectively.

The production of wheat per hectare was as follows:

Departments.	Total production.	Production per hectare.	Departments.	Total production.	Production per hectare.
	Kilograms.	*Kilograms.*		*Kilograms.*	*Kilograms.*
Colonia	56,541,397	557	Rio Negro	782,856	639
San José	54,088,676	647	Rocha	765,942	394
Canelones	32,651,898	440	Flores	685,923	548
Soriano	17,806,931	912	Tacuarembó	533,569	456
Florida	9,199,639	592	Treinta y Tres	261,915	400
Minas	5,262,005	487	Montevideo	201,265	460
Paysandú	3,821,517	579	Rivera	128,928	511
Maldonado	2,681,753	480	Salto	126,739	716
Durazno	1,086,105	492	Artigas	80,492	570
Cerro Largo	845,544	418			

The Department of Colonia produced the greatest quantity of wheat owing to its larger acreage, but the greatest yield per hectare was in the Department of Soriano, where the average was 912 kilograms per hectare.

THE BANK OF THE REPUBLIC.

The balance sheet of the Bank of the Republic for September 30, 1900, shows a slight decrease as compared with the previous month, but nevertheless exhibits a very satisfactory state of affairs. The statement is as follows:

Credit.—Unissued shares of second series, $5,000,000; unissued bonus shares, $1,941,756.92; various debtors of head offices and branches, $10,386,806.16; values deposited, $4,506,112.90; guarantee of judicial deposits ($800,000 nominal) in bonds of the extraordinary loan, third series, at 62.50 per cent, $500,000; cash on hand, $3,996,384.95; total, $26,331,060.93.

Debit.—Capital (nominal), $12,000,000; various creditors, $4,405,-167.51; depositors, $3,801,112.90; port fund, $705,000; judicial deposits, $417,507.07; service of the extraordinary loan, payments by the Dirección-General of Direct Taxes, $33,387.37; notes in circulation, $4,845,643; reserve fund, $58,243.08; prevision fund, $50,000; silver cheques (*conformes*) in circulation, $15,000; total, $26,331,060.93.

REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO COMMERCIAL TRAVELERS.

The "Commercial Bulletin" of Brussels calls attention to the fact that commercial travelers to Uruguay are obliged to send in a written request upon stamped paper of third class (50 *centavos*, gold) to the customs authorities for the required license before they can begin operations.

The cost of the license, which is good from the 1st of January to the 31st of December, is $100 gold. However, the cost is reduced one-half when it is taken out during the third quarter of the year and three-fourths when taken out during the last three months.

Commercial travelers are advised to provide themselves with a passport issued by the authorities of their country.

The samples accompanying the commercial travelers are admitted upon the simple production of the license, with surrender of the permission of introduction and payment of the duties, if there are any, in conformity with the stipulations of the existing customs tariff and the annexed laws.

The importation of arms and war ammunition is subject to the authorization of the War and Navy Department.

NEW INDUSTRIES.

Among the new industries which are being established in Uruguay and which promise to be successful, says the "Nouveau Monde," are to be mentioned a cocoanut-oil factory which will obtain the raw material from Paraguay, and a creamery. The promoters of this latter enterprise intend to establish their industry on a large scale, utilizing the raw material naturally very abundant in the interior of the country, a great part of which has up to the present been unemployed. This will be a new outlet for products of local raising, and Uruguayan butter can soon compete with Australian salted butter in the European markets.

TRADE WITH SPANISH-AMERICA.

The Acting Consul-General of Mexico at New York advises that the imports from Mexico through that port during the month of October last were as follows: Heniquen, 20,759 bales; coffee, 1,186 sacks; hides,

3,349 bundles; hides, loose, 2,795; ixtle fiber, 1,458 bales; goatskins, 802 bundles; deerskins, 314 bundles; crude rubber, 96 bales; tobacco, leaf, 1,048 bales; cigars, 155 boxes; broom root, 3,264 bales; chicle gum, 505 bales; fustic, 1,827 pieces; Tecali marble, 135 pieces; hair, 30 bales; lead bullion, 80,799 bars; metals, 499 boxes; ores, 5,630 sacks; sarsaparilla, 260 packages; alligator skins, 75; heron plumes, 1 box; honey, 122 barrels; cedar, 2,867 logs; mahogany, 754 logs; jalap, 28 sacks; copper, 3,410 bars; oranges, 2,179 boxes. During the same month 17 ships, carrying 175,569 packages, were cleared, and 18 ships, bringing 134,347 packages, were entered.

The Mexican Consul at San Francisco, California, announces that during the month of October, 1900, the total exports of American merchandise through that port to Mexico amounted to $154,172. In addition to this amount there were shipped from San Francisco to Mexican ports merchandise of foreign origin—such as rice, linen, tea, etc.—valued at $2,753. The shipment of Mexican dollars to Hongkong during the month amounted to $523,686.

The principal importations, together with their values, were as follows: Argentiferous ores, $45,512; gold bullion, $9,485; gold coin, $60,000; silver bullion, $108,809; Mexican dollars, 99,885; sundry articles, consisting of hides and skins, coffee, lemons, etc., $11,669. Total, $335,360.

The Consul-General of Venezuela at New York reports that during the month of November, 1900, there were exported from that port to Venezuela 55,571 packages, weighing 4,111,286 kilograms, valued at $301,413.13. These figures show an increase in the value of exportations, as compared with the same month of the previous year of $201,481.89.

The Mexican Vice-Consul at Pascagoula, Mississippi, announces that the exports to Mexico through that port during the month of October, 1900, were as follows: To Vera Cruz, lumber valued at $8,840; to Campeche, lumber valued at $1,309; to Frontera, lumber valued at $1,607; making a total of $11,756.

TRADE OPPORTUNITIES IN LATIN AMERICA.

The demand for railroad supplies, track material, and rolling stock in Central and South American countries will be a leading feature of the trade of those countries during the early part of 1901, and is thus summarized by the "Journal of Commerce," of New York: New roads and extension of old ones involving the expenditure of considerable capital will be undertaken in the Republics of Nicaragua, Guatemala, Haiti, Costa Rica, Salvador, Argentine Republic, Bolivia, Ecuador, and Uruguay at an early date. The

Government of Bolivia has appropriated about $50,000 for the preliminary surveys of three railway lines—one from Oruro to La Paz and Lake Titicaca, another from Oruro to Cochahamba, and the third from Challapata to Colqueschaca. A road to run from Potosi to the Argentine boundary is also projected. The construction of a railroad from the right bank of the Pilcomayo River to some of the interior cities of Bolivia is also under consideration. The Government, having investigated the proposed construction by North American capitalists of a railroad from Arica to Corocoro, has manifested its conformity to the plans and a desire to see a realization of the project. The Guayaquil and Quito Railway Company (Ecuador) has deposited in bank in London the sum of $500,000 as a guarantee of the fulfillment of its contract. It will be remembered that J. P. McDonald & Co., of New York, have the contract for the construction of the road, and that there is no doubt that all the requirements for the undertaking will be furnished from the United States. Besides the opening existing in those countries for the sale of all sorts of railway material, it is advisable to closely watch similar developments in Mexico and Cuba.

The Federal District Street Railway Company, at Mexico City, is receiving quantities of material and rolling stock. The company has just completed a large iron and steel car house, and the power house is to be enlarged to twice its capacity. At Guadalajara a company has been formed by Mexican capitalists for the purpose of building an electric road from Guadalajara to Lake Chapala for both freight and passenger traffic. It is expected that the Mexican Government will grant a concession to construct and operate an electric road from Atequiza to Lake Chapala to wealthy Mexicans who have made application for the privilege. A company will be formed by natives for the purpose of building a large hotel on the shore of Lake Chapala.

Proposals for the establishment of an electric-light plant and an electric tramway system in the Cuban city of Mantanzas are being solicited by Jimenis & Co., of New York City, acting for the municipality of Matanzas. The proposals can be made for including both lighting and tramways, or either. The electric-light plant is to furnish not less than 225 lights of about 1,500 candlepower, the machinery to have a reserve capacity of at least 15 per cent more lamps. The contractor will be required to furnish a bond in $3,000, American gold, as guarantee for the performance of his obligations. Specifications are in the hands of the New York agents, who say that several bidders have already come forward.

The New York "Journal of Commerce" of December 6, 1900, states that "Since the middle of November the exodus of commercial travelers for the Argentine Republic from here has been far above the average. Not only have many export firms sent representatives this

season to that market, but manufacturing concerns are beginning to realize the importance of that country as a field for the introduction of their wares."

The Hawaiian Planters' Association, of Honolulu, has offered $6,500 in prizes to inventors of labor-saving machines to be used in the sugar business. Three machines are wanted, which the planters think some one should be able to invent. For a machine to cut cane, a prize of $2,000 is offered to the man who shall submit the best plan, which is to be increased to $5,000 if the design is accepted and proves efficient. A cane transporter and a machine to load cane into cars are also desired, and for these $1,500 are offered.

Bids are being asked by the municipality of Cienfuegos, Cuba, for the construction of a sewerage system and the paving of the principal street in the city, as well as for the construction of water works. The water is to be obtained from the River Hanabanilla, which is a short distance from the town. Further particulars may be obtained by addressing "Secretario del Municipio," Cienfuegos, Cuba.

The Mexican Development and Construction Company, of El Salto, Mexico, which has the contract for improving the property of the Mexican Plantation Company, of 725 Drexel Building, Philadelphia, Pa., will shortly be ready to place new contracts for machinery and other requirements.

Upward of $60,000 will be spent for material to build the local street railway in Tampico, Mexico, the construction of which is in charge of BRETON & Co., of that city. There has been no report as yet that the firm named has placed its orders for required material.

Messrs. ALFRED CHAPMAN, of Liverpool, England, and P. ABEL, of Trinidad, West Indies, recently visited New Orleans in behalf of the sugar interests in Trinidad. They came in order to study the advanced methods employed in Louisiana in the manufacture of sugar. It is reported that the gentlemen named will place large contracts for sugar machinery.

"El Banco Agricola" (The Agricultural Bank), of San Juan, Porto Rico, is making preparations, according to advices received by firms in New York, to open a branch office in that city for the purpose of increasing the export and import trade between the island and the United States, and also to induce American capitalists to invest in agricultural and other pursuits in Porto Rico. This bank is said to be a sound financial institution.

The Consul-General of the United States writes that he is informed by many local dealers in dry goods in Guatemala that United States drills, prints, and shirtings are in demand and are being constantly called for. Raw and bleached cotton yarns, packed with care, would also find a ready market. He believes that ready-made clothing for men would prove a good item of export. The people seem anxious to

buy United States goods when they can be found. Although there are many Americans in business in Guatemala their goods are imported from Europe, and are of the cheapest and most shoddy quality. It would therefore appear that this is an excellent opportunity for American business men to cater to the wants of the people.

An investigation of trade openings in Guatemala has recently been made by Mr. JAMES C. MCNALLY, Consul-General of the United States. He finds that the articles of hose and underwear imported for local use are of cheap grades and inferior to those manufactured in the United States. The Consul believes that there is a market in Guatemala for American haberdashery, and its introduction into the Republic will develop a good trade. It is quite impossible to find a shirt, collar, or cuff of United States make in all Guatemala, and the same may be said of other articles of wearing apparel. Observation leads the Consul to believe that the cheaper grade of United States goods is much superior to the cheaper grades introduced into that country from England, France, and Germany. The reason for the monopoly of the trade by England, France, and Germany, the Consul finds, is that those countries have resident salesmen, with display rooms in which to show their goods. This affords the dealers an opportunity to select from numberless varieties of fabrics and qualities, and by this means cable orders can be sent and the goods arrive in a reasonably short time. The representatives of the foreign houses usually make their headquarters in Guatemala, having their warehouses stocked to supply the immediate wants of the trade. When business is quiet in Guatemala these salesmen make trips into Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica, carrying with them all necessary samples, and supplying from their headquarters at Guatemala City. This resident system, the Consul adds, is also a protection to their houses, for, if a firm has financial difficulties, they are on the spot to protect their principals, and usually get their accounts in money or goods. There seems also to be an opening in Guatemala for shoes of United States manufacture. The ready-made shoes are imported principally from France and Germany, and are of a style and quality much inferior to American products at the same price. Shoes made to order have in them a poor quality of leather. The leather is imported from Germany and England. The sole leather is homemade, although some shoemakers prefer the Nicaragua sole leather, and much is imported from that Republic.

In reporting on the fruit export movement of Honduras, Mr. BENJAMIN JOHNSTON, United States Consul at Utilla, states that the shipment of cocoanuts in October, 1900, were very large. This was on account of the high prices—$23.85, gold, per thousand. The crop is fully up to the average. During the last year bananas have been raised in large quantities and have sold for 50 centavos (22½ cents, gold) per bunch. Owing to the good prices obtained for the products of the

country, the Consul says, the import trade of Honduras is on the increase, and traveling salesmen everywhere report substantial orders and good business. To secure the trade of this Republic is worthy of the best efforts of the exporters of the United States.

THE COTTON-SEED INDUSTRY.

Cotton is the most universal textile known to man, and finds a serviceable place in almost every kind of manufacture, from the cheapest to the most expensive and elaborate. There is no end to the uses to which cotton fiber may be put, except the limit of the inventive ingenuity of the human mind. The world's yearly consumption of cotton is now estimated at about 14,000,000 bales of 500 pounds each. This quantity is required to keep in operation some 105,000,000 spindles. All this cotton could be produced in the United States if prices were maintained at their present figures.

But fiber is not the only product of the cotton plant. There is probably no great industry in the United States about which less is known by foreign nations and even by the public at large in America than that of cotton seed. Less than twenty years ago cotton planters of the country got rid of the seed in any manner they could, regarding it as valueless waste; to-day the mills of Texas and other Southern States are paying from $12 to $14 per ton for cotton seed.

While the process of making oil from cotton seed is but in its infancy, there are now more than 500 mills in the South that represent an investment of probably $25,000,000, producing about $50,000,000 worth of products per year. The average number of employees per mill is 40, so that this industry furnishes employment for over 20,000 persons. A mill requires a great deal of space; consequently one is seldom located within a city. On an average $50,000 is requisite for the construction and equipment of a factory. The greatest cottonseed oil mill of the world is near Sherman, Texas, and has a capacity to crush 450 tons of seed per day. This has as adjuncts refineries, barrel factories, soap factories, delinters, gins, stock pens for the feeding of cattle, and a number of other industries depending upon the main factories.

After extracting the oil, the residue of the cotton seed is manufactured into feed stuffs for domestic animals and land fertilizers. The oil is graded and refined, some of it being used for food, some for burning in miners' lamps, some for lubricating purposes, and some in making candles and soap. All of the great packing houses of the country are largely interested in cotton-seed mills and use great quantities of the oil in the making of compound lard and substitutes for

butter. England and Germany, however, are the largest customers of the cotton-seed oil mills of the United States. The exporting of cotton-seed oil and oil cake is at present second only in importance to cotton itself at most of the Southern ports. France and Italy are also purchasers of great quantities of American cotton-seed oil. Formerly France had quite an industry in the manufacture of oil from African and East Indian ground nuts, but the cotton-seed oil industry has supplanted the ground-nut oil, and shiploads of partially refined cotton-seed oil now go from the ports of New Orleans and Galveston to Marseilles to be again refined and perfected by French processes. To Genoa a considerable amount of cotton-seed oil goes each year to be returned, it is alleged, as pure olive oil.

A cotton seed is less than half an inch long, and is about three-eighths of an inch in diameter when fully developed. It is light in weight, soft looking by reason of the lint which adheres to it, and gives no outward indication of the rich oil and nutritious animal and soil food that it contains. In making the oil there are, according to a special correspondent of the "New York Commercial," six different processes through which the seed passes. These are: Cleaning; removing the particles of lint by means of saws, the seed passing between the saws and having the lint particles shaved from the hulls; removing the hull from the seed; crushing; cooking the crushed meat, and pressing into cakes and forcing out all oil.

The cotton seed, when unloaded from cars and wagons, generally passes to the mill storage through conveyers which have perforated iron bottoms through which much of the sand or dust falls, there being usually about 3 per cent of such rejected matter. When the seed is to be crushed, it goes first to the boll screen, which removes all bolls or pods and any other foreign matter larger than the cotton seed; from this it goes to another screen, which cleans out any substance smaller than a seed; from thence it goes to the linters. On the passage to the linters, strong magnets are used to take out any metallic substances which, should they get into the linters, would dull the saws and thereby prevent good work. The linters remove the particles of cotton which adhere to the seeds. After the linters the seeds pass to the hullers, where they are cut up so that the kernels or meats can be separated from the hulls; shakers or beaters are generally used under hullers and the meats and hulls partially divided. The meats and hulls are next carried to the separating screens and completely separated. The clean meats are conveyed to the crusher rolls, where they are thoroughly mashed to open all the oil cells. The crushed meats then go into cooking heaters, where they are subjected to steam pressure varying from 40 to 100 pounds. When cooked, the meat is discharged into the receiving heater, where the cake is formed and then put into presses and subjected to a hydraulic pressure of from 2,500 to 4,000 pounds to the square inch to extract the oil.

When the cake is taken from the presses and the press cloth is stripped off, it is generally stored until thoroughly cool, and is sometimes shipped as cake; the more common method is to grind the cake into meal, which is very extensively used for cattle feeding and for fertilizing purposes. At the mills the hulls are used to some extent as fuel, but most of them are fed to stock as a substitute for hay. The lint is sold to carpet manufacturers.

A ton of the cotton seed of the State of Texas as it reaches the factory contains waste (sand, dust, etc.) averaging 100 pounds; oil, 250 pounds; lint, 20 pounds; cake, 740 pounds, and hulls, 890 pounds.

Pure cotton-seed meal contains the following ingredients: Protein, 50.81; fat, 18.01. It ranks No. 1 in feeding value among all known feeding stuffs.

The annual production of cotton seed has never been the subject of special statistical investigation by the Department of Agriculture of the United States and no official figures on yield are extant. It is generally recognized, however, that cotton as picked from the boll consists roughly of two-thirds seed and one-third lint; and, although climatic, soil, and other conditions may cause local variations in this relative proportion of seed to lint, an estimate based upon it will at least serve to supply the lack of carefully collected statistics and to illustrate, with fair approximation, the magnitude of the cotton-seed crop. An estimate of the production for each of the past ten years, based on the number of bales (500 pounds) of cotton produced, i. e., one ton of seed to every two bales of lint, is given in the following statement:

Crops of the United States.

Years.	Cotton.	Cotton seed.	Years.	Cotton.	Cotton seed.
	Bales.	*Tons.*		*Bales.*	*Tons.*
1890	8,652,597	4,326,298	1895	7,161,094	3,580,547
1891	9,035,379	4,517,689	1896	8,532,705	4,266,352
1892	6,700,365	3,350,182	1897	10,897,857	5,448,928
1893	7,549,817	3,774,908	1898	11,189,205	5,594,602
1894	9,901,251	4,950,265	1899	[1] 8,900,000	4,450,000

[1] Preliminary estimate.

According to the Department's statisticians the yield of products to the ton of seed (2,000 pounds) is subject to variations, but a fair estimate would be about 37 gallons of oil (275 pounds) and 725 pounds of oil cake or oil-cake meal. The residue, 1,000 pounds in each ton, consists of linters and hulls of comparatively small commercial value. The application of the yield per ton to the figures of total production given above will furnish a comprehensive idea of the possible output of the oil mills of the country when once this industry shall have attained its full development.

The status of the industry in the crop year 1898–99 would seem to indicate that about 78 per cent of the cotton-seed crop was utilized for

seeding and industrial purposes combined, leaving, approximately, 22 per cent for use as a fertilizer or to go to waste.

In the fiscal year 1871–72, when the growing importance of the exports of cotton-seed oil first warranted a separate specific statement in custom-house accounts, the quantity exported amounted to only 547,165 gallons, valued at $293,546. In 1899–1900, less than three decades later, the exports had increased to 46,902,390 gallons, with a value of $14,127,538. The following statement illustrates the growth of the export trade in cotton-seed oil since 1880:

Exports of cotton-seed oil.

Years ended June 30—	Quantities.	Value.	Years ended June 30—	Quantities.	Value.
	Gallons.			*Gallons.*	
1880	6,997,796	$3,225,414	1895	21,187,728	$6,813,313
1890	13,384,385	5,291,178	1896	19,445,848	5,476,510
1891	11,003,160	3,975,305	1897	27,198,882	6,897,361
1892	13,859,278	4,982,285	1898	40,230,784	10,137,619
1893	9,462,074	3,927,556	1899	50,627,219	12,077,519
1894	14,958,309	6,008,405	1900	46,902,390	14,127,538

The exports of the last two years represent, respectively, about 55 per cent and 65 per cent of the total quantity of cotton-seed oil manufactured in the United States during the corresponding periods, the remainder having been reserved for domestic consumption.

The exports of cotton-seed oil cake and oil-cake meal were not separated in the official statement of the Treasury Department from the exports of linseed-oil cake and oil-cake meal until 1895. The following statement gives the exports and values since that date:

Exports of cotton-seed oil cake and oil-cake meal.

Years ended June 30—	Quantities.	Value.	Years ended June 30—	Quantities.	Value.
	Pounds.			*Pounds.*	
1895	489,716,053	$4,310,128	1898	919,727,701	$8,040,710
1896	404,937,291	3,740,232	1899	1,079,993,479	9,253,398
1897	623,386,638	5,515,800	1900	1,143,704,342	11,229,188

For cotton seed in its natural state the export demand, though unimportant, has shown a steady increase during the past six years, as is shown by the following statement:

Exports of cotton seed.

Years ended June 30—	Quantities.	Value.	Years ended June 30—	Quantities.	Value.
	Pounds.			*Pounds.*	
1895	11,051,812	$86,695	1898	32,764,781	$197,258
1896	26,980,110	179,621	1899	34,443,806	197,023
1897	26,566,024	170,604	1900	49,855,238	346,230

Over $25,500,000 was realized in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1900, from the exports alone of what, a little more than thirty years ago, was considered a commercially valueless product of the Southern cotton fields. An amount considerably over half of this very large sum may be added for the total value of the manufactured products that entered into domestic consumption.

SHOE TRADE OF AMERICA.

The "Berichte über Handel und Industrie," Berlin, October 25, 1900, is devoted entirely to the discussion of German shoes in competition with those of other countries in various markets, and is made up of reports from German Consuls in all parts of the world. The conditions upon the American continent are reported, and these will be noted in the MONTHLY BULLETIN. In part the report is translated as follows:

CONDITIONS IN CANADA.

"By far the largest proportion of Canada's supply of shoes is furnished by local manufacturers. The value of the imports of leather boots and shoes in a country having 5,000,000 inhabitants was in the fiscal year 1898 only $378,000, and in the fiscal year 1899 only $453,000. The importations consisted chiefly of men's and women's shoes, while the commoner goods were manufactured at home. Over 90 per cent of the imported boots and shoes come from the United States. There were imported:

From—	1898.	1899.	From—	1898.	1899.
United States	$358,000	$428,000	Germany	$1,138	$1,462
Great Britain	16,000	20,000	China	2,633	1,333

"The boot and shoe industry of Canada is in the position of highest development, and as regards the quality of the product may be classed with the same industry in the United States; indeed, it is closely identified with that of the United States in imitation of styles and in the introduction of the improved machinery and other appurtenances. The manufacturing is done largely in factories using machinery. Making to measure is practically unknown and hardly one-tenth of the production is that of hand work. In Montreal there are three shoe manufactories, each with a capital of from $300,000 to $500,000, as well as a number of smaller ones. The largest factory produced 2,000 pairs of shoes daily. In Quebec there are two factories with a capital of $125,000 to $200,000 and two with a capital of from $75,000 to

$125,000, as well as several smaller ones. In Toronto, in addition to a number of small concerns, there are three with a capital of from $75,000 to $125,000 each. The export of boots and shoes is small, amounting for the fiscal year 1898–99 to $90,000 and $82,000, respectively. The largest portion went to Newfoundland and the neighboring French island of St. Pierre and the British West Indies, as follows:

	1898.	1899.		1898.	1899.
Newfoundland	$40,393	$37,864	Australia	$2,643	$1,770
St. Pierre	7,264	10,769	Great Britain	1,885	9,331
British West Indies	14,931	11,216	Germany	.....	308
The United States	12,163	6,839			

"An increase in the sale of German shoes in Canada, in view of the numerous difficulties presented, is hardly to be expected, and then it would be only possible to send the very finest goods, since the demand for commoner sorts is met by local production. The retail price of fine shoes in Montreal is from $3 to $6 a pair, about the same as the retail price in the largest cities of Germany. German goods, as well as those from the United States, are subjected to an *ad valorem* duty of 25 per cent. Those coming from the United States have the advantage on account of the styles, which meet those of Montreal, while the German article is not 'up to date.' The styles in shoes change very frequently, and they do not always represent those in vogue in Germany at the same time. On the other hand, where in Germany a small shoe is preferred, perhaps in Montreal the style calls for a very broad one, or vice versa. Very fine goods which do not correspond with the prevailing style are hard to dispose of. In order to increase the consumption of German shoes in Canada it is above all of the greatest importance that the German manufacturers should be alert and continually study the styles. Notwithstanding this, however, since the demand for foreign shoes in Montreal is small and as the field is entirely covered by the United States, successful competition is hardly to be expected.

THE MEXICAN MARKETS.

"The local manufacturers supply by far the largest portion of the demand for boots and shoes in Mexico. The importation during the last fiscal year was $230,906; during the first six months of the present fiscal year $173,690 gold, which amounts are only a very small percentage of the total consumption. There are about 25,000 Americans either residing in the capital or making their purchases there, who use chiefly American goods. By far the largest proportion of the American importations consists of men's shoes. The women's shoes from the United States do not, as a rule, suit the feet of the

Mexican women, and women's shoes are in part obtained in France; these, however, are principally dress and ball shoes, which sell from $15 to $18, and even more, a pair. Only the very finest shoes can be imported from Europe. Since the duties are almost prohibitive the consumption of these fine goods is limited. The only large importations are from the United States. The manufacturers there trust that the natural conditions will give them even greater opportunities, but they must not underrate the home competition.

"An important attempt was made to import Vienna shoes, but they were extremely hard to sell and further importations were not made. In regard to handmade goods the local producers stand upon the same high plane as those of the United States and Europe, and, further, the wages are small. Shoes to measure are very well made. The prices of low-cut shoes, the kind usually worn, are from $6 to $7 for the local manufacture, while the imported goods, which are perhaps somewhat more durable, can not be had under from $9 to $10 per pair. Common shoes for the Indians and poorer classes are made in León and are sold very cheaply. To date machinery for the production of shoes is not known in the country, but efforts are now being made to introduce this branch of industry on an extensive scale. The handmade shoe is generally preferred by the people to the machine made, but in view of the high duty the machine-made goods produced in the country itself would, of course, be much cheaper than the foreign article. The material for manufacturing, while not as good as that used abroad, is, notwithstanding, fairly satisfactory, and, further, is less costly. The conditions are not propitious for the importation of German shoes to Mexico.

MANUFACTORIES IN COSTA RICA AND NICARAGUA.

"There are two important shoe manufactories in Costa Rica which entirely supply the demand for cheap goods. In addition to these there are, in the small cities of Cartago and Heredia, a number of shops for handmade goods which have so cut down the prices that the imported article is not able to compete. For the better kinds of boots and shoes the handmade is preferred; importation, therefore, of high-classed goods is of small importance and is entirely in the hands of the general shops. Importations are made chiefly from the United States and Spain; others are brought from Italy, Austria, and Great Britain. The German article is imported only by a few private individuals. Notwithstanding that the home market is flooded with cheap shoes there are no exports to speak of.

"The supply of shoes in Nicaragua is furnished by the home manufacturers. Of the importations only women's shoes are of importance, and they are generally those from Vienna, sent through Hamburg commission houses. A very small importation of men's shoes is made

from New York. The home industry has, relatively speaking, progressed, chiefly in handmade goods, but some are made by machinery. There is some exportation, especially of the common kinds of shoes, to Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras. The Government has established a high import duty upon ready-made shoes, while that upon the necessary raw material is quite small.

HAITI AND SANTO DOMINGO.

"German shoes are not imported into either Haiti or Santo Domingo. This business is in the hands of other countries, particularly of France; then follows Austria and the United States, while Spain has some of the trade of Santo Domingo. Germany, however, furnishes the local industries in Haiti, as well as those of Santo Domingo, with the principal part of the raw material. Under the present conditions prevailing in Haiti, the largest part of the supply of shoes is brought from abroad. The principal kinds are high-laced and low shoes for men; for women, button, high-laced, and low-cut shoes with rubber inserts; for boys, high-laced shoes and rubber boots, the better class of goods being imported from France and also from Austria. The cheaper kinds come from the United States of America and France. The Haitian shoe industry is at present in its infancy. It began with the immigration of Cuban shoemakers, who, in consequence of the revolutions of recent years, emigrated to Haiti.

"In Port au Prince, as well as in most of the open ports of the country, there are large and small shoe shops, where men's, women's, and children's fine shoes are made. These shoes, known as *souliers cubians*, are much sought after on account of their elegance and durability, and an average higher price is obtained for them than for other goods. The uppers and rubber inserts are imported chiefly from Germany, while the soles are made in Haiti, and a rougher kind of slipper is also made from the same kind of leather. The work is generally by hand, with the assistance of sewing machines, principally of the 'Singer' make, with hand and foot motors. The largest part of the home production is sold in the country itself, a very small portion going to Santo Domingo.

The German industry has hardly made any attempt to enter the Haitian market, notwithstanding that, owing to the well-known durability of the German shoes, success should be met. It is very important indeed in this regard to understand the taste and style of the elegant French make, which necessitates the French last with a high instep. Hamburg houses have arranged for German manufacturers to be supplied with French samples for the purpose of the production of shoes for the Haitian market, but they have as yet not succeeded in meeting the requirements, and every attempt has failed. Another point to which the Germans have not paid sufficient attention, which,

however, is considered of great importance, is the elegant packing. In this regard the French are particularly careful. A further necessity is the sending out of commercial travelers fully supplied with samples. The importation of German shoes into Haiti meets with another difficulty in view of the recent tariff arrangements between France and Haiti through which certain kinds of shoes are absolutely driven out of the Haitian market. Accordi .g to the arrangements referred to, French shoes, as well as nearly all other French articles imported, are freed from the 50 and 33 per cent additional customs duties, so that men's shoes, upon which there is a duty equal to 3.50 *marks* per pair, can be imported. The import tax, however, on women's and children's shoes, on account of the similar import duty, amounts, without the additional duties, for women's shoes to from 3 to 5 *marks* per dozen, and for children's shoes to 2 *marks* per dozen.

The conditions in Santo Domingo are similar to those in Haiti. The supply of shoes is generally furnished from abroad, mainly from the United States, France, Austria, and Spain, and includes women's and children's lace and button shoes. Patent-leather shoes are much worn, made principally of brown or red leather, the elegant light goods being preferred. In the city of Santo Domingo a Spaniard carries on a shoe manufactory which obtains its raw material from abroad, principally from Germany. The goods are nearly all handmade; and when handmade work is used, the production of the Dominican shoemakers, with respect to appearance, etc., is generally very good, since Spaniards, Creoles, and mixed races lay great stress upon elegant shoes, for which they pay well. There is no exportation from Santo Domingo. In referring to the means of increasing the German importations in Haiti the same would generally apply to Santo Domingo, but the German goods would be absolutely prohibited in case the commercial treaty between the United States of America and the Dominican Republic is concluded, which provides that American shoes shall receive a reduction in duty of 25 per cent.

AMERICAN BIBLIOGRAPHY IN PARIS.

"La Revue Politique et Parlementaire" of November 10, 1900, gives a list of the books and pamphlets published by foreign governments on the occasion of the Universal Exposition which have been received at its offices.

In this list are to be found the following works published by the United States, Guatemala, Mexico, and Nicaragua:

UNITED STATES.

Official Catalogue: United States exhibitors, 1900, 1 vol. 12°.
Official Catalogue: United States exhibitors, 1900, annex, 1 vol. 12°.

Monographs on American Social Economics.

1. R. Watermann: The Social Economy Exhibit at the Paris Exposition.
2. E. D. Jones: The Country and the People of the United States.
3. ———. Resources and Industries of the United States.
4. W. H. Schoff: American Commercial Institutions. 1 pamph. 8°.
5. W. Fr. Willoughby: Bureaus of Labor Statistics. 1 pamph. 8°.
6. ———. Employment Bureaus. 1 pamph. 8°.
7. ———. Inspection of Factories and Workshops.
8. ———. Inspection of Mines. 1 pamph. 8°.
9. ———. Regulation of the Sweating System.
10. ———. Industrial Arbitration and Conciliation.
11. ———. Building and Loan Associations. 1 pamph. 8°.
14. Dr. I. Strong: Religious Movements for Social Betterment. 1 pamph. 8°.
16. W. Home Tolman: Industrial Betterment. 1 pamph. 8°.
17. H. Ninde: Young Men's Christian Associations of North America.
19. Samuel W. Abbott: The Past and Present Condition of Public Hygiene and State Medicine in the United States.
20. Commander Booth Tucker: The Social Relief Work of the Salvation Army in the United States. 1 pamph. 8°.

Monographs on Education in the United States.

1. A. Sloane Draper: Educational Organization and Administration.
2. Susan E. Blow: Kindergarten Education. 1 pamph. 8°.
3. W. T. Harris: Elementary Education. 1 pamph. 8°.
4. Elmer E. Brown: Secondary Education. 1 pamph. 8°.
5. Andrew F. West: The American College. 1 pamph. 8°.
6. E. Delavar Perry: The American University. 1 pamph. 8°.
7. Carey Thomas: Education of Women. 1 pamph. 8°.
8. B. A. Hinsdale: The Training of Teachers. 1 pamph. 8°.
9. Gilbert B. Morrison: School Architecture and Hygiene. 1 pamph. 8°.
10. J. Russell Parsons: Professional Education. 1 pamph. 8°.
11. T. C. Mendenhall: Scientific, Technical, and Engineering Education. 1 pamph. 8°.
12. Charles W. Dabney: Agricultural Education. 1 pamph. 8°.
13. E. J. James: Commercial Education. 1 pamph. 8°.
14. J. E. Clarke: Art and Industrial Education. 1 pamph. 8°.
15. E. Ellis Allen: Education of Defectives. 1 pamph. 8°.
16. H. B. Adams: Summer Schools and University Extension. 1 pamph. 8°.
17. J. McKeen Cattell, Scientific Societies and Associations. 1 pamph. 8°.
18. Booker T. Washington: Education of the Negro. 1 pamph. 8°.
19. W. N. Nailmann, Education of the Indian. 1 pamph. 8°.

GUATEMALA.

Catalogue des produits présentés par la République de Guatémala à l'Exposition universelle de 1900, par R. Guérin. 1 vol. 8°.

Guia del immigrante en la Republica de Guatémala. 1 vol. 8°.

MEXICO.

Catalogue officiel spécial du Mexique. 1 vol. 8°.

G. Gostrowski: Au Mexique. 1 vol. 8°.

L. de Zayas Enriquez: Les Etats-Unis Mexicains, leurs ressources naturelles, peur progrès, leur situation actuelle. 1 vol. 8°.

A. Correa, Resena: Economica del Estado Tabasco (Republica Mexicano). 1 vol. 8°.

Description abrégée du projet d'assèchement et d'assainissement de la ville de Mexico. 1 pamph. 8°.

R. DE ZAYAS ENRIQUEZ: Los Estados Unidos Mexicanos, sus progressos en veinte annos de paz (1877–1897). 1 vol. 8°.

NICARAGUA.

Le Nicaragua en 1900. 1 pamph. 8°.

BOOK NOTICES.

Books and pamphlets sent to the Bureau of the American Republics, and containing subject-matter bearing upon the countries of the International Union of American Republics, will be treated under this caption in the Monthly Bulletin.

An exceedingly interesting book entitled "El Perú en Europa" (Peru in Europe) by Señor Don CARLOS B. CISNEROS, Secretary of the Geographic Society of Lima, has been received at the library of the Bureau of the American Republics. The book is a concise and valuable exposition of the resources of Peru from an agricultural standpoint, and has been compiled for distribution in Europe, with the object of attracting immigration. It is a semiofficial publication and expresses in a clear and forcible manner, and with admirable simplicity and comprehensiveness, the vast possibilities there are in store for those practical agriculturists who seek their fortunes in the picturesque mountains and fertile valleys of the land of the Incas.

A chapter is devoted to the civil rights of foreigners. The author dwells at some length upon the laws of the nation as applied to foreign-born citizens, and calls attention to the great liberality of the Peruvian code. He shows that foreigners are well received in Peru; that their civil rights, religious beliefs, and liberties are carefully protected; that they enjoy all the rights of native Peruvians, among which is included that bulwark of liberty, the *habeas corpus;* that, as long as they obey the laws of the country, they are at perfect liberty to engage in any business provided the same is not inconsistent with the interests of the public welfare, health, or security. Foreigners may own real estate, denounce mines, acquire public lands, transfer, convey, and sell all kinds of real and personal property, and, in short, enjoy to the fullest extent possible all the rights and privileges conceded to Peruvians by the laws of the country. The chapter that treats of Peru as a field for immigration is of special interest and importance, in as much as it presents, in a thorough and exhaustive manner and in simple language, the wonderful opportunities for the

production of wealth that are presented on every hand to the immigrant, the manufacturer, and the capitalist.

Another valuable chapter is that devoted to the history of the country, to its statistics, and to its agricultural productions and possibilities. This part of the book embraces an entertaining and fascinating description of the ancient civilization of the Incas. The author refers to the public highways and remarkable irrigation canals of that period, and, reasoning by deduction, shows what may now be expected from Peru, endowed as it is by nature with such a richness and profusion of natural wealth, which only awaits the hands of industry and progress to develop and make of it an obedient servant for the use and advancement of the human race. Blessed with a diversified and salubrious climate, it would seem that nowhere on the South American continent are there better prospects offered to the immigrant than those held out by Peru, and surely no country could be more solicitous of the welfare of those who come as strangers to her shores than this progressive South American Republic.

Seldom does an official publication possess the historical interest that the "Report of the Census of Cuba, 1899," issued by the Government of the United States, holds for the general reader. This book is a record of Cuba from almost every point of view. It recites its struggles with poverty and with adverse political conditions; it tells of its resources and its opportunities, and analyzes its people in a manner in which no literary writer has ever attempted. Its statistical features, while interesting, are less attractive than are the chapters on special subjects, but they furnish the first authentic information that was ever obtained of the Cuban people. Some of the enumerators, in order to count a sparse and widely scattered population, were obliged to penetrate the bayous and to traverse the keys and islets off the shore, and to struggle against the lack of good water and food.

Never before were the people of Cuba so thoroughly enumerated and classified. There were many sociological problems to solve, many questions to answer, with many difficulties in the way. The island had just been devastated by famine and ravaged by war. Thus it was not a normal population that the representatives of the United States Government found and numbered, but a dazed and demoralized people. Proof of this is shown in the excessively large proportion of widows and the great number of orphan children, besides the fact that so many of the adult inhabitants reported that they were without gainful occupations. In certain sections among the younger adults there was shown to be a large percentage of illiterates, showing that proper attention had not formerly been paid to educational affairs.

The Cuban report was prepared under the supervision of Lieut.

Col. J. P. SANGER, who was Director of the Census, and of HENRY GANNETT and WALTER F. WILCOX, statistical experts. It contains many illustrations of the principal cities of the island, colored maps indicating some of the general results of the enumeration, and a number of colored diagrams giving graphic representations of the census according to selected topics, such as education, occupation, marital relations, citizenship, age, and size of families. General articles on agriculture, education, etc., supplement the formal statistical work.

"Commercial Education; the Training of Business Men as a Branch of Technical Education," by Dr. CHEESMAN A. HERRICK, of Philadelphia (Supplement to the Fifth Year Book of the National Herbart Society for 1899), published by the Society in Chicago. The Bureau acknowledges the receipt of this very valuable monograph. In July, 1898, the author was chosen to direct a commercial-education experiment in the Central High School of Philadelphia. He found himself confronted by a most perplexing confusion, and as the author states, the purpose of his essay is to attempt to run a new line through an unexplored field, to "blaze the way," to indicate some of the material and emphasize the difficulties. Commercial education in this country is just entering upon its formative stage, and the next few years are to be its critical period. The demands for the present are for a more efficient business man, a smaller percentage of failures, and the adoption of business as an occupation. All these can be met only in special schools. Dr. HERRICK divides his treatment of the subject into five parts: (1) business education a demand of the times; (2) business education, its value and necessity; (3) recent foreign experience in the training of business men; (4) obstacles to the inauguration of commercial education; (5) secondary school of commerce in Philadelphia. It will be seen that the division allows the author unbounded latitude, of which he has taken full advantage. The concluding chapter is an analysis of the contents of the paper, and a select bibliography is also attached.

The "Anuario Pillado" (Pillado's Annual) for 1900 has just issued from the press of the South American Bank Note Company, of Buenos Ayres. This useful book is a yearly publication of about 500 pages, treating of the statistics, commerce, and finances of the Argentine and Paraguayan Republics, compiled by the eminent South American statistician Señor Don RICARDO PILLADO. The general plan of the previous volume, corresponding to the year 1899, has been followed in the arrangement of the subject-matter included in this book. An additional chapter of about 80 pages, consisting of an historical discussion of the currency of the Argentine Republic, has been added to the present edition, and the principal official acts and statutory laws

relating to the finances of the country for the last seventy years are quoted in full. The work contains a vast amount of valuable information with respect to the two countries mentioned, and is a reliable and exceedingly convenient book of reference. Considerable space is given to the principal corporations, stock companies, and societies at present engaged in business in the two Republics, and a large amount of interesting data has been collected with regard to the railroads in operation in the Argentine Republic. The book is replete with governmental statistics and data relating to the internal and external commerce of these two progressive South American countries, and is one of the most important works of its kind that has come to the notice of the Bureau of the American Republics.

"Der Tropenpflanzer," Berlin, November, 1900, contains an article from the pen of Dr. PREUSS upon the balsam of Peru and its cultivation in Central America. Although "balsam of Peru" comes chiefly from Salvador, it owes its name to the fact that the balsam was first taken—at the time of the Spaniards—from Salvador to Callao, Peru, and from thence exported to Europe. In Salvador it is known as *bálsamo*. Dr. PREUSS presents a very carefully prepared report and enters exhaustively into the details of the manner of obtaining this valuable product. A quantity of the seed of the balsam tree has been sent to the German colonies in Africa with the hope of introducing its culture there. A chemical analysis of the various kinds of the balsam of Peru was made in the chemical laboratory of the University of Berlin by Prof. H. THOMS, M. D., whose report forms a part of the article by Dr. PREUSS. When ready for market it is a thick, viscid oleoresin of a deep brown or black color, and has a fragrant balsamic odor. It is used in perfumery, and in medicine as a stimulative application and internally as a remedy for asthma and other pectoral complaints.

"Between the Andes and the Ocean" is the title of a recent volume issued from the press of HERBERT S. STONE & Co., of Chicago. This book comprises a series of articles by Mr. WILLIAM ELROY CURTIS, formerly Director of the Bureau of the American Republics. As a whole the articles are descriptive of an interesting journey down the west coast of South America from the Isthmus of Panama to the Straits of Magellan. Mr. CURTIS included in his tour the Panama Canal and the ancient city of Panama, Ecuador, and the city of Guayaquil, Peru, Bolivia, and Chile, including the cities of Valparaiso and Santiago, and also Tierra del Fuego. There is a special chapter on the Panama Canal, and several chapters are presented dealing with economic conditions in Peru, the sessions of the Peruvian Congress, and the Peruvian rail-

ways. Bolivia receives similar attention as does Chile. Incidentally Mr. CURTIS gives the reader some graphic descriptions of such cities as Guayaquil, Arequipa, La Paz, Santiago, and Lima. These are points of importance and centers of commercial and literary activity, but with which the people of the United States are not so well acquainted as they ought to be. In view of the efforts being put forth by the people of North America to secure increased commerce with the southern part of the hemisphere, Mr. CURTIS's book is very timely.

The Bureau of the American Republics has received Bulletin No. 34, issued by the Agricultural Experiment Station (Mesilla Park) of the New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts. This publication treats of the "Principles of Water Analysis as Applied to New Mexico Waters," as ascertained by Mr. ARTHUR GOSS, chemist of the institution. Several tables are embodied with the descriptive matter which give the results of analyses of water taken at various periods and at several different points from the Rio Grande and Pecos rivers, as well as from a number of smaller streams, reservoirs, wells, and springs. The amount of sediment is generally large, especially so in some of the rivers at certain seasons of the year. The worst period of the Rio Grande water was found to be during the latter part of August and the first part of September. The amount of sediment in the water varied from 216 parts in February to 2,837 parts in August in each 100,000 parts of the samples taken from the river. The average for the entire year is 831.4. The water of the Pecos River is more strongly impregnated with alkali than that of the Rio Grande, though the amount of sediment is much less. The waters of both streams could be utilized for irrigation purposes.

The MONTHLY BULLETIN acknowledges receipt of an exceedingly interesting elementary grammar of the Spanish language, entitled "Nociones Elementales de Gramática Castellana," compiled by the distinguished Mexican grammarian, Prof. TOMÁS V. GÓMEZ, of Guadalajara, Mexico. The book referred to contains 140 pages of well-arranged matter, presented in a clear, concise, and systematic manner, and is a useful and convenient book of reference. That the work is highly appreciated in educational circles is proved by the fact that it has gone through a number of editions, this being the eighth, and that it is now used as a text-book in several States of the Republic. Señor GÓMEZ is also the author of "Lecciones de Gramatica General" (General Lessons in Grammar); "Apuntes para un Tratado de Gramática Castellana" (Observations Regarding Spanish Grammar); "Ejercicios de Análisis Gramátical" (Exercises of Grammatical Anal-

ysis); "Vocabulario de palabras de Escritura Dudosa" (Vocabulary of Words of Doubtful Orthography).

"Moody's Manual of Industrial and Miscellaneous Securities" is the title of a volume of 1,100 pages recently issued by the O. C. Lewis Company, of New York. The information comprised in this book is the result of the first systematic attempt to gather and publish, on a comprehensive scale, the financial data of American industrial corporations. The book embraces statements regarding some 1,800 distinct organizations, representing a total incorporated capital of over $9,325,000,000. The work is divided into twelve distinct sections, special lines of industry being classed separately. The last section is given up to a series of articles regarding the corporation laws of the States of New Jersey, Delaware, and West Virginia. While this book can not be called a complete compendium of the industrial corporations of the United States, yet it will be found to contain information on a great majority of those companies of $1,000,000 capital. The purpose apparently has been to limit the work as far as possible to those companies whose securities are quotable, and not to private corporations.

As one of its "Citizens' Library Series" the Macmillan Company (Boston) has recently issued a "Monetary History of the United States," by Charles J. Bullock, Ph. D., assistant professor of economics in Williams College. This book consists of three essays, occupying about 300 pages, in which the author has managed to condense a very large amount of information. In all essential respects it is as complete a history as are many works of more pretentious size. One topic to which the author devotes considerable attention is the cheap-money crazes from which the country has suffered from time to time. His theory as to the reason of these crazes is that they have been due more than to any other single cause to the constant spread of settlements westward over large areas that have long remained thinly populated, and the consequent need of the medium of exchange. Included in the volume is a complete bibliography of the subject, which is sure to be appreciated by investigators and students in the same field.

The German military surgeon, Dr. Kuhn, writing from Grootfontein, in the "Deutsche Kolonialzeitung," refers to the fact that he has successfully used a fluid obtained from sick horses for the purpose of the inoculation of human beings, white as well as native, for malaria. It is stated that not only have successful cures been accomplished, but immunity from further attacks of the disease secured. The experiments were commenced in 1899, and it is remarkable that

the inoculation caused no inconvenience or other disturbance to the patient. The effect of the treatment, without any use of quinine or other medicine, is to cause within two to six weeks a cure and immunity from further attack. In referring to this the "Deutsche Kolonialzeitung" says that the discovery is of the greatest importance for colonial interests, and suggests that it should be subjected to a thorough scientific investigation.

The Bureau of the American Republics has received a very useful and complete guide of the Argentine Republic, entitled "Baedeker de la República Argentina," compiled by Señor Don ALBERTO B. MARTÍNEZ, of Buenos Ayres. The book is an interesting volume of 369 pages, handsomely bound, and is the most comprehensive work of its kind regarding the Argentine Republic that has come to the notice of the MONTHLY BULLETIN. The arrangement is logical and convenient, and the subject-matter is interspersed with a number of maps of the principal cities of the Republic, together with numerous engravings of the most handsome public and private buildings of the national capital. A vast amount of desirable information to the traveler and tourist has been systematically collected and conveniently arranged in this Baedeker, and the book is one that will doubtless prove a valuable help and a source of great satisfaction to the traveling public.

The annual statistical work entitled "Sinopsis Estadística de Chile, 1899," has recently been published by the Bureau of Statistics at Santiago. The work comprises some 340 pages of exceedingly interesting matter concerning the progressive Republic of Chile, and contains a vast amount of data relative to the commerce and industry of that country. A number of valuable tables are interspersed through the book, each of which contains condensed and reliable information respecting the various subjects under discussion. The first part of the volume consists of a brief and well-written history of the Republic, and includes a general geographical description of the country. The topographies of the principal States of the Union are described, and a general plan of the operation of the Government of Chile as it exists at the present time is shown in a clear and explicit manner. The book is artistically printed, handsomely bound, and is an up-to-date statistical compilation.

"History of America before Columbus" is the title of a work in two volumes issued by the J. B. LIPPINCOTT COMPANY. This has been compiled by Mr. P. DE ROO, member of the "Archæological Club of the Land Van Waes" and of the "United States Catholic Historical Society." The author has prepared an exhaustive account of the

Western Continent before its discovery by Christopher Columbus. In the preparation of his work he has not only examined the entire accessible published literature in various languages bearing on the subject, but has spent years in the study of innumerable manuscripts embraced in the collections of the Vatican and other libraries. The two volumes possess qualities which will render them of inestimable service to historical students, while they possess an interest as a narrative which appeals to the general reader.

"Die Krankheiten der Warmen Länder" (The Diseases of Tropical Countries), by Dr. B. Scheube (Gustav Fischer, Jena, Germany, 1900). This is a book of 200 pages, with 5 maps, 7 tables, and 39 illustrations, which now appears in its second edition, the first one being entirely exhausted.

In medicinal handbooks even the names of many tropical diseases are lacking, and in the colleges but little attention is given to the subject. The number of physicians is steadily increasing in the Tropics, so that the present work is sure of a large circle of readers.

The contents follow the scientific progress already made. The chapter on malaria has been entirely rewritten, and a number of diseases not mentioned in the first edition are referred to, while the concluding chapter treats of the cosmopolitan diseases of the Tropics.

"The Progress of Invention in the Nineteenth Century," by Edward W. Byrn, has been published by Munn & Co., of New York. The author has been successful in collecting within the reasonable compass of 480 large octavo pages a highly interesting account of the progress of invention in the past one hundred years. Among the important subjects treated are the telegraph, the dynamo and its applications, the motor, the electric light, telephones, the miscellaneous applications of electricity, steam engines, railroads, steam navigation, printing, typewriters, sewing machines, agricultural machinery, rubber, mechanical processes, etc. The work is illustrated with 300 pictures, plans, and drawings, and has excellent indexes, making it a book of reference as well as one for general reading.

The Bureau of the American Republics has received from Hon. Perry M. De Leon, United States Consul at Guayaquil, a copy of the "General Regulations for Quarantine Service and Municipal Health of Guayaquil." This pamphlet is issued from the press of "El Vigilante," Guayaquil, during the present year. It is printed in the English language and contains translations of all the laws enacted for the prevention of the introduction of infectious diseases, for the instruction of boards of health, the general rules for their government, and instructions for the captains of foreign vessels bound for Guayaquil. The Minister of the Department of the Interior and Police announces, under date of May 26, 1900, the approval of these regulations.

The Government of Chile has just issued an extensive annual publication, consisting of 772 pages of neatly printed matter, entitled "Estadística Comercial." The work treats at great length of the commercial relations of the Republic during the year 1899. It has been prepared with the greatest care, contains much valuable information and a large quantity of statistics concerning all the important branches of the trade and commerce of the country. The volume is replete with statistical tables, and is a thorough exposition of Chilean trade, commerce, and industry. The matter is conveniently classified and arranged, and the subjects discussed are exceedingly interesting and instructive from a commercial point of view.

The annual chart of the United States Geological Survey was recently issued. This shows the production of minerals in this country for a number of years, particularly the years 1890 to 1899, inclusive. The total value of the mineral products for 1880 and subsequent years is given. From this it is ascertained that the value of the metallic products has increased from $190,039,865 in 1880 to $527,218,084 in 1899. For the same period the nonmetallic products increased from $173,279,135 to $447,790,862. In both metallic and nonmetallic products the year 1899 was the best yet recorded in the history of the United States.

Mr. Henry C. Morris, of Chicago, formerly United States Consul at Ghent, has written a volume, published by the Macmillan Company, entitled "The History of Colonization." The history covers a great period of time, embracing the earliest establishments and expeditions of the races of Asia Minor, and in a comprehensive manner brings the account down through the Middle Ages to early European colonizations, and thence to the present time. This work incidentally throws much light upon the present problems of colonial policy now confronting the United States. The timeliness of the book is obvious and should make it of great practical value.

In a recent book, "Political Parties in the United States," Dr. Jesse Macy, professor of political science in Iowa College, gives an admirable review of the development of political parties in this country, especially between the years 1846 and 1861. The author's discussions are praiseworthy because of their terse yet always lucid style and the scholarly and eminently fair manner in which they are handled. The first two chapters are particularly interesting. They are devoted to "The Origin and Nature of the Political Party" and "The Origin of the American Party System." Both of these subjects are handled comprehensively, and at the same time concisely, while, so far as they can be, they are freed from partisanship.

Messrs. McClure, Phillips & Co. have issued a small volume which bears the title "Abraham Lincoln: His Book." This is the only book which Abraham Lincoln ever prepared and put in circulation. It consisted simply of a small notebook containing printed extracts from his own speeches on the subject of negro equality. These extracts were annotated with his own hand. This interesting little volume was sent to a friend, Capt. James H. Brown, of Illinois, who used it in the political campaigns of 1858, 1859, and 1860. It is now reproduced in facsimile, making one of the most interesting souvenirs of the great War President in existence.

Prof. Edwin Erle Sparks, of the University of Chicago, has prepared an outline of the history of the United States under the title "The Men Who Made the Nation." These are not biographical sketches, but form a recital of the chief events of the past century and a half involved in making the American people what they are to-day. Direction to more intensive reading is given by the author through numerous footnotes and references to bibliographies. The book is illustrated with faithful reproductions of manuscripts, drawings, and cartoons. It is published by the Macmillan Company.

The Bureau of the American Republics is indebted to the War Department of the United States for a copy of the "Civil Service Law" promulgated by the Philippine Commission in September, 1900. This act applies to appointments of civilians to executive positions and to all offices with the exception of those which are filled by appointees of the President of the United States. Where other qualifications are equal, preference is given, first, to natives of the islands, and, second, to honorably discharged soldiers, sailors, and marines of the United States. The law is very complete and explicit.

"Poor's Manual of Railroads, 1900," embraces 1,954 pages of printed matter, of which 987 pages are devoted to the presentation of the statements of 2,026 steam railroad companies; 209 pages are required to publish the statements of 1,132 street railroad and traction companies; the statements of 166 leading industrial corporations take up 84 pages of the book; while 132 pages are given over to statements of State, city, and county debts, covering the affairs of 367 corporations. The cost of the "Manual" has been advanced to $10. As usual, it is well printed and handsomely bound.

"Depew's History of American Commerce" has been issued by D. O. Haynes & Co., of New York, in two volumes. These are full of facts, figures, and interesting stories concerning the development of the commerce of the United States during the nineteenth century. The 100 chapters in the work have been written by 100 Americans so high in authority that what they say must have great weight

with all readers of this almost marvelous story of the growth of American trade.

A volume of articles, stories, and sketches which have appeared in the "Youth's Companion" has been issued by the PERRY MASON COMPANY, of Boston, under the title "Greater America." This book is one adapted especially to the youthful reader, but in addition contains much important information regarding the recently acquired insular possessions of the United States. It is embellished with a number of illustrations.

Dr. EDWARD EGGLESTON has written a historical work under the title of "The Transit of Civilization from England to America in the Seventeenth Century," which is to be issued by Messrs. D. APPLETON & Co., New York. This book, which pictures the literary, scientific, and other influences which were brought to the United States from Europe in the early years of the country's existence as a colony, promises to be a work of importance.

LIBRARY ACCESSIONS DURING NOVEMBER.

Barretto, Luiz P.: A arte de fabrica o vino. São Paulo, Revista Agricola, 1900. 142 pp. 8°.

Canadian Manufacturers' Association: Canadian trade index; classified membership directory of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, 1900. 119 pp. 8°.

Cisneros, Carlos B., and Garcia, Rómulo E.: El Perú en Europa. Lima, 1900. 102 pp. 8°.

Cortés, Herman: De México á Honduras. San José, Tip. Nacional, 1900. 103 pp. 8°.

Doménech, J. Figueroa: Guia general descriptiva de la República Mexicana. Mexico, Araluce [1899]. 2 vols. 4°.

Egaña, Rafael: La cuestion de Tacna i Arica. Santiago de Chile, Barcelona, 1900. 234 pp. 8°.

El Mundo de los periodicos. Madrid, Hernando [1899]. 1,632 pp. 8°.

Fewkes, J. Walter: Catalogue of Hemenway Collection. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1895. 279–327 pp. 8°.

Fox, Williams C.: The next Pan-American Congress. Forum, vol. xxx (November, 1900). pp. 294–302.

Herrick, Cheesman A.: Commercial education. Chicago, Herbart Society, 1900. 229 pp. 8°.

Imendía, Carlos A., y Alas, C. J.: Cantos escolares. San Salvador, Tip. Musical anexa á la Imprenta Nacional, 1899. 1 vol. 4°.

Louisiana Board of Agriculture: Advantages of New Orleans and Louisiana for intercourse with South America. Baton Rouge [1900].

Martinez, Alberto B.: Baedeker de la República Argentina. Buenos Aires, J. Peuser, 1900. 369 pp. 12mo.

Mobile and Ohio Railroad: El puerto de Mobila. Mobile [1900]. 35 pp. 8°.

Pillado, Ricardo: Anuario Pillado de la dueda pública y sociedades anónimas . . . en la Repúblicas Argentina y del Uruguay para 1900. Buenos Aires, 1900. 490 pp. 8°.

Reynolds Library: 15th annual report of the Reynolds Library. Rochester, Democrat Press, 1900. 30 pp. 8°.

Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge: Catalogue of . . . rare books relating to South America. London, Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge, 1900. 171 pp. 8°.

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Argentine Republic.

Ministerio de Obras Públicas: Informe del Ingeniero Elmer-Lawrence Corthell . . . Buenos Aires, Guillermo Kraft, 1900. 180 pp. 8°.
Revista del Museo de la Plata. La Plata, Talleres del Museo, 1891–1899. 9 vols. 4°.

Bolivia.

Exposition Departamental de La Paz. La Paz, Imp. Americana [1897]. 75 pp. 8°.
Informe del ferrocarril del lago Titicaca. La Paz, Imp. del Estado, 1900. 22 III. 8°.
Memoria de Relaciones Exteriores de 1900. La Paz, Taller Tipo-Lito, 1900. LXI pp. 4°.
Memoria del Secretario General de Estado (con Anexos). 5 vols. 8°.
Memoria del Ministro de Guerra y Colonización. La Paz, Imp. del Estado [1900]. 13 xxiv. 8°.
Memoria presentada á la legislatura de 1900 para el Ministro de Hacienda é Industria. La Paz, Imp. del Estado, 1900. 61 pp. 4°.
Mensaje del Presidente de Bolivia. La Paz, Imp. del Estado, 1900. 16 pp. 8°.
Noticia política, geográfica, industrial y estadística. La Paz, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, 1900. 137 pp. 8°.
Ordenanzas militares para ejército Ministerio de la Guerra. La Paz, Imp. Boliviana, 1895. 309 vii.
Propuesta para un ferrocarril de Gaiba á Sta. Cruz. Buenos Aires, Comp .Sud-Americana de Billetes de Banco, 1900. 31 pp. 4°.
Sociedad Geográfica de La Paz: Introducción á la historia natural de Cochabamba. La Paz, Tip. Comercial, 1900. 117 pp. 4°.

Belgium.

Bulletin of the Royal Geographical Society of the Netherlands. Leiden: Bull, 1900. 874 pp. 8°.
Recueil Consulaire. Bruxelles, Weissenbuch, 1900. 504 pp. 8°.

Costa Rica.

Compilación de leyes relativos á la evolución Monetaria. San José, Tip. Nacional' 1900. 103 pp. 8°.
La reforma del sistema monetaria de Costa Rica. San José, Tip. Nac., 1897. 56, 9 pp. 8°.

Chile.

Anales de la Universidad de Chile. Santiago, Imp. Cervantes, 1900. 51–309 pp. 8°.
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UNITED STATES.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Information concerning game. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 21 pp. 8°.
Manufacture of starch from potatoes. Wiley. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 48 pp. 8°.
Nature studies. I–II. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 2 pamphs. 8°.
Proceedings of Association of Economic Entomologists. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 102 pp. 8°.
Report on experimental exports of butter. 1898–99. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 134–243 pp. 8°.
Sugar beet notes for 1898. Experiment Station, Reno, Nevada, 1898. 30 pp. 8°.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

Register of Department of Justice. October 1, 1900. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 180 pp. 8°.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

Monthly summary of the commerce of Cuba. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 198–236 pp. 4°.
Census of Cuba. 1899. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 786 pp. 8°.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

Consular reports. November, 1900. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 421 pp. 8°.
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Vehicle industry in Europe. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 315–410 pp. 8°.

VENEZUELA.

Anales de la Universidad Central. Caracas, Tip. Universal, 1900. 672 pp. 8°.

PERMANENT LIBRARY FILES.

Persons interested in the commercial and general news of foreign countries will find the following among the official and periodical publications on the permanent files in the Library of the Bureau of the American Republics.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Argentinisches Wochenblatt. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.
Boletín de la Unión Industrial Argentina. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.
Boletín Demográfico Argentino. Buenos Ayres. Monthly.
Boletín Oficial de la República Argentina. Buenos Ayres. Daily.
Bollettino Mensile. Rosario. Monthly.
La Industria Molinera. Buenos Ayres. Semimonthly.
La Nación. Buenos Ayres. Daily.
La Plata Post. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.
La Plata Zeitung. Buenos Ayres.
La Producción Nacional. Buenos Ayres. Semimonthly.
Le Commerce Extérieur Argentin. Buenos Ayres.
Review of the River Plate. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.

BELGIUM.

Bulletin of the Commercial Museum. Brussels. Weekly.

BOLIVIA.

El Comercio. La Paz. Daily.
El Comercio de Bolivio. La Paz. Daily.
El Estado. La Paz.
Revista Económica y Financiera. La Paz. Monthly.

BRAZIL.

Brazilian Review. Rio de Janeiro.
Jornal do Commercio. Rio de Janeiro. Daily.
Lavoura (A). Rio de Janeiro. Monthly.
Revista Agricola. Rio de Janeiro. Monthly.
Revista Brazileira. Rio de Janeiro. Monthly.
Revista Industrial e Mercantil. Pernambuco. Monthly.
Revista Maritima Brazileira. Rio de Janeiro. Monthly.

CANADA.

Industrial Canada. Toronto. Monthly.

CHILE.

Chilian Times. Santiago de Chile. Semiweekly.
Diario Oficial de la República de Chile. Santiago. Daily.
Revista Comercial e Industrial de Minas. Santiago. Monthly.
Verhandlungen des Deutschen Wissenschaftlichen Vereins. Santiago.

COLOMBIA.

Diario Oficial. Bogotá. Daily.
El Correo Nacional. Bogotá.
La Estrella de Panama. Panama. Weekly.
Revista de la Instrucción Pública de Colombia. Bogotá. Monthly.
Star and Herald. Panama. Weekly.

COSTA RICA.

Boletín de la Biblioteca Nacional. San José.
La Gaceta. (Oficial.) San José. Daily.

CUBA.

La Escuela Cubana. Havana. Weekly.
Revista del Foro. Havana. Quarterly.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

El Mensajero. Santo Domingo. Three times a month.
Gaceta Oficial. Santo Domingo. Weekly.

ECUADOR.

Gaceta Municipal. Guayaquil. Weekly.
Registro Oficial de la República del Ecuador. Quito. Daily.

ENGLAND.

Board of Trade Journal. London. Weekly.
British Trade Journal. London. Monthly.
Commercial Intelligence. London. Weekly.
Diplomatic and Consular Reports. London.
Feilden's Magazine. London. Monthly.
Freir's Colonial and Foreign Register. London. Quarterly.
Geographical Journal. London. Monthly.
Journal of the Board of Agriculture. London. Quarterly.
Mining (The) Journal. London. Weekly.
South American Journal. London. Weekly.

Tenders and Contracts. London.
Times (The). London. Daily.
Trade and Navigation Reports. London. Monthly.

FRANCE.

Le Nouveau Monde. Paris. Weekly.
Moniteur Officiel. Paris. Weekly.
Revue du Commerce Extérieur. Paris. Semimonthly.
Revue Générale des Sciences. Paris. Semimonthly.
Revue Politique et Parlementaire. Paris. Monthly.
Tableaux Mensuels de Statistique Municipale de la Ville de Paris. Paris. Monthly.

GERMANY.

Der Tropenpflanzer. Berlin. Monthly.
Deutsche Kolonialzeitung. Berlin. Weekly.
Handels-Kammer zu Hannover. Hannover.
Petermann's Mitteilungen. Gotha. Monthly.
Südamerikanische Rundschau. Berlin. Monthly.
Thonindustrie Zeitung. Berlin.

GUATEMALA.

Diario de Centro-America. Guatemala. Daily.
El Guatemalteco. Guatemala. Weekly.
La República. Guatemala. Daily.

HONDURAS.

Boletín Legislativo. Tegucigalpa.
Gaceta Judicial. Tegucigalpa.
La Gaceta. Tegucigalpa.

JAPAN.

Japan-American Commercial Journal. Tokyo. Monthly.

MARTINIQUE.

Les Colonies. St. Pierre. Daily.

MEXICO.

American (The) Evolution. Mexico.
Boletín de Agricultura, Minería é Industrias. Mexico. Monthly.
Boletín de Estadística. Mérida. Semimonthly.
Boletín de la Red Meteorológica y Revista Científica. Toluca.
Boletín del Instituto Científico y Literario. Toluca.
Boletín Postal de la Administración General de Correos de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos. Mexico. Monthly.
Boletín Telegráfico. Mexico. Daily.
Diario Oficial. Mexico. Daily.
El Agricultor Mexicano. Ciudad Juárez. Monthly.
El Economista Mexicano. Mexico. Weekly.
El Estado de Colima. Colima. Weekly.
El Progreso de Mexico. Mexico. Weekly.
El Republicano. Aguascalientes. Weekly.
La Gaceta Comercial. Mexico. Daily.
Le Mexique. Mexico. Bimonthly.
Resumen de la Importación y de la Exportación. Mexico. Monthly.
Semana Mercantil. Mexico. Weekly.

NICARAGUA.

Diario Oficial. Managua. Daily.
El Comercio. Managua. Daily.
La Patria. León.

PARAGUAY.

La Enseñanza. Asunción. Semimonthly.
Revista del Instituto Paraguayo. Asunción. Monthly.

PERU.

Boletín de la Sociedad Geográfica de Lima. Lima. Monthly.
El Comercio. Lima. Daily.
El Economista. Lima. Weekly.
El Peruano. Lima. Daily.
Padrón General de Minas. Lima.
Revista de Ciencias. Lima. Monthly.

PORTO RICO.

Boletín Mercantil de Puerto Rico. San Juan. Daily.
La Correspondencia. San Juan. Daily.

SALVADOR.

Diario del Salvador. San Salvador. Daily.

UNITED STATES.

American Review of Reviews. New York. Monthly.
Anglo-American Magazine. New York. Monthly.
Bulletin of the American Geographical Society. New York.
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Century Magazine. New York. Monthly.
Coal Trade Journal. New York. Weekly.
Cram's Magazine. Chicago. Monthly.
Expansionist (The). New York, N. Y. Daily.
Export Implement Age. Philadelphia. Monthly.
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Forum, The. New York. Monthly.
Hispano-America. San Francisco, Cal. Monthly.
India Rubber World. New York. Monthly.
Modern Machinery. Chicago. Monthly.
Modern Mexico. St. Louis. Monthly.
National Geographic Magazine. Washington. Monthly.
New-Yorker Handels-Zeitung. New York City.
Novedades (Las). New York. Weekly.
Pan-American Magazine. Buffalo. Monthly.
Publications of the New England Free Trade League. Boston.
Scientific American. New York. Weekly.
Scientific American. Export Edition. New York. Monthly.
United States Consular Reports. Washington. Daily and Monthly.

URUGUAY.

Anales del Departamento de Ganadería y Agricultura. Montevideo. Monthly.
El Siglo. Montevideo. Daily.
La Nación. Montevideo. Daily.
Revista de la Unión Industrial é Uruguaya. Montevideo. Semimonthly.

VENEZUELA.

Gaceta Oficial. Caracas. Daily.
Venezuela. Caracas. Monthly.
Venezuelan Herald. Caracas.

BOLETÍN MENSUAL

DE LA

OFICINA DE LAS REPÚBLICAS AMERICANAS.

Unión Internacional de Repúblicas Americanas.

VOL. IX. DICIEMBRE, 1900. No. 6.

ACTA DE LA SESIÓN DE LA COMISIÓN EJECUTIVA DE LA UNIÓN INTERNACIONAL DE REPÚBLICAS AMERICANAS.

Una sesión de la Comisión Ejecutiva de la Unión Internacional de Repúblicas Americanas se efectuó en el Salón de Recepciones Diplomáticas del Departamento de Estado el lunes, 26 de noviembre de 1900.

El Honorable Señor Secretario de Estado, Mr. JOHN HAY, en su carácter de Presidente de la Comisión, declaró abierta la sesión.

Los otros miembros de la Comisión que estuvieron presentes fueron:

El Señor Don JOAQUÍN BERNARDO CALVO, Ministro de Costa Rica.

El Señor Don ANTONIO LAZO ARRIAGA, Ministro de Guatemala.

El Señor Dr. Don EDUARDO WILDE, Ministro de la República Argentina.

Debido á la ausencia temporal del Director de la Oficina, Mr. W. W. ROCKHILL, el Director interino, Dr. HORACIO GUZMÁN, estuvo presente en la reunión.

Manifestó el Director interino que el objeto de la reunión era presentar el informe anual de la Oficina. Este documento está fechado á 26 de noviembre de este año y se publica á continuación.

El informe fué declarado enteramente satisfactorio y, á moción del Señor CALVO, se adoptó una resolución en este sentido.

Al referirse al informe, el Señor Secretario de Estado dijo lo siguiente:

"Creo que todos estamos de acuerdo en que este informe es un documento admirable y que muestra un estado de cosas muy satisfactorio, un gran paso hacia adelante y un gran cambio en el sentido de mejorar la condición de la Unión Internacional. Me es especialmente grato ver que este informe muestra un alto grado de inteligencia y energía, así como un espíritu de economía que ha levantado la Unión Internacional á un estado de influencia y prosperidad como no había alcanzado antes."

Se levantó la sesión.

WÁSHINGTON, D. C., *26 de noviembre de 1900.*

INFORME ANUAL DEL DIRECTOR INTERINO.

OFICINA DE LAS REPÚBLICAS AMERICANAS,
Washington, 26 de noviembre de 1900.

Al Señor Secretario de Estado, Presidente de la Comisión Ejecutiva de la Unión Internacional de Repúblicas Americanas y á los otros miembros de la misma.

SEÑORES: Encontrándose temporalmente ausente el Señor Director, MR. W. W. ROCKHILL, es mi deber presentaros el informe anual de la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas.

Las cuentas de la Oficina durante el año económico que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900 son como sigue:

Ingresos y egresos durante el año económico que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900.

INGRESOS.

Cantidad anual votada por el Congreso de los Estados Unidos, 1900			$36,000.00
Saldo proveniente de ventas, alquileres, etc., 1° de julio de 1899		$1,234.70	
Cuota de las Repúblicas Latino-Americanas	$18,849.90		
Entradas por anuncios	$5,083.81		
Entradas por venta de publicaciones	1,169.47		
	6,253.28		
		25,103.18	
			26,337.88
Entradas totales			62,337.88

EGRESOS.

De la cantidad anual votada por el Congreso de los Estados Unidos, 1900	$36,000.00	
De las entradas provenientes de ventas, alquileres, etc	24,882.51	
		60,882.51
Saldo el 1° de julio de 1900		1,455.37

Cuadro detallado de los gastos en el año económico que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900.

	De la cantidad anual votada por el Congreso de los Estados Unidos, 1900.	De las entradas provenientes de ventas, alquileres, etc.	Totales.
Sueldos	$32,908.79	$385.59	$33,294.38
Artículos de escritorio	.....	828.57	828.57
Alquiler	1,833.34	166.66	2,000.00
Biblioteca	.....	832.23	832.23
Sellos de correo	17.26	1,128.68	1,145.94
Muebles	.....	985.43	985.43
Impresiones	.....	18,592.01	18,592.01
Por contrato para el envío de los boletines de Nueva York á Buenos Aires antes del 1º de marzo de 1899	1,240.61	.....	1,240.61
Gastos diversos	.....	1,963.34	1,963.34
Total	36,000.00	24,882.51	60,882.51

Por lo que antecede se ve que el 1° de julio de 1900 había un saldo á favor de la Oficina de $1,455.37. En esta cuenta no se toma en consideración la cantidad que se adeuda á la Tipografía Nacional, por trabajos hechos para la Oficina durante el año económico que terminó en la fecha mencionada.

Al comenzar el año económico de 1900 se adeudaba á la Tipografía Nacional, según se puede ver por el último informe anual, la suma de $6,388.09. En consecuencia se ha podido reducir esta deuda á tal grado que la cantidad que en la actualidad se debe es solamente de $3,314.78, según se ve por la siguiente tabla:

Cuenta presentada por el Director de la Tipografía Nacional para el año económico que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900.

Saldo restante del año económico de 1899		$6,388.09
Suma total de las cuentas presentadas para el año económico que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900		20,932.59
Suma total por pagar		27,320.68
Cantidad á deducir de la suma cobrada por composición y trabajo tipográfico, según arreglos hechos con el Director de la Tipografía Nacional y acreditada á la Oficina	$7,005.90	
Cantidad pagada de las entradas provenientes de ventas, alquileres, etc., durante el año económico de 1900	$11,000.00	
Cantidad pagada durante el actual año económico	6,000.00	
	17,000.00	
		24,005.90
Saldo por pagar en el año económico de 1900		3,314.78

Á continuación se verán los ingresos y egresos durante el año económico que terminará el 30 de junio de 1901:

Cómputo de los ingresos:	
Cantidad votada por el Congreso de los Estados Unidos	$36,000.00
Cuota de las Repúblicas Latino-Americanas	16,156.70
Anuncios	4,000.00
Venta de publicaciones	1,200.00
Total	57,356.70

Cómputo de los egresos en la proporción actual:

Sueldos	$33,600	
Alquiler	2,000	
Impresiones	14,000	
Artículos de escritorio y muebles	1,500	
Biblioteca	1,000	
Sellos de correo	1,150	
Gastos diversos	3,000	
		$56,250.00
Saldo		1,106.70

En este cálculo no está incluido el saldo que se adeuda á la Tipografía Nacional por trabajos durante el último año económico. Si se incluyera, habría en apariencia un déficit de $2,208.08. Se espera, sin embargo, tomando en cuenta los resultados obtenidos en el último año económico, que los ingresos serán muy superiores á lo que se ha calculado y que bastarán para cubrir el mencionado déficit.

En cuanto á los anuncios, el asunto permanece en la misma condición en que se encontraba cuando se presentó el último informe anual. Es posible que esta fuente de ingresos produzca durante el próximo año económico la suma de $4,000.

Es digno de notar el hecho de que en los cálculos correspondientes al último año económico la cantidad de las cuotas correspondientes á las Repúblicas latino-americanas se fija en $15,813.53, cuando realmente se ha recibido la suma de $18,849.90. Este resultado se debe á que algunas de las Repúblicas, que no habían remitido sus cuotas por algunos años lo han hecho ya.

EL BOLETÍN MENSUAL.

La edición del BOLETÍN MENSUAL asciende á 11,000 ejemplares, de los cuales como 9,000 se envían á la América Central y del Sur. En la tabla que viene á continuación se verá el número de ejemplares del BOLETÍN que fueron remitidos á diversos países durante el mes de octubre próximo pasado, lo que dará una idea de la circulación de esta revista:

Distribución del Boletin durante el mes de octubre.

Argentina	452	Honduras	208
Belice	28	Jamaica	60
Bolivia	57	Las Antillas Menores	30
Brasil	376	México	5,090
Canadá	171	Nicaragua	104
Chile	246	Paraguay	29
Colombia	187	Perú	134
Costa Rica	101	Puerto Rico	201
Cuba	287	República Dominicana	141
Ecuador	113	Salvador	31
Estados Unidos	1,468	Uruguay	143
Europa	80	Venezuela	540
Guatemala	496		
Haití	197	Total	10,970

La circulación del BOLETÍN sigue siendo próximamente lo mismo que era durante el último año económico, pero se hacen constantemente algunos cambios en las listas de las personas á quienes se envía dicha publicación, con la mira de que solamente la reciban aquéllas que son más capaces de apreciarla.

El Congreso de los Estados Unidos ha votado un crédito para una edición mensual de 5,000 ejemplares del BOLETÍN, á fin de que sean distribuidos en este país, con el objeto de dar á conocer mejor los recursos y las condiciones comerciales de las Repúblicas latino-americanas. Cuando se reúna el próximo Congreso, se dará aviso de esto á los Senadores y Diputados, para que envíen á la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas los nombres de personas de diversas partes del país que se interesan en el BOLETÍN MENSUAL, á fin de que lo reciban con toda regularidad.

Ha sido muy valiosa para el BOLETÍN MENSUAL la cooperación de personas prominentes y dignas de crédito que en varios países funcionan como Miembros Correspondientes Honorarios de la Unión Internacional. La Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas cuenta con uno de estos miembros en casi todos los países latino-americanos, y se espera que pronto no habrá uno solo donde no esté representada. La esperanza manifestada por el Director en su último informe anual, de que los informes suministrados por los mencionados caballeros serían de gran importancia para la Oficina se ha realizado, pues los datos que envían son muy valiosos é interesantes.

Durante el último año económico las Repúblicas del Salvador y del Uruguay otorgaron á la Oficina la franquicia postal para sus publicaciones. De este privilegio goza ya la Oficina en once Repúblicas, lo mismo que en el Canadá, Cuba, Puerto Rico y las Islas Filipinas.

OTRAS PUBLICACIONES.

La Oficina ha publicado una obra de 400 páginas, titulada "Mexico: A Geographical Sketch, with Special Reference to Economic Conditions and Prospects of Future Development." Este libro ha recibido favorable acogida por parte de la prensa del país, así como del público en general.

De las otras publicaciones en vía de preparación, el manual del Brasil está terminado y listo para ser dado á la prensa. Los manuales de Guatemala, Costa Rica y Chile están muy adelantados y saldrán á luz antes de mucho tiempo.

Tiene el Director particular interés en publicar en español una obra sobre los Estados Unidos, y él mismo ha preparado el primer capítulo que trata del gobierno de este país. Otros capítulos serán escritos por hombres de reconocida competencia y que son autoridades en las materias de que tratarán.

Se han obtenido de las diversas Repúblicas datos oficiales relativos á los diarios y revistas que se publican en cada una de ellas. Listas de dichas publicaciones se han dado á luz de tiempo en tiempo en el BOLETÍN, y cuando todas estén completas serán impresas separadamente.

MAPAS.

Uno de los trabajos principales de la Oficina y en el cual se interesa vivamente el Director, es la publicación de mapas. Se han utilizado con este fin los servicios de un dibujante experimentado, y se han completado ya dos mapas de México, uno general, y otro en que se muestran las alturas y las condiciones agrícolas del país. Estos dos mapas están ya en manos del impresor y pronto estarán listos para ser distribuidos. Los mapas de Costa Rica, Guatemala y el Brasil han sido comenzados, y tan luego como se obtengan ciertos datos oficiales el trabajo será concluido, después de lo cual se dará principio á la preparación de los mapas de los otros países.

LA BIBLIOTECA.

Una parte considerable del último informe anual del Director fué dedicada á la biblioteca, que es tan esencial para los trabajos de la Oficina. En los últimos años no había recibido la biblioteca toda la atención á que es acreedora para poder corresponder al objeto de su fundación. El plan que se propuso para una reorganización práctica se ha realizado en gran parte.

La colección de cerca de 5,000 volúmenes sobre diversas materias, que constituían la biblioteca cuando fué presentado el último informe, ha sido aumentada con la adición de 1,120 volúmenes y 7,795 folletos. Una gran parte de estos últimos está ya encuadernada, y se han hecho los correspondientes catálogos. Estas adiciones á la biblioteca de la Oficina se deben en mucho á la cortés cooperación de los representantes diplomáticos de la América latina acreditados en Wáshington, y de los representantes de los Estados Unidos en el extranjero, quienes han llamado la atención de los diferentes gobiernos á la necesidad que tiene la Oficina de informes oficiales para poder llevar adelante su trabajo. Las publicaciones que se han solicitado han sido remitidas sin tardanza por las diferentes Repúblicas.

También se han obtenido obras valiosas por medio de cartas dirigidas á las principales casas editoras, suplicándoles el envío de cualquier libro en que se trate de los intereses de la América latina, á fin de dar cuenta del mismo en el BOLETÍN MENSUAL. Antes de ahora muy poco dinero había sido señalado para la biblioteca, pero en el último año económico se gastaron como $800, especialmente en la compra de obras de geografía, nuevos mapas y libros de consulta. Se calcula que durante el presente año económico se gastarán $1,000.

En la actualidad se hacn esfuerzos especiales para obtener una coleeción completa de todas las leyes y tratados de la Amércia latina.

Se reciben en la Oficina centenares de revistas que tratan de asuntos comerciales y otros de interés general. Los artículos de más importancia contenidos en estas revistas son conservados en la biblioteca, acompañados del correspondiente índice, á fin de que la información que contienen pueda encontrarse con facilidad. Dicho índice está en la forma de tarjetas catalogadas, y aumenta rápidamente. Desde la fecha del último informe se han agregado 9,000 tarjetas. Se tienen colecciones de los principales diarios y revistas de las Repúblicas latino-americanas, colecciones que son muy solicitadas como fuente de información.

Desea la Oficina formar del presente núcleo que compone su biblio teca la mejor colección de obras que traten sobre los países de América y que sea un medio de información fidedigna sobre la historia, geografía, riquezas y condiciones comerciales de todas las naciones de este continente.

LA EXPOSICIÓN PAN-AMERICANA.

El Congreso de los Estados Unidos ha votado un crédito para la exhibición que hará la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas en la Exposición Pan-Americana, que ha de verificarse en la ciudad de Búfalo durante el verano de 1901, y el Oficial Mayor de la Oficina ha sido designado para que la represente en la Junta Oficial de Administradores de dicho certamen. De la cantidad fijada por el Congreso de los Estados Unidos se ha tomado una suma adecuada al efecto de que la exhibición tenga buen éxito, y con este fin se han celebrado contratos y se han adoptado otras medidas conducentes á lo mismo.

CONFERENCIA INTERNACIONAL AMERICANA.

El acontecimiento más importante verificado desde la creación de la Oficina hace una década, será la Conferencia Internacional Americana que se inaugurará en la ciudad de México el 22 de octubre de 1901, y se espera que con la experiencia de diez años se obtendrán resultados en dicha Conferencia, que harán más valiosos los trabajos de la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas, como un medio de fortalecer los lazos de amistad y confianza que ligan á todos los países de la Unión Internacional.

Tengo la honra de ser, Señores, vuestro obediente servidor,

HORACIO GUZMÁN,
Director interino.

CHILE.

CONGRESO MÉDICO LATINO-AMERICANO.

El Congreso Médico Latino-Americano, que se reunirá en Santiago de Chile, abrirá sus sesiones el 25 de diciembre próximo y las clausurará el 1° de enero de 1901.

De conformidad con las bases del Congreso podrán formar parte de él los médicos titulados en cualquiera Universidad americana, los naturalistas, los químicos y farmacéuticos y los dentistas titulados.

El Congreso está dividido en cinco secciones: medicina interna, cirugía, farmacia y ciencias naturales, higiene y demografía y dentística.

Aunque el expresado Congreso puede ocuparse de todas las materias que se consideren de interés en los distintos ramos que abarca, la Comisión organizadora ha fijado algunos temas para que sean tratados de preferencia en las sesiones generales, cuyo estudio ha sido encargado de antemano á reputados especialistas de las diversas facultades de medicina Americana. Algunos de esos temas, todos de gran interés, se refieren á la conveniencia de uniformar los sistemas usados en el continente americano en materia de sanidad, de estadística sanitaria, farmacopea, etc.

Deseosos los directores del Congreso de alcanzar el mayor éxito posible, han organizado una Exposición Internacional de Higiene, Farmacia y Dentística, que se abrirá en el mes de diciembre y á la cual han sido invitadas todas las naciones del continente.

La Legación de Chile en Wáshington, ha hecho conocer el proyecto en este país por medio de una circular dirigida á los principales productores de artículos aplicables á los ramos indicados.

El programa de la Exposición abraza las siguientes secciones:

I. Instrumentos y aparatos para la investigación y demostración higiénicas.
II. Demografía.
III. Aguas potables.
IV. Desagües.
V. Habitaciones.
VI. Higiene de las calles.
VII. Baños públicos.
VIII. Higiene del vestido.
IX. Substancias alimenticias y bebidas.
X. Protección á la infancia.
XI. Cuidado de los enfermos.
XII. Edificios públicos.
XIII. Epidemiología.
XIV. Higiene de los ferrocarriles, tranvías y coches del servicio público.
XV. Higiene naval y salvamento marítimo.
XVI. Higiene de los cementerios.
XVII. Higiene de las peluquerías.
XVIII. Servicios contra incendio.
XIX. Higiene industrial.
XX. Higiene militar.
XXI. Sección de farmacia.
XXII. Sección de dentística.
XXIII. Literatura higiénica latino-americana.

CONDICIÓN DE LOS BANCOS.

El "Diario Oficial" de la República de Chile, correspondiente al 25 de octubre próximo pasado, publica el siguiente cuadro:

Balance de los bancos en 31 de julio de 1900.

	Billetes en circulación.	Depósitos.	Caja.			Cheques indisponibles en otros bancos.
			Metálico.	Billetes fiscales.	Total.	
	Pesos.	*Pesos.*	*Pesos.*	*Pesos.*	*Pesos.*	*Pesos.*
Banco de Chile	3,436,361.34	57,831,920.38	8,039,805.02	11,670,317.00	19,710,122.02	1,403,692.78
Comercial de Chile	121,166.67	3,140,395.54	124,153.00	148,577.00	272,730.00	686,619.05
Internacional(Chile)	.....	4,309,811.54	.....	604,250.81	604,250.81	858,993.65
Mobiliario	91,071.84	3,734,628.53	19,518.20	206,328.00	225,846.20	135,760.10
A. Edwards y Cª	.....	9,644,147.15	.....	2,233,753.00	2,233,753.00	935,399.92
Talca	.....	3,996,535.87	227,590.77	676,000.00	903,590.77	93,608.66
D. Matte y Cª	333,333.34	8,713,739.96	.....	1,795,614.16	1,795,614.16	1,208,971.48
Concepción	.....	2,594,352.30	29,622.74	116,908.00	146,530.74	2,666.27
Curicó	266,100.92	667,139.65	11,618.30	185,690.00	197,308.30	45,077.05
Melipilla	76,790.00	970,924.46	10,552.67	90,687.00	101,239.67	254,571.78
Ñuble	27,773.34	366,006.82	4,633.75	25,616.00	30,249.75	7,807.58
José Bunster	53,527.34	796,463.71	2,001.45	1,059.00	3,060.45	.....
Popular	.....	1,548,017.17	14,639.26	.....	14,639.26	335,501.48
Arauco	10,000.00	104,291.99	7,683.85	.....	7,683.85	6,175.71
Serena	96,241.82	1,804,274.88	15,177.70	123,286.00	138,463.70	28,910.74
Tacna	117,939.00	844,198.12	35,300.53	106,214.00	141,514.53	7,723.00
Tarapacá y Londres	.....	[1] 16,879,348.96	2,456,731.93	1,957,590.00	4,414,321.93	1,375,419.22
Chile y Alemania	.....	[1] 6,687,900.88	.....	1,109,505.11	1,109,505.11	168,277.44
Alemán Transatlántico	.....	[1] 11,062,735.06	.....	3,264,749.41	3,264,749.41	35,397.82
Popular Hipotecario	20,896.67	24,716.80	1,353.30	.....	1,353.30	58,255.61
Santiago	68,729.50	5,036,294.01	555,662.66	1,436,388.00	1,992,050.66	66,999.46
Español Italiano	.....	3,102,715.02	456,520.67	538,693.00	995,213.67	246,171.57
Punta Arenas	.....	95,701.52	.....	72,115.43	72,115.43	.....
Total	4,719,931.78	143,956,260.32	12,012,565.80	26,363,340.92	38,375,906.72	7,962,000.37

[1] Incluyendo cuentas corrientes, aceptaciones, intereses, etc.

CUBA.

RENTAS ADUANERAS POR DIEZ MESES.

La División de Aduanas y Asuntos Insulares del Departamento de la Guerra ha publicado los siguientes informes que se refieren á las rentas percibidas por todos conceptos en las aduanas de la isla de Cuba durante los primeros diez meses del año de 1900, comparadas con igual período del año de 1899.

El total de rentas aduaneras en los diez meses que terminaron el 31 de octubre de 1900 alcanzó á $13,215,499.03 y por el mismo período en 1899, á $12,120,991.59; es decir, que ha habido un aumento de $1,094,507.44 á favor de 1900 y comparando el mes de octubre de este año con el anterior, ha habido un aumento de $76,174.55 á favor de 1900. Los guarismos correspondientes á ambos años son los siguientes:

Aduanas.	1899.	1900.	Aduanas.	1899.	1900.
Baracoa	$31,949.81	$24,682.78	Manzanillo	$130,057.63	$141,129.59
Batabanó	1,803.76	2,728.54	Matanzas	357,593.05	389,360.99
Cienfuegos	954,261.93	916,391.14	Nuevitas	182,849.99	136,775.20
Cárdenas	228,693.33	244,462.35	Sagua la Grande	114,801.26	178,232.72
Caibarién	122,889.03	162,852.47	Santa Cruz	1,018.43	4,317.52
Guantánamo	90,946.45	96,463.15	Santiago	731,561.48	769,799.69
Gibara	132,008.31	176,422.20	Trinidad	19,384.43	21,197.17
Habana	9,035,939.47	9,949,669.55	Tunas de Zaza	5,133.18	1,013.97

EL SALVADOR.

FACTURAS CONSULARES.

El "Diario Oficial" de la República del Salvador de 23 de octubre de 1900 trae una disposición del Poder Ejecutivo, fechada el 20 del mismo mes, en que aclara algunas dudas en la aplicación de la ley de facturas consulares. Dice así:

"1°. El capitán de toda embarcación que traiga carga para cualquier puerto de la República y que no atraviese el Istmo de Panamá, tiene obligación de traer cuatro ejemplares del manifiesto ó sobordo, visados por el Cónsul de El Salvador en el puerto en que se haga el embarque, los cuales deberá entregar, á su llegada, al Administrador de la Aduana ó su representante.

"2°. Para toda carga que sea destinada á puertos salvadoreños que atraviese el Istmo de Panamá, los cuatro ejemplares del sobordo ó manifiesto serán visados por el Cónsul de El Salvador en Panamá, y el Capitán del buque que los traiga deberá entregarlos al Administrador de la Aduana ó su representante, como queda dicho.

"3°. Los manifiestos ó sobordos de que se ha hecho mérito, expresarán, en el encabezamiento, el nombre y nacionalidad del buque, el del capitán, el número de toneladas de registro y el de los tripulantes, y el puerto de su procedencia.

"En el cuerpo del manifiesto, con la debida separación, se consignarán las marcas y contramarcas, números (cuando los hubiere), la cantidad y clase de bultos, el contenido y clase de bultos, el peso bruto de cada lote, el destino, remitentes y consignatario; y al pie el juramento de que todo lo expresado en dicho documento es verdadero, la fecha y la firma."

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

COMERCIO CON LA AMÉRICA LATINA.

IMPORTACIONES Y EXPORTACIONES.

En la página 1258 aparece la última relación del comercio entre los Estados Unidos y la América latina, tomada de la compilación hecha por la Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Hacienda de los Estados Unidos. Estos datos se refieren al valor del comercio arriba mencionado. La estadística corresponde al mes de octubre de 1900, comparada con la del mes correspondiente del año anterior, y también comprende los datos referentes á los diez meses que terminaron en octubre de 1900, comparados con igual período de 1899. Debe explicarse que las estadísticas de las importaciones y exportaciones de las diversas aduanas

referentes á un mes cualquiera no se reciben en el Departamento de Hacienda hasta el 20 del mes siguiente, necesitándose algún tiempo para su compilación é impresión; de suerte que los datos estadísticos correspondientes al mes de octubre, por ejemplo, no se publican hasta noviembre.

MENSAJE DEL PRESIDENTE.

Con fecha 3 de diciembre el Presidente McKinley envió al Congreso quincuagésimo sexto, con motivo de la apertura de sus sesiones, el mensaje anual. Es un documento interesantísimo, pues en él se tratan las cuestiones de mayor importancia que han tenido lugar durante el año.

En parte dice así:

"Al Senado y la Cámara de Representantes:

"Al despedirse un siglo y entrar en el otro, abrís las últimas sesiones del Congreso quincuagésimo sexto, teniendo por todas partes evidencias de la prosperidad nacional é individual y prueba de la creciente y poderosa influencia benéfica de las instituciones republicanas. Vuestros compatriotas deben sentirse como vosotros felices de que la libertad americana se encuentre establecida más firmemente que antes, y de que el amor que por ella existe y la determinación que hay de mantenerla sean más generales que en ningún otro período de nuestra historia.

"Nunca se sintió la República más fuerte, porque nunca encontró en el corazón del pueblo un apoyo tan sólido como hoy. La Constitución, con pocas enmiendas, existe tal y como salió de la mano de sus autores. Lo que se le ha añadido ha tenido por objeto ensanchar las libertades y hacer más amplios los derechos de los ciudadanos. El gobierno popular ha demostrado, en la prueba de ciento veinticuatro años á que ha estado sometido, su estabilidad y seguridad, y su eficacia como el mejor factor del progreso nacional y la mejor salvaguardia de los derechos de la humanidad.

"Cuando el sexto Congreso se reunió en noviembre de 1800 la población de los Estados Unidos alcanzaba á 5,308,483. Hoy llega á 76,304,799. Entonces teníamos diez y seis estados; hoy son cuarenta y cinco. Nuestro territorio entonces medía 909,050 millas cuadradas; hoy mide 3,846,595 millas cuadradas. La instrucción, la religión y la moralidad han seguido los pasos de nuestro desarrollo en otros sentidos y al extender su poder, el Gobierno se ha adherido á sus principios fundamentales sin dejar de aplicar ninguno en lo que se refiere á nuestros nuevos pueblos y posesiones."

Trata luego el mensaje minuciosa y claramente la cuestión con China, dando una relación completa de los acontecimientos y de las negociaciones que la entrada á Pekín ha hecho necesarias.

Al referirse á los tratados de diferentes especies que ha negociado el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos, dice que el 2 de junio último se

cambiaron las ratificaciones de un Tratado de Extradición con la República Argentina y más adelante añade:

"En pro de los intereses de la expansión comercial entre este país y la América del Sur se han hecho esfuerzos durante el año pasado para celebrar convenciones con las repúblicas del sur y dar mayor ensanche á las facilidades postales. Dos convenciones de esta naturaleza se firmaron con Bolivia el 24 de abril, de las cuales, la que establece el sistema de giros postales está sufriendo algunas modificaciones sugeridas por el Departamento de Correos. El mismo día se firmó con dicho país un Tratado de Extradición que ha sido sometido al Senado.

"La disputa de límites entre el Brasil y Bolivia sobre el territorio del Acre está en camino de ser arreglada amigablemente, pues por el protocolo firmado en diciembre de 1899, se ha convenido en una frontera definitiva, cuya demarcación estará á cargo de una Comisión Mixta.

"Las condiciones existentes en el Brasil han hecho sentir su peso á nuestro comercio de exportación con aquel país, haciendo contraste notable con las que favorecen en nuestros mercados la entrada de los productos brasileros. Con instancia se ha manifestado esto á aquel Gobierno, habiéndose logrado alguna mejora en la situación. Confiamos en la justicia y en la buena voluntad recíproca de aquel Gobierno, para obtener mayor ensanche en nuestras relaciones comerciales.

"La convención firmada el 24 de mayo de 1897, para el ajuste final de las reclamaciones pendientes á la disolución de la Comisión de 1893, fué ratificada por el Congreso de Chile y una comisión suplementaria organizada. Resta que el Congreso vote la suma necesaria para los gastos de dicha Comisión.

"La insurrección que perturbó el orden en Colombia á fines de 1899 ha sido prácticamente suprimida, aun cuando en ciertos departamentos hay todavía guerrillas. El Poder Ejecutivo de aquella República cambió de manos en agosto último, cuando el Vice-Presidente MARROQUÍN tomó las riendas del Gobierno durante la ausencia de la capital del Presidente SAN CLEMENTE. El cambio no encontró seria oposición, y siguiendo los precedentes establecidos en estos casos, el Ministro de los Estados Unidos entró en relaciones con el nuevo gobierno de hecho, el 17 de septiembre.

"Es grato anunciar que las cuestiones pendientes entre Costa Rica y Nicaragua, resultado del Laudo del Presidente CLEVELAND en 1888, han sido ajustadas por un ingeniero americano, el General E. P. ALEXANDER, escogido como árbitro para la demarcación de la línea divisoria, quien ha cumplido su cometido á satisfacción de ambas partes.

"La revolución que tuvo lugar en la República Dominicana á fines del año último dió por resultado la instalación del Presidente JIMÉNEZ, cuyo Gobierno fué formalmente reconocido en enero. De entonces acá se ha efectuado el último pago de la reclamación americana relativa al puente de Ozama."

Al mencionar la Exposición de París y la parte que en ella tomaron los Estados Unidos, se expresa así el Presidente:

"Una idea de la parte que tomamos y de nuestro éxito, así como de la perfecta organización de nuestras exhibiciones allí, puede tenerse por el número de premios adjudicados por el Jurado Internacional á los expositores americanos, así: Grandes premios, 240; medallas de oro, 597; medallas de plata, 776; medallas de bronce, 541, y menciones honorables, 322; por todo, 2,476, que representa un total mayor que el que se adjudicara á cualquiera otra nación, al mismo tiempo que es el mayor total en cada clase. Este reconocimiento significativo del mérito, en competencia con las exposiciones escogidas de todas las otras naciones, hecho por jurados casi en su totalidad representantes de la Francia y otros países competidores, no solamente es de lo más placentero, sino que tiene valor especial desde el momento en que nos da puesto en primera línea en las cuestiones internacionales de producción y de demanda, mientras que una gran parte de las adjudicaciones hechas á las artes y manufacturas artísticas han sido una prueba, que no se esperaba, del estímulo de nuestra cultura nacional debido á la prosperidad hija de la riqueza natural y de la excelencia en las industrias."

Con referencia á las diversas reclamaciones de ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos contra otras naciones, se expresa así en mensaje, en lo que toca á la America latina:

"La reclamación pendiente de R. H. May contra el Gobierno de Guatemala ha sido arreglada por arbitramento. Mr. George F. B. Jenner, Ministro Británico en Guatemala, que fué escogido como árbitro único, adjudicó $143,750.73 en oro al reclamante.

"Varias reclamaciones americanas contra Haití han sido ya sometidas ó están para someterse al arbitraje.

"Como resultado de las negociaciones con el Gobierno de Honduras acerca de la indemnización pedida por el asesinato de Frank H. Pears en Honduras, aquel Gobierno ha pagado ya $10,000 como ajuste de la reclamación de los herederos."

Menciona al Presidente el asesinato del Rey Humberto y expresa la pena que esto hubo de causar en el Gobierno y pueblo de los Estados Unidos. Trata luego de otras cuestiones que se reclacionan con asuntos internos de este país.

Al referirse á México se expresa así:

"No ha ocurrido ningún incidente digno de nota en nuestras relaciones con la importante vecina del sur. Nuestras relaciones comerciales con México continúan desarrollándose y ninguno de los dos Gobiernos pierde oportunidad de dar empuje por todos los medios practicables á sus intereses comunes.

"En virtud de la declaración de la Corte Suprema, que las adjudicaciones hechas por la extinguida Comisión Mixta en las reclamaciones La Abra y Weil fueron obtenidas fraudulentamente, la suma concedida

en el primer caso, $403,030.08, ha sido ya devuelta á México, y la correspondiente á la adjudicación Weil le será devuelta de igual manera.

"Se ha firmado una convención que extiende indefinidamente el tiempo para las labores de la Comisión Internacional de Límites Fluviales entre los Estados Unidos y México."

La Convención de la Paz que se reunió en La Haya ocupa también la atención del Presidente.

Refiriendose á Nicaragua dice lo que sigue el mensaje:

"Como un incidente de la corta revolución que tuvo lugar en el distrito de la Mosquitia, en Nicaragua, á principios de 1899, los insurrectos cobraron por la fuerza derechos de importación á unos comerciantes americanos. Al restablecer el orden las autoridades nicaragüenses exigieron por segunda vez el pago de estos derechos, basadas en que se le debían al Gobierno titular, y que al distraerlas habían servido para ayudar la revolución.

"No aceptamos esta interpretación. Después de prolongado estudio, se llevó á cabo una transacción que disponía que el monto de los segundos pagos se depositase con el Cónsul británico en San Juan del Norte, hasta que los dos Gobiernos hubiesen determinado si los primeros pagos habían sido efectuados á una autoridad de hecho, obligados por la fuerza. No se llegó á un avenimiento, pues el Gobierno de Nicaragua, al pedir al Cónsul británico que devolviese los depósitos á los comerciantes, deshaució el punto.

"Algunas diferencias de carácter amenazador que se han suscitado entre algunas de las Repúblicas Centro-Americanas han sido arregladas, debido á los buenos oficios de nuestros ministros."

A la cuestión del canal dedica Presidente los siguientes párrafos:

"La importantísima cuestión de un canal interoceánico ha tomado una nueva fase. Adhiriéndose á su negativa de volver á tratar la cuestión de caducidad del contrato de la compañía del canal marítimo, que fué declarado nulo en octubre de 1899, por no haberse cumplido sus estipulaciones, el Gobierno de Nicaragua ha venido á complementar esta acción declarando nula la llamada opción Eyre-Cragin, por no haber consignado el pago de la garantía estipulada. Al Departamento de Estado se han presentado protestas referentes á estos actos, las cuales son materia de estudio. Considerándose relevado de compromisos actuales, el Gobierno de Nicaragua demuestra la disposición de tratar libremente la cuestión del canal, ya sea por medio de negociaciones con los Estados Unidos ó tomando aquellas medidas que den por resultado la construccion de la vía marítima.

"Las proposiciones hechas para una Convención, con el objeto de construir el canal bajo los auspicios de los Estados Unidos, son materia de estudio. Mientras tanto, se puede aguardar la opinión del Congreso sobre la materia en general, después del informe de la Comisión nombrada para examinar el mérito relativo de los diversos proyectos para un canal marítimo á través del istmo.

"Recomiendo al Senado que se ocupe á la mayor brevedad en la Convención con la Gran Bretaña para facilitar la construcción de dicho canal y apartar cualesquiera obstáculos que pueda presentar el llamado generalmente tratado Clayton-Bulwer."

Dice también el mensaje que el tratado de extradición firmado no hace mucho con el Perú, "con las modificaciones que le hizo el Senado, ha sido ratificado por el Congreso peruano."

Hace luego el Presidente referencia á las reclamaciones americanas contra la Turquía y también á la necesidad de que el Congreso tome medidas sobre las convenciones comerciales que fueron sometidas á su estudio en su última sesión, y á este respecto dice así:

"Después de mi última comunicación al Congreso en esta materia, se han proclamado convenios comerciales especiales, en virtud de la sección tercera de la ley de Tarifa, con Portugal, Italia y Alemania. Se han celebrado convenciones comerciales bajo las limitaciones generales de la cuarta sección de la misma ley con Nicaragua, Ecuador y la República Dominicana, con la Gran Bretaña para la Isla de Trinidad y con Dinamarca para la de Santa Cruz. Estas convenciones serán transmitidas dentro de poco al Senado. Progresan las negociaciones con otros Gobiernos para el desarrollo y seguridad de nuestras relaciones comerciales.

"La política de la reciprocidad descansa de una manera tan manifiesta en los principios de equidad internacional y ha sido tantas veces aprobada por el pueblo de los Estados Unidos, que no debería existir duda alguna en las Cámaras del Congreso para ponerla en vigor.

"Este Gobierno desea conservar las relaciones comerciales más justas y amigables con todos los países extranjeros, haciendo caso omiso de la rivalidad industrial que necesariamente se desarrolla con la expansión del comercio internacional. Créese que los Gobiernos extranjeros, por lo general, abrigan los mismos propósitos, aun cuando en algunos casos hay exigencias que pesan sobre ellos en favor de una legislación especialmente hostil á los intereses americanos. En caso que estas exigencias lleguen á producir efecto, me dirigiré al Congreso con el objeto de recomendar las leyes que sean necesarias para hacer frente á esta emergencia."

Con referencia á la Exposición de Búfalo y á la reunión del Congreso Internacional Americano que ha de tener efecto en México, se expresa así el Presidente:

"La Exposición de los productos del hemisferio occidental que se efectuará en Búfalo el año que viene promete resultados importantes, no sólo para los Estados Unidos, sino para los otros países que han de participar en ella.

"Es placentero manifestar que los países latino-americanos han demostrado el mayor interés en este asunto, y el hecho de que el Congreso Internacional Americano se reunirá en la ciudad de México, al mismo tiempo que se celebra la Exposición, acrecenta las esperanzas

de que lo que se exhiba en Búfalo ha de ser en escala mayor que la que hubiera tenido en otras circunstancias. El trabajo de preparar una exposición de nuestras fuentes de riquezas nacionales hace progresos satisfactorios bajo la dirección de varios empleados del Gobierno Federal, y los Estados de la Unión han demostrado buenas disposiciones de tomar parte de la manera más extensa en esta empresa."

El Presidente dedica este párrafo á la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas:

"La Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas continúa desempeñando con los resultados más felices la obra importante de ensanchar las relaciones cordiales que existen entre los Estados Unidos y los países latino-americanos, que hoy son todos miembros activos de la Unión Internacional. La Oficina ha sido factor principal en el convenio que se ha celebrado para la reunión de otro Congreso Internacional Americano que tendrá lugar en la ciudad de México en octubre de 1901. El porvenir de la Oficina por el término de otros diez años ha sido asegurado en virtud del pacto internacional; pero mucho tendrá que hacer el Congreso con la formación de nuevos planes para sus trabajos y su política general. Su utilidad en pro de los intereses del comercio latino-americano es apreciada por todos, y demuestra un desarrollo halagador."

Después de referirse al servicio consular americano y la eficacia con que atiende á los intereses que le están encomendados y del aumento de las labores de la Oficina de Comercio Extranjero, cuyo objeto primordial es compilar y publicar datos y contestar las preguntas que se le dirijen acerca de las materias que están bajo su cargo, se ocupa el mensaje de la condición económica del país en los siguientes términos:

"Me es grato poder manifestar que el excedente en las rentas para el año fiscal que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900 alcanzó á $79,527,060.18. Durante los seis años que precedieron á éste, sólo tuvimos déficits, que sumados en conjunto, desde 1894 hasta 1899, inclusive, arrojan la suma de $283,022,991.14. Las rentas durante el año, procedentes de todos los ramos que las producen, excepción hecha de las rentas postales, alcanzaron á $567,240,851.89, y las erogaciones en todos los ramos, menos para la administración del Departamento de Correos, subieron á $487,713,791.71. Los ingresos del ramo de Aduanas llegaron á $233,164,871.16, ó sea un excedente de $27,036,389.41 sobre el año anterior. Las entradas producidas por la Renta Interna fueron $295,327,926.76, habiendo aumentado en $21,890,765.25 sobre 1899. Los ingresos de ramos diversos subieron á $38,748,053.97 contra $36,394,976.92 en el año precedente.

"También es grato hacer constar que durante el año ha habido una reducción considerable en los gastos del Gobierno. Los del Departamento de la Guerra en el año fiscal de 1900 fueron $134,774,767.78, es decir, $95,066,486.69 menos que en 1899. En el Departamento de la Marina los egresos fueron $55,953,077.72 para el año de 1900 contra

$63,942,104.25 en el año anterior, ó sea una diferencia favorable de $7,989,026.53. En los gastos ocasionados por los indios hubo una diferencia de $2,630,604.38 en 1900 menor que en 1899; y en los gastos civiles y varios una reducción de $13,418,065.74 en 1900.

"Por motivo del exceso de los ingresos sobre los egresos el Secretario del Tesoro pudo aplicar bonos y otros valores al fondo de amortización por valor de $56,544,556.06. Los detalles del fondo de amortización se encuentran en el informe del Secretario del Tesoro, al cual os llamo la atención. El Secretario del Tesoro calcula que los ingresos en el corriente año fiscal alcanzarán á $580,000,000 y los egresos á $500,000,000, lo que deja un excedente de ingresos de $80,000.000. La condición presente del Tesoro es indudablemente fuerte. El balance en efectivo disponible para el 30 de noviembre alcanzaba á $139,303,794.50. Si se siguiera la forma en uso antes de tener efecto la ley fiscal de 14 de marzo último, se hubiera incluido en la cuenta de fondos disponibles el oro acuñado y en pasta que se conserva para redimir los billetes de los Estados Unidos.

"Siguiendo esta forma tendríamos, que el balance en efectivo, incluyendo la actual reserva en oro, $150,000,000, alcanzaría á $289,303,794.50. El balance para el 30 de noviembre de 1899 era de $296,495,301.55. En el fondo general, que es completamente distinto al fondo de reserva y el de depósito, había el 30 de noviembre $70,090,073.15 en moneda y pasta de oro, á lo cual debe agregarse $92,957,300 en certificados de oro para ser emitidos, para lo cual hay en la Oficina de Redención oro acuñado y en pasta, lo cual hace un total de oro no afecto á pagos por la cantidad de $93,047,373.15.

"Es el deber del Congreso, y estoy seguro que así lo dispondrá, dar leyes necesarias para asegurar la paridad continuada, bajo todas condiciones, entre nuestras dos formas de dinero metálico, plata y oro.

"El exceso de nuestras rentas ha permitido al Secretario del Tesoro recoger, desde el fin del año fiscal el empréstito consolidado de 1891 al 2 por ciento, por la suma de $25,364,500; estos bonos han sido pagados hasta noviembre 30, inclusive, por la suma de $23,458,100. Esta cantidad junto con la que resulte de otras redenciones por este respecto, serán aplicadas al fondo de amortización.

"La ley del 14 de marzo de 1900 dispone refundir en bonos por treinta años al 2 por ciento—capital é intereses pagaderos en moneda de oro del tipo corriente—aquella parte de la deuda pública representada por los bonos del 3 por ciento de 1908, los del 4 por ciento de 1907, y los del 5 por ciento de 1904, de los cuales para la época de aquella ley estaban por pagar $839,149,930. Los tenedores de las antiguas obligaciones presentaron para ser cambiados del 14 de marzo al 30 de noviembre, bonos por la suma de $364,943,750. Las economías netas que estas transacciones han producido al Gobierno alcanzan á la suma de $9,106,166.

"Otro efecto de esta operación, según lo manifiesta el Secretario, ha sido reducir en más de $7,000,000 la responsabilidad del Tesoro para el pago de intereses desde la fecha en que se refundió la deuda hasta el 1° de febrero de 1904. Desde esa fecha hasta el 1° de julio de 1907 el cargo á intereses anuales se reducirá en más de cinco millones y por los trece meses que terminan el 1° de agosto de 1908 en cerca de un millón. El informe anual del Secretario del Tesoro da los detalles de esta operación."

El mensaje hace referencia al número de bancos que se han establecido al amparo de la nueva ley de la materia; y al aumento de la circulación de los billetes de banco nacionales, según la misma ley, que desde marzo 14 á 30 de noviembre ha alcanzado la cifra de $77,889,570.

Los párrafos dedicados al comercio son estos:

"Nuestro comercio extranjero es un admirable ejemplo de progreso mercantil é industrial. El total de las importaciones y exportaciones, por la primera vez en la historia del país, ha pasado de dos billones de dollars. Las exportaciones son mucho mayor de lo que habían sido hasta ahora, siendo su total para el año fiscal de 1900 de $1,394,483,082, ó sea un aumento sobre 1899 de más de $167,459,780; ó de $163,000,752 sobre 1898; de $343,489,562 sobre 1897 y de $511,876,144 sobre 1896.

"El desarrollo alcanzado por las manufacturas de los Estados Unidos lo demuestra el hecho de que las exportaciones de productos manufacturados excedieron en mucho á las de cualesquier años anteriores, alcanzando su valor en 1900 á $433,851,756, contra $339,592,146 en 1899, ó sea un aumento de 28 por ciento.

"También se exportaron en 1900 productos agrícolas en mayor cantidad que en 1899, alcanzando el total para el primer año á $835,858,123, contra $784,776,142 en 1899.

"Las importaciones en el año alcanzaron á $849,941,184, lo que arroja un aumento de $152,792,695 sobre 1899. Este aumento se debe en su mayor parte á las materias para la manufactura, y responde al rápido desarrollo de estos intereses en los Estados Unidos. Aun cuando en 1900 se importaron para el uso de las manufacturas materias por valor de $79,768,972 más que en 1899, es satisfactorio observar la tendencia que hay hacia la disminución en la importación de artículos manufacturados listos para el consumo, que en 1900 alcanzó á 15.17 por ciento de las importaciones totales, contra 15.54 por ciento en 1899 y 21.09 por ciento en 1896."

Recomienda en seguida el Presidente que en sus presentes sesiones reduzca el Congreso la renta de impuestos internos creada para los gastos de la guerra con España en la suma de $30,000,000, é indica la manera de efectuarlo.

A la marina mercante americana dedica el mensaje los siguientes párrafos:

"Durante los tres últimos años los buques americanos han trans-

portado cerca del 9 por ciento de nuestras exportaciones é importaciones. Los buques extranjeros deben transportar la menor y no la mayor parte del comercio americano. El crecimiento notable de nuestras industrias de acero, el progreso en la fabricación de buques para el comercio del país y nuestros gastos para la marina presentan oportunidad de colocar á los Estados Unidos en el primer rango de las potencias marítimas comerciales.

"Además de alcanzar por este medio la aspiración nacional, esto significaría el establecimiento de un robusto desarrollo en todas nuestras costas de una industria verdaderamente nacional, ampliando el radio del empleo provechoso del trabajo y el capital. Aumentará las facilidades de transporte, reduciendo los fletes de una cantidad de productos que se traen del interior á la costa para la exportación, y fortalecerá un ramo de la defensa nacional con que siempre han contado los fundadores del Gobierno y sus sucesores. * * * ."

La cuestión de los monopolios merece en el mensaje atención especial, así como el asunto de Filipinas, el cual ocupa una grande entensión de este documento, en donde se halla una relación minuciosa de los acontecimientos en relación á la materia. Cuba y Puerto Rico merecen también la atención especial del Presidente, que anuncia el éxito del gobierno civil establecido en Puerto Rico por ley del Congreso y el estado satisfactorio de la parte administrativa de la Isla. Con respecto á Cuba, refiérese á las elecciones y otros puntos de interés para la buena marcha de la Isla. También menciona la necesidad de establecer comunicación por cable con las Islas del Hawai y las Filipinas. Con referencia al ejército y las fortificaciones dice así el mensaje:

"El ejército actualmente consta de 100,000 hombres, 65,000 de línea y 35,000 voluntarios. Por la ley de 12 de marzo de 1899, el 30 de junio próximo se licenciarán los voluntarios, quedando reducido el ejército de línea á 2,447 oficiales y 29,025 plazas. * * * Más de $60,000,000 se han invertido en un gran número de fuertes y cañones con toda la maquinaria científica complicada y aparatos eléctricos para su uso. El cuidado de esta maquinaria necesita de hombres hábiles y el número necesario de ellos el Departamento de la Guerra lo calcula como mínimo en 18,420."

La marina de guerra recibe también atención en el mensaje, así como todos los otros ramos dependientes de las carteras respectivas. Por lo que se refiere á las patentes y marcas de fábrica dice el mensaje que durante el año que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900 se concedieron 26,540 patentes; y 1,660 marcas de fábrica, 682 etiquetas, y 93 impresos fueron registrados. El número total de patentes fenecidas alcanzó á 19,988. Los productos en estos ramos fueron $1,358,228.35 y los gastos $1,247,827.58.

Después de ocuparse del Hawai, el censo y otros asuntos interiores, de los trabajos extensísimos y utilísimos del Departmento de Agricul-

tura, de la ley sobre contratos con trabajadores extranjeros, y otras materias de la mayor importancia, termina así el mensaje:

"En nuestra gran prosperidad debemos cuidarnos contra el peligro que esta atrae de hacer gastos y votar sumas extravagantes el Gobierno. Los representantes escogidos por el pueblo darán, en sus leyes, yo no lo dudo, una muestra de esa sabia economía que en épocas de abundancia guarda para el porvenir. En esta éra de grande actividad y grandes oportunidades comerciales no está fuera de lugar el proceder con cautela; esto no destruirá la confianza, sino que la robustecerá; no retardará nuestra legítima expansión industrial y comercial, sino que las estimulará. Nuestro poder creciente trae consigo tentaciones y peligros que para evitarlos requieren constante vigilancia; y no debe usarse ni para traer conflictos, ni para ejercer opresión, sino para el mantenimiento más eficaz de aquellos principios de igualdad y justicia de que dependen nuestras instituciones y nuestra felicidad. No olvidemos nunca que la libertad es la base de nuestro Gobierno, y la paz el edificio sobre ella levantado."

INFORME DEL SECRETARIO DEL TESORO.

El informe que el Secretario del Tesoro envió al quincuagésimo sexto Congreso de los Estados Unidos el día de la apertura de sus últimas sesiones, es un documento voluminoso é interesantísimo, del cual se publica el siguiente extracto que da una idea de la situación económica del país.

El excedente de los ingresos sobre los egresos en 1902, segun cálculos del Secretario, pasará de $26,000,000. Este cálculo no parece exagerado, pues el informe dice así más adelante:

"La situación actual del Tesoro y la que promete el porvenir induce á creer que las obligaciones del fondo de amortización pueden ser satisfechas tanto por lo que se refiere al año fiscal corriente como al próximo venidero, y aun más, permitir la reducción moderada de los impuestos que se cobran por virtud de la ley de Impuestos de Guerra. Así, pues, se recomienda al estudio del presente Congreso el medio de efectuar una reducción de $30,000,000 en este ramo."

INGRESOS Y EGRESOS.

El total de las entradas del Gobierno durante el año fiscal que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900, alcanzó á $669,595,431.18 y los gastos á $590,068,371, lo que arroja un excedente de $79,527,060.18. Comparando estos resultados con los del año fiscal de 1899, resulta que hubo en los ingresos $58,613,426.83 de aumento y en los egresos una disminución de $117,358,388.14. Los valores redimidos por cuenta del fondo de amortización alcanzaron á $56,544,556.06 y se calcula que las rentas del Gobierno para el año fiscal en curso alcanzarán á $687,773,253.92 y los gastos á $607,773,253.92, lo que arroja un superavit de $80,000,000.

MONEDA DE PLATA AUXILIAR.

Á este respecto dice el Secretario que "la autorización para aumentar á $100,000,000 la emisión de moneda de plata auxiliar, en virtud de la ley de 14 de marzo de 1900, ha sido ventajosa tanto por el Tesoro cuanto para el pueblo." La circulación de este tipo de moneda para el 1° de octubre de 1900 había subido á $79,432,193.

AMONEDACIÓN.

Las entradas y depósitos de oro y plata en barras que tuvieron lugar en los Cuños y Oficinas de Ensaye durante el año, alcanzaron á $203,553,813.88 en oro y $35,201,922.36 en plata. Para la acuñación de la moneda de plata auxiliar se compraron $1,290,055.94 onzas de plata de ley por la suma de $908,868.86. La cantidad de moneda acuñada durante el año fué de $141,301,960.36. La cantidad de oro acuñado retirado de la circulación, que se reacuñó, fué de $1,401,454.50 y la de plata mutilada $5,261,070.35. La cantidad de plata en pasta disponible para la acuñación de *dollars* y moneda subsidiaria de plata y la de plata pura en barras para el pago de depósitos el 1° de junio de 1900 alcanzaba á 83,740,690.96 onzas de ley cuyo costo era $68,224,562.31. Durante el año fiscal se fabricaron barretas de oro por valor de $96,267,169.02 y de plata por valor de $8,649,307.14. La cotización más alta que alcanzó la plata en Londres durante el año fué $28\frac{9}{16}$ peniques, igual á $0.62612 en moneda de los Estados Unidos por onza de ley y la más baja fué $26\frac{5}{8}$ peniques, equivalente á $0.58365. La diferencia del promedio del precio del oro comparado con el de la plata fué de 1 á 34.44. La producción de oro en los Estados Unidos durante el año civil de 1899 alcanzó según cálculos á 3,437,210 onzas, cuyo valor acuñado montó á $71,053,400; el producto de la plata fué de 54,764,500 onzas y su valor acuñado $70,806,626. La acuñación en todo el mundo durante 1899 fué: oro $466,110,614 y plata $166,226,964, ó sea un total de $632,337,578.

BANCOS.

La cantidad de dinero perteneciente al Gobierno depositada en los bancos nacionales para el 30 de junio de 1900 alcanzaba á $98,736,806.93, lo que representa un aumento de $22,453,151.63 desde el 30 de junio del año anterior. De los bancos nacionales cerca de 240 fueron escogidos especialmente para el depósito temporal de fondos del Gobierno. El Secretario llama la atención del Congreso al inconveniente que existe de manejar hoy los fondos públicos del Hawai y los de Puerto Rico en lo futuro, á causa de las disposiciones que prohiben depositar en los bancos nacionales las rentas de aduana y recomienda que se modifique esta disposición.

Los capitales de los bancos nacionales tuvieron un aumento líquido de $19,631,851 durante el año que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900. La

circulación de estos bancos aumentó en $78,289,572. El balance efectuado el 29 de junio de 1900 indica que para aquella fecha había un aumento en los depósitos confiados á los bancos, montante á $130,499,437.29, incluyendo las cajas de ahorro y las compañías de depósitos. La moneda acuñada en estas instituciones alcanzaba $356,013,709.08, es decir, $808,337.11 menos que el existente el 30 de junio del año anterior.

DEUDA.

Para el 1° de julio de 1900, la deuda con intereses comprendía bonos de los Estados Unidos, no vencidos y por pagar, por la suma de $1,023,443,390. Desde el 1° de julio del año anterior hubo una reducción de $22,567,530, producida por la compra de bonos del 4 por ciento del empréstito consolidado de 1907 por la cantidad de $14,310,350 y bonos del 5 por ciento del empréstito de 1904 por la suma de $4,990,300. También se rescataron bonos de la deuda consolidada de 1891, continuada al 2 por ciento, por la cantidad de $3,384,650.

CIRCULACIÓN POR CABEZA.

El aumento neto del dinero en circulación durante el año que terminó el 1° de noviembre de 1900 fué $175,465,264, y el total bruto fué de $2,139,181,412. Con una población calculada en 76,891,000 habitantes, la circulación por cabeza es $27.82.

COMERCIO EXTRANJERO.

Con referencia á esta materia se expresa así el Secretario del Tesoro:

"Cuatro grandes rasgos caracterizan el comercio extranjero del año fiscal de 1900. Primero, fué mayor que el de cualquier otro año precedente, y por la primera vez el total general de las importaciones y exportaciones pasó de $2,000,000,000; segundo, las materias primas para la manufactura adquirieron una proporción mucho mayor en las importaciones de lo que hasta ahora habían tenido; tercero, los productos manufacturados se exportaron en una proporción mayor que nunca; y, cuarto, las exportaciones en general fueron mayores de lo que habían sido hasta ahora y su distribución más amplia que en cualquier año precedente. Las importaciones durante el año alcanzaron á $849,941,184 contra $697,148,489 en 1899, es decir, aumentaron en $152,792,695. Casi las dos terceras partes de este gran desarrollo se deben á las materias para la manufactura. La proporción de la materia prima para uso en las manufacturas, durante el año que acaba de terminar, es con respecto al total de las importaciones 35.58 por ciento contra 31.94 en 1899. Artículos manufacturados total ó parcialmente para el uso de las artes mecánicas fueron importados en 1900 en proporción de 10.41 por ciento del total, contra 8.70 por ciento en el año anterior. La proporción de los efectos clasificados "Artículos manu-

facturados listos para el consumo" fué 15.17 por ciento del total de las importaciones efectuadas en 1900, contra 15.54 por ciento en 1899. Al mismo tiempo que las materias primas para la fabricación importaron en proporción creciente, las manufacturas acabadas forman proporción creciente también de nuestras exportaciones.

"El total de las exportaciones efectuadas en el año se valora en $1,394,483,082, en las cuales los efectos de producción nacional están representados por $1,370,763,571. En esta inmensa suma el 31.65 por ciento corresponde á artículos manufacturados, contra 28.21 por ciento en 1899. La exportación total de manufacturas durante el año de 1900 alcanzó á $433,851,750 contra $339,592,146 en el año anterior, lo que demuestra un aumento de $100,000,000, aproximadamente, ó cerca de 28 por ciento. En los productos de la agricultura también ha aumentado el comercio, pues el total para el año de 1900 alcanzó á $835,858,123 contra $784,776,142 en 1899, mientras que todos los otros ramos, tales como minería, productos forestales, productos de la pesca y productos varios, han aumentado también en 1900 sobre los números que representan el estado de su comercio en el año anterior."

Las importaciones de Cuba, Puerto Rico, el Hawai y las Filipinas alcanzaron en 1900 á $61,129,463, ó sea un aumento de 58.1 por ciento sobre el año de 1897. Las exportaciones alcanzaron á $47,303,446, es decir, un aumento de 214.6 por ciento sobre 1897.

DISMINUCIÓN DE LA DEUDA EN EL EXTRANJERO.

Á este respecto se expresa así el Secretario: "El hecho de que las exportaciones de mercancías excedieron constantemente á las de efectos y moneda acuñada por la suma de varios centenares de millones de dollars anuales, nos ha movido á indagar cuál es el método empleado para cubrir este inmenso balance del comercio á favor de los Estados Unidos. Mientras que esto puede explicarse parcialmente por los fletes, intereses y gastos de los americanos en el extranjero, es igualmente claro que una gran parte está representada por valores americanos que han sido devueltos á los Estados Unidos, reduciendo así la deuda extranjera de la nación."

INMIGRACIÓN EXTRANJERA.

Durante el año fiscal que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900 llegaron á los Estados Unidos 448,572 inmigrantes, de los cuales 304,148 fueron hombres y 144,424 mujeres. Con este respecto añade el informe: "Por lo que se refiere al grado de cultura de las personas de 14 años para arriba, 93,576 no saben leer ni escribir y 2,097 sólo saben leer; 54,288 inmigrantes trajeron consigo dinero en cantidad de $30 para arriba, y 271,821 sumas menores de $30, alcanzando el total de estas sumas acusadas ante los inspectores á la cantidad de $6,657,580. La inmigración total representa un número de 136,857, ó sea 43.9 por

ciento sobre el año anterior. Clasificada por países la inmigración fué como sigue: europeos 424,700; asiáticos 17,946; africanos 30 y 5,893 de otras procedencias."

MARINA MERCANTE.

"Al finalizar el año fiscal anterior," dice el informe, "la marina mercante de los Estados Unidos, por lo que se refiere á la capacidad de transporte y al valor de los materiales y salarios gastados en su construcción, no ha tenido émulo en nuestra historia. El tonelaje total existente representado por 5,164,839 toneladas brutas fué mayor que el de cualquier otro año desde 1861, en que el tonelaje americano alcanzó su máximo hasta entonces, con la cifra de 5,539,813 toneladas brutas. Como nuestras estadísticas de aquella época comprendían muchos buques que hoy por la ley no están obligados á ser registrados, resulta que aun por lo que se refiere al tonelaje, la marina mercante americana es mucho más grande que en cualquier época del pasado."

Con motivo del desarrollo del ramo de construcciones navales en el país para el servicio costanero y en general del comercio interior, el Secretario hace notar que la marina mercante americana que se ocupa en el tráfico extranjero es relativamente insignificante. Hace notar también las grandes facilidades que hay en el país para la construcción de buques, no sólo desde el punto de vista de la abundancia de los materiales necesarios, sino también por su baratura y así pide al Congreso que dicte leyes que estimulen el comercio americano y la creación de una marina mercante para el tráfico extranjero que sea digna del país.

LA DEUDA PÚBLICA.

La ley de 14 de marzo de 1900 dispone en una de sus cláusulas que se refundan ciertos bonos por pagar, del interés del 3, 4 y 5 por ciento en bonos del 2 por ciento, por treinta años, pagaderos, capital é intereses, en moneda de oro corriente de los Estados Unidos. Con este motivo dice así el informe: "Hasta el 15 de noviembre de 1900, inclusive, se habían recibido para hacer el canje bonos de las tres clases referidas por la suma de $352,083,450, los cuales fueron canjeados por bonos del 2 por ciento á treinta años por igual cantidad. La economía líquida que resultó de esta operación hasta la fecha indicada alcanzó á $8,828,052."

MONEDA.

Acerca del asunto importantísimo del talón de oro y la moneda corriente, el Secretario del Tesoro se expresa como sigue:

"Los resultados obtenidos de las disposiciones de la ley de 14 de marzo último referentes á estos dos puntos importantes de nuestras finanzas, han demostrado la sabiduría de aquella ley. Se ha hecho

cada vez más sólida la confianza que existía en el propósito del Gobierno de mantener el patrón de oro y su poder para llevarlo á cabo. El resultado ha sido que el oro corre hacia la Tesorería en vez de huir de ella. Para la fecha de este informe, el oro no afecto por ningún respecto que existe en la Tesorería es mayor en cantidad que lo que ha sido en ningún otro período de nuestra historia. Incluyendo los $150,000,000 de la reserva, el oro depositado en la Tesorería perteneciente al Gobierno pasa de $242,000,000, sin contar con más de $230,000,000 depositados en la Tesorería para responder de los certificados emitidos. La disposición de dicha ley ampliando las condiciones á que obedece la emisión de billetes de banco fué también sabia y oportuna. Á favor de ella, como ya se ha dicho en este informe, la emisión de billetes de banco aumentó en unos $77,000,000."

No obstante los buenos resultados abundantemente obtenidos por este medio, se hace necesario en algunos casos dictar leyes especiales, en la opinión del Secretario. Por lo que se refiere al fondo de rescate que dispone aquella ley, aun cuando la autoridad de que está investido el Secretario del Tesoro es quizás suficiente para que un empleado cuidadoso pueda proteger perfectamente la reserva de oro, parece sin embargo, que carece de autoridad bastante para mantener la completa confianza necesaria en la paridad continuada, bajo todas condiciones, entre el oro y la plata. Así, pues, el Secretario pide que se dicten leyes especiales en la materia. Por lo que atañe al medio circulante, aun cuando la ley mencionada, según se expresa el informe, ha dado por resultado aumento en la emisión de billetes de banco, no hay seguridad al presente de que el volumen de este medio circulante pueda hacer frente siempre á las necesidades del país, ya sea aumentando ó disminuyendo según lo exijan las circunstancias. El Secretario encuentra que, aun cuando el medio circulante es seguro y satisface las necesidades, no guarda, sin embargo, proporción con las del comercio y de la industria, y dice así: "Entre las necesidades que experimentan el comercio y el tráfico por un medio de cambio y un instrumento de crédito, tal como lo da el billete de banco y el valor de los bonos del Gobierno, que es hoy el factor más influyente para determinar las necesidades de un medio circulante, no hay relación alguna discernible."

INFORME DEL SECRETARIO DE LO INTERIOR.

El informe anual del Secretario de lo Interior de los Estados Unidos contiene una relación de lo que se ha hecho en dicho departamento durante el último año económico, así como algunas recomendaciones referentes á las varias secciones del mismo.

El Secretario llama la atención á la importancia del riego para el desarrollo de las industrias del oeste.

Recomienda el Secretario que se adopten las medidas necesarias para que los naturales de Alaska puedan ser ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos, y también pone de manifiesto la necesidad de que se emitan leyes para la protección de los parques nacionales.

EL DEPARTAMENTO DE AGRICULTURA.

El Honorable JAMES WILSON, Secretario de Agricultura, dice en su último informe anual que los hombres de ciencia empleados en su Departamento pondrán sus conocimientos al servicio de los agricultores en orden á producir en este país artículos que hoy se importan.

El Secretario habla largamente de los trabajos de las estaciones experimentales que fueron establecidas en los Estados Unidos por primera vez hace veinticinco años. Declara el Secretario que la cantidad de dinero votada para los gastos de su Departamento debe considerarse como una inversión lucrativa, desde luego que produce pingües ganancias y contribuye á la riqueza del país.

La industria de azúcar de remolacha ha continuado muy activa. Los productos alimenticios introducidos de países extranjeros en los Estados Unidos han sido objeto de cuidadoso estudio. La introducción de la palmera en Arizona se considera de gran importancia, así como la del trigo de Rusia y Austria-Hungría en otras partes del país.

Con relación al tabaco, hay que notar los buenos resultados que se han obtenido del cultivo del de Sumatra en Connecticut.

Continúan haciéndose, á manera de experimento, embarques de productos de lechería á Cuba y Puerto Rico.

Sigue exportándose mantequilla, también á manera de experimento, á diferentes países. Durante los años económicos que han transcurrido de 1897 á 1900 la exportación total de productos agrícolas de los Estados Unidos representó un valor de $3,186,000,000. La exportación de dichos productos en el último año económico fué por valor de $844,000,000.

AUMENTO DEL COMERCIO POR MEDIO DE LOS PAQUETES POSTALES.

Según el informe del Superintendente de los correos extranjeros, el comercio de los Estados Unidos por medio de los paquetes postales aumenta rápidamente. Dicho aumento en 1899, en comparación con el año anterior, fué de 28.52 por ciento, y el Superintendente cree que deba darse mayor ensanche á dicho sistema.

Una de las últimas convenciones de paquetes postales celebrada por el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos fué con la República de Venezuela el 17 de noviembre de este año. La opinión general es que este arreglo era muy ventajoso al tráfico entre las dos naciones.

LA INDUSTRIA DE LA SEMILLA DE ALGODÓN.

No es el algodón solamente útil como substancia textil, sino que ha dado origen á otra industria muy notable en los Estados Unidos, la de extraer el aceite de la semilla de dicha planta. En la actualidad se paga en los Estados del Sur por una tonelada de semilla de algodón de $12 á $14, y el producto anual de las fábricas que se dedican á dicha industria es como de $50,000,000 cada año. Después de extraer el aceite de la semilla, el residuo que queda se usa como alimento para animales domésticos y como abono para la tierra. Los productos de la semilla de algodón se exportan en grandes cantidades á diferentes países, principalmente á Inglaterra y Alemania.

LA GOMA ELÁSTICA COMO CUERPO AISLADOR PARA LOS CABLES SUBMARINOS.

Una de las cosas que ocasionan mayores gastos en los cables submarinos es la cantidad de gutapercha que se necesita como cuerpo aislador. Se creía que la goma elástica no era aparente para este servicio. Sin embargo, los informes que se han recibido de Manila indican que el Departamento de la Guerra ha hecho un gran descubrimiento que puede ser de gran importancia para la industria de goma elástica. En uno de los cables enviados á Manila, con el objeto de establecer comunicación telegráfica entre las diferentes islas, se ha usado como cuerpo aislador la goma elástica. Peritos ingleses predijeron que muy pronto sería destruido dicho cable por la broma y, sin embargo, el cable inglés en que se ha empleado la gutapercha como cuerpo aislador, solamente resiste á la broma durante un año, mientras que el cable americano con la goma elástica como cuerpo aislador, ha estado en servicio durante dos años y se encuentra todavía en buenas condiciones.

ESTADÍSTICA DE LAS GRANDES CIUDADES.

Son interesantes algunos de los datos estadísticos de las grandes ciudades de los Estados Unidos. Nueva York cubre una extensión de 197,922 acres; Chicago 122,240; Filadelfia 84,933; San Luis 39,276; Boston 60,661; Baltimore 24,171; Pittsburgh 19,418. Hoboken, en Nueva Jersey, es la ciudad más pequeña de los Estados Unidos en cuanto al área, pues en una extensión de 960 acres solamente tiene una población de 59,364 habitantes. Nueva York tiene 18 habitantes por acre; Chicago 13, y Filadelfia 15. Hoboken tiene 61 habitantes por acre.

En cuanto á los nacimientos, la proporción en Nueva York es de 22.59 por cada 1,000 habitantes; en Chicago de 17.11; en Filadelfia de 20.50. El año pasado murieron en Nueva York 65,343 personas; en Chicago 25,503; en Filadelfia 24,534. La mortalidad en Nueva York es de 18.41 por cada mil habitantes; la de Chicago de 14.57; la de Filadelfia de 18.78. Nueva York tiene 6,909 acres de parques públicos; Chicago 2,151 y Filadelfia 4,044.

LA INDUSTRIA AZUCARERA EN HAWAI.

En una reunión de la Asociación de Plantadores de Caña de Azúcar, que se verificó últimamente en Nueva Orleans, el Profesor WILLIAM C. STUBBS habló de los métodos de cultivo que se emplean en las Islas de Hawai, y dijo que había dos clases de plantadores, una á barlovento de las montañas donde son frecuentas las lluvias, y la otra á sotavento donde el riego es de absoluta necesidad. Los métodos de cultivo empleados en las dos secciones, que están separadas por montañas, difieren bastante. Al hablar de la naturaleza del suelo al lado de sotavento, el Profesor STUBBS dice que es muy poroso, que absorbe inmediatamente el agua de lluvia, y que no existen en ninguna parte aguas corrientes, siendo indispensable la construcción de pozos artesianos. En las montañas llueve constantemente. Desde la anexión de las islas á los Estados Unidos, los salarios de los trabajadores han aumentado en un 25 por ciento.

MERCADOS DE CAFÉ.

Dice el "New York Commercial," en un artículo sobre el tráfico de café, que Nueva York continúa siendo el primer mercado de los Estados Unidos para este artículo, á pesar de la competencia que le han hecho algunos veces Nueva Orleans y Baltimore. La importación anual de café en los Estados Unidos asciende á cerca de 800,000,000 libras. De esta cantidad, más de 600,000,000 libras vienen del Brasil, 60,000,000 de otros países de la América del Sur, y como 80,000,000 de México y de la América Central, lo cual pone de manifiesto que casi las siete octavas partes de dicha importación proceden de puertos que quedan más cerca de Nueva Orleans que de Nueva York; pero no hay que olvidar que de esta última ciudad se exporta gran cantidad de café á Europa, lo cual, según el "New York Commercial," representa un valor de $3,000,000 anualmente.

NÚMERO DE LAS OFICINAS DE CORREO.

El informe anual del Cuarto Sub-Director General de Correos indica que durante el último año fiscal fueron nombrados 14,435 administradores subalternos de la cuarta clase y 707 nombrados especialmente por el Presidente. Esto indica un aumento de 538 sobre el año precedente. Se establecieron 3,600 oficinas subalternas de correo, ó sea 675 más que en el año anterior. La extensión del servicio de reparto á domicilio en el campo hizo necesario la disminución de muchas oficinas. Para el 30 de junio de 1900 había en los Estados Unidos 76,688 oficinas de correo, de las cuales 193 pertenecían á la primera clase, 852 á la segunda, 3,187 á la tercera y 71,456 á la cuarta.

LA LANA EN 1900.

El producto total de la trasquiladura en los Estados Unidos durante 1900 ha sido calculado por el Secretario de la Asociación Nacional de Fabricantes de Lana en 288, 636,621 libras de lana lavada y sin lavar. El número de ovejas que había en el país se calculaba en 40,267,818 cabezas, contra 36,464,405 en 1896. El aumento de la trasquiladura de 1900 sobre la de 1899 es de 16,445,291 libras. La provisión disponible de lana de todas clases se calcula en 578,084,304 libras, contra 667,109,028 en 1899.

COMERCIO DE EXPORTACIÓN EN EL MES DE OCTUBRE DE ESTE AÑO.

La cifra más alta que ha alcanzado el comercio de exportación de los Estados Unidos, comparado con el de importación, corresponde el mes de octubre de este año, según los datos estadísticos del Departamento de Hacienda. La exportación en dicho mes fué valorada en $92,475,226 más que la importación. La exportación total de mercancías en el mes de octubre ya citado representó un valor de $163,093,597. En el mes de octubre de 1899 el valor de las exportaciones fué de $125,966,527, y en el mes de octubre de 1898 ascendió solamente á $118,619,563. Las importaciones en el citado mes de octubre de este año fueron por valor de $70,618,371, contra $72,232,238 en octubre de 1899.

EXPORTACIÓN DE LIBROS Á MÉXICO.

Asegura el "Mexican Herald" que México compra más libros en los Estados Unidos que Francia, y casi tantos como Alemania. Opina dicho periódico que esto se debe en su mayor parte al número de ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos residentes en la vecina República, y también al gran desarrollo que ha tenido en México el idioma inglés. En la capital muchas personas de diferentes condiciones se dedican asiduamente al estudio del inglés, y en algunos de los establecimientos de instrucción se le da preferencia al francés.

CARBÓN Y ESTACIONES CARBONERAS.

El "New York Herald" dice que el Departamento de Marina de los Estados Unidos ha encontrado que es más barato enviar carbón á las estaciones carboneras situadas en países extranjeros que comprarlo en otras partes. El precio que paga dicho departamento por el carbón en los Estados Unidos es de $5.88 por tonelada, mientras que en los mercados extranjeros lo venden á $8.53 por tonelada. Como el contrato que se hizo fué por 225,000 toneladas, la diferencia en el precio representa una economía considerable para el Gobierno, mientras que la calidad del carbón americano es muy superior á la del extranjero.

El Gobierno de los Estados Unidos tiene depósitos de carbón en Hawai, Samoa, las Filipinas, Yokohama, el Japón, Puerto Rico y México.

INVERSIÓN DE CAPITALES EN OHIO.

Por el informe del Secretario de Estado de Ohio se ve que durante el año que terminó el 15 de noviembre de 1900, la cantidad de dinero invertida en nuevas empresas en el Estado de Ohio ascendió á $77,593,199, lo cual agregado al capital social de empresas que funcionaban antes del principio de este año, arroja un gran total para los doce meses de $113,040,099.

EL DESARROLLO DE HAWAI.

El primer censo de las islas de Hawai fué levantado en 1832 y después hubo los de 1836, 1850, 1853 y 1860. Más tarde estos censos se levantaron cada seis años. El de 1900 se ha considerado como parte del duodécimo censo de los Estados Unidos.

Según el primer censo de las mencionadas islas, levantado en 1832, la población era de 130,313 habitantes, y en cada uno de los censos sucesivos hasta 1872 se notó una diminución en los habitantes. Durante los seis años que siguieron al de 1868 la población aumentó rápidamente. En el transcurso de cuatro años, de 1896 á 1900, el por ciento de la población casi se ha duplicado.

La extensión total de las islas es como de 6,449 millas cuadradas. La ciudad de Honolulu tiene 39,306 habitantes. En 1890 la población era solamente de 22,907 almas.

NICARAGUA.

PÓLIZAS ADUANERAS.

El Presidente de la República de Nicaragua, en vista de la necesidad de dictar algunas disposiciones que perfeccionen el servicio de las aduanas de la República, en armonía con las innovaciones introducidas por las leyes orgánica y reglamentaria del Tribunal de Cuentas, promulgó el siguiente decreto, que es el que rige en la materia desde 4 de mayo de 1900.

"Artículo 1°. Toda operación de importación, exportación ó depósito de cualquiera clase, que las aduanas hayan de autorizar sobre tráfico de mercaderías, aun cuando no deba producir impuesto alguno á favor del Tesoro, deberá hacerse constar precisamente en un pedimento escrito que, una vez autorizado y liquidado con los comprobantes del caso, tomará el nombre de Póliza.

"ART. 2°. Todo pedimento de póliza aduanera deberá ser presentado por triplicado en papel sellado de un peso y deberá contener como elementos esenciales, los siguientes: 1°, referencia al manifiesto del buque en que se importen ó exporten las mercaderías; 2°, declaración del destino que se les da; 3°, nombre del dueño de ellas; 4°, marcas y números de cada bulto; 5°, contenido de cada bulto, según la especificación y nomenclatura de los aranceles vigentes, y 6°, número de la fracción con que cada artículo figura en dichos aranceles. Los dos últimos requisitos se contraen á las pólizas de importación solamente.

"ART. 3°. Tratándose de importación, al pedimento de la póliza deberán acompañarse indispensablemente dos tantos de la factura consular y del conocimiento de embarque; y cuando estos documentos no pudiesen ser habidos por duplicado, el Jefe de la Aduana dispondrá que á costa de los interesados se saque copia que autorizará previo cotejo.

"ART. 4°. Antes de ordenar el registro y legalización de las pólizas, el Jefe de la Aduana confrotará los tres ejemplares presentados con los manifiestos, conocimientos y facturas, y en todo caso de inconformidad ordenará las rectificaciones indispensables, aplazando la operación aduanera para cuando se hubiesen efectuado aquéllas.

"ART. 5°. Siempre que se trate de mercaderías almacenadas en las Aduanas, á las respectivas pólizas de importación ó exportación, deberá acompañarse una solicitud de salida ó relación de bultos, escrita por duplicado y firmada por el interesado, en la cual se expresen las marcas, contramarcas, número de los bultos, su contenido genérico y número de la póliza en que se hallasen comprendidos.

"ART. 6°. La relación de bultos ó solicitud de salida, autorizada por el Jefe de la Aduana, una vez asegurados los derechos, si los hubiere, será pasada al Contador Vista, quien, constándole la legalidad del despacho solicitado, le pondrá bajo su firma la nota de conformidad y devolviendo un ejemplar al interesado, enviará otro á la Oficina para que sea agregado á la póliza correspondiente.

"ART. 7°. De la exactitud de los términos que contiene la relación de bultos son responsables el Jefe de la Aduana y el Contador Vista respectivo. Serán prohibidas las enmendaduras y demás alteraciones posteriores que no se hallen salvadas bajo las firmas, así como los espacios en blanco que permitan adiciones subsiguientes.

"ART. 8°. Los Guardalmacenes de Aduana no entregarán ningún bulto, si no es á la presentación de la solicitud de salida en referencia, debidamente cancelada por el tenedor ó su endosatario legal, y en todo caso se cerciorarán de previo de la autenticidad de este documento presentándolo al Contador Vista ó al Jefe de la Aduana, para que ratifiquen su contenido.

"ART. 9°. Cuando se trate de exportación ó reembarque de mercaderías, después de autorizada y verificada la operación, previo pago ó

afianzamiento de los derechos, si los hubiere, el interesado queda obligado á presentar al Jefe de la Aduana respectiva dos ejemplares de cada conocimiento de embarque, á más tardar dos días después de efectuada la operación.

"ART. 10°. Una vez cerradas las pólizas y asegurados los derechos que causaren, se entregará al interesado un ejemplar de los tres que se hubiesen liquidado, recogiendo el recibo del caso; y los otros dos, con sus correspondientes anexos de factura consular, conocimiento de embarque, etc., se guardarán uno en el archivo de la aduana y se remitirá el otro al Tribunal Supremo de Cuentas para los fines de ley.

"ART. 11°. Los capitanes ó sobrecargos de embarcaciones mayores, aun cuando lleguen en lastre á los puertos de la República, entregarán cuatro en lugar de los tres ejemplares del manifiesto de que trata el artículo 64 de las Ordenanzas de Aduanas y Puertos, y asimismo una nota de los bultos que dejasen de entregar, sea por haberlos desembarcado en otro puerto ó por haberlos confundido con el resto de la carga.

"En uno ú otro caso quedan obligados á entregar los bultos que falten ó á justificar su pérdida ó desembarque en puerto diferente, dentro del término de tres meses.

"ART. 12°. La falta parcial de los manifiestos, la castigarán los Jefes de Aduana con multa de diez pesos por cada ejemplar, y la de las listas y comprobantes relativos á los bultos perdidos ó extraviados, con multa equivalente al doble de los derechos que correspondan al contenido genérico del bulto ó bultos no entregados.

" Los capitanes de buques de vela deberán rendir fianza á satisfacción de la Aduana para garantizar el cumplimiento de la obligación que se les impone respecto de los bultos manifestados y no desembarcados á su destino.

"ART. 13°. Cuando en el registro de mercaderías hubiere que hacer constar en la póliza la falta de bultos ó las diferencias ó variantes del contenido entre el pedimento y las facturas, conocimientos y manifiestos correspondientes, el Contador Vista hará que presencie la irregularidad el Jefe de la Aduana, y en defecto de éste, el Guardalmacén ó uno ó más guardas, debiendo suscribir los concurrentes la observación de la falta ó anomalía connotada.

"Por regla general, todo incidente que ocurra al practicarse el registro de mercaderías, siendo que, conforme á la ley, la declaración de los empleados de la Aduana, deba decidir de los hechos, la observación ó afirmación del Contador Vista, consignada en la póliza del caso, deberá ser confirmada por el Jefe de la Aduana, ó en su ausencia, por el guardalmacén ó guardas del servicio.

"ART. 14°. Los adeudos por pólizas aduaneras, que en virtud de la ley gocen de plazo para su efectivo pago, deberán ser garantizados con fianza suficiente, personal ó hipotecaria, á satisfacción del Ministerio de Hacienda.

"Estas fianzas serán otorgadas en instrumento público por sumas fijas á que puedan ascender los derechos liquidados ó por liquidar, y los Jefes de Aduana no autorizarán la extracción de las mercaderías de los almacenes, en tanto que no tengan conocimiento de estar suficientemente afianzados los derechos.

"En lugar de la fianza, las aduanas podrán admitir depósito de efectos comerciales ó valores nacionales en cantidad doble del importe de los derechos liquidados.

"ART. 15°. El presente decreto regirá desde su publicación y deroga cualquiera otra disposición que se le oponga."

PATENTE DE INDUSTRIA.

El siguiente decreto de la Asamblea Nacional Legislativa de Nicaragua, estableciendo reglas para adquirir el derecho de patente en cualquier industria, es el que rige hoy en ese país desde el 14 de octubre de 1899:

"La Asamblea Nacional Legislativa, considerando: que entre sus atribuciones conforme á la Constitución Política está la de decretar premios y conceder privilegios temporales á los autores é inventores, así como á los que introduzcan ó perfeccionen industrias nuevas de utilidad general; y teniendo en cuenta que para el reconocimiento y concesión de todo derecho ó de privilegios temporales son indispensables las reglas de procedimiento que los definan y clasifiquen ó de conformidad con las cuales pueda alcanzárseles, decreta:

"ARTÍCULO 1°. Todo descubrimiento ó invención relacionada con alguna industria ó arte, da á su autor derecho de propiedad para aprovecharse exclusivamente de él durante el tiempo y bajo las condiciones que se determinan en este decreto.

ART. 2°. Todo individuo que invente una máquina, instrumento, aparato, manufactura, método, ó procedimiento de aplicación útiles á la ciencia ó á las artes puede solicitar, y el Gobierno concederle, una patente de invención que le asegure su propiedad durante un término de cinco á diez años.

"ART. 3°. Todo individuo que mejore un descubrimiento ó invento patentado tiene derecho de obtener del Gobierno una patente adicional; pero ésta no se concederá por mayor término del que falte para que caduque la principal.

"ART. 4°. Se tendrán por descubrimiento ó invenciones nuevas con el objeto de conceder patentes, los nuevos medios y la nueva aplicación de medios conocidos para obtener un resultado dado ó un producto industrial, ya sea por un procedimiento completamente original, ó bien para el perfeccionamiento de los ya conocidos.

"ART. 5°. No se concederán patentes por los descubrimientos ó invenciones que constituyen productos ó procedimientos usados en el país.

"ART. 6°. Las invenciones hechas en el extranjero podrán patentarse en Nicaragua cuando únicamente por ese medio pueda establecerse una industria nueva, y sea secreto el procedimiento que en ella se use; y también cuando lo dispongan expresamente los Tratados internacionales.

"ART. 7°. Por la concesión de una patente se pagarán de veinte á cien pesos anuales al Tesoro Público durante el tiempo por el cual se conceda, según la importancia de la empresa.

"ART. 8°. El pago de las anualidades á que se refiere el artículo anterior se hará en la Tesorería General de la República el primer año al concederse la patente, y en lo sucesivo el 1° de enero.

"ART. 9°. No se concederán patentes cuando el invento ó descubrimiento sea contrario á los derechos adquiridos por tercera persona, cuando perjudique á la higiene ó la moral y cuando dañe á la seguridad de los individuos ó del Estado.

"ART. 10°. Toda patente caduca—

"1°. Por haber sido concedida en perjuicio de derechos ajenos, según fallo de un Tribunal de Justicia.

"2°. Por haber transcurrido un año sin poner en práctica la industria ó empresa para la cual se aprobó.

"3°. Por haber abandonado durante el término de un año la empresa ó industria después de establecida.

"4°. Por no pagarse las anualidades de la concesión conforme á lo dispuesto en el artículo 8°.

"5°. Cuando los productos que se expendan sean inferiores á las muestras presentadas, por haber sido adulterados.

"La caducidad será declarada por los Tribunales de Justicia á solicitud de parte ó del representante del Ministerio Público.

ART. 11°. La persona que perfeccione un invento patentado no podrá usar de la invención principal sin perjuicio del inventor, y éste tampoco podrá usar de la mejora patentada por el primero sin autorización de él.

"ART. 12°. Las patentes se conceden únicamente por el procedimiento y no sobre los productos que puedan obtenerse por un sistema distinto de elaboración.

"ART. 13°. Cumplido el término prescrito en la patente, la descripción, que constituye el secreto del procedimiento patentado, hecha por el inventor ó descubridor, se publicará en el Diario Oficial, y desde entonces será de uso público.

"ART. 14°. El Gobierno al conceder la patente dejará á salvo la facultad de deducir, ante los Tribunales de Justicia, el mejor derecho que puedan tener otros individuos.

"ART. 15. La solicitud para obtener una patente se presentará al Ministerio de Fomento, acompañada de las muestras, dibujos ó modelos que sean materia de la petición, de una declaración jurada y legalizada ante Notario, en la cual conste: la descripción del invento ó descubrimiento hecho por su autor, y la aseveración de éste de que el público

no tiene conocimiento de aquél. Presentada la solicitud, el Ministerio hará constar al pie de ella el día y la hora en que se le presentó, dando recibo de haber sido presentada al interesado si lo pidiese. En seguida se publicará en el Diario Oficial por el término de un mes, y se pasará al Director de Obras Públicas para que informe por sí ó por medio de peritos, á costa del interesado, sobre la veracidad de los hechos contenidos en la declaración del solicitante, sobre la utilidad del procedimiento por el cual se pide la patente, y además si ésta se halla comprendida en los casos excluyentes del artículo —.

"ART. 16. El Ministerio Público informará antes de procederse á resolver la petición.

"ART. 17. Si no hubiere oposición fundada ni fueren adversos los informes á que alude el artículo anterior, el Poder Ejecutivo, por medio del Ministerio de Fomento, emitirá un acuerdo para conocer la patente solicitada.

"ART. 18. La patente consiste: en una certificación que contenga el número ordinal que le corresponde á la petición jurada del peticionario; el aviso del Diario Oficial; el informe pericial y el del Ministerio Público; el recibo de haber enterado los derechos fiscales; copia del objeto patentado; y por último, el acuerdo en que se garantice el derecho de propiedad exclusiva de él.

"ART. 19. Los asuntos contenciosos entre particulares sobre el derecho de obtener patente, la prueba de falsedad de la declaración y el perjuicio de derecho ajeno son de competencia de los tribunales de justicia.

"ART. 20. La Dirección de Obras Públicas llevará un libro donde se registrarán las patentes concedidas con todos sus antecedentes, indicando el resumen de los documentos concernientes.

"ART. 21. El acuerdo en que se conceda la patente se publicará en el Diario Oficial, y anualmente la Dirección de Obras Públicas publicará también la lista de las patentes concedidas y la descripción de ellas en los puntos que no sean de carácter reservado.

"ART. 22. Todo aquel que haya obtenido una patente de invención ó de perfección puede transferir sus derechos bajo las condiciones que estime convenientes, siempre que se determine la persona que queda obligada al pago de los derechos fiscales y se haga el traspaso por escritura pública, registrada en el libro de patentes y se anuncie en el periódico oficial.

"ART. 23. En el traspaso deberán indicarse los derechos que se trasmiten y si se contrae á determinada población ó departamento ó á toda la República.

"ART. 24. Serán castigados con seis meses á un año de prisión:

"1°. Los que falsifiquen objetos patentados.

"2°. Los que teniendo conocimiento de ellos los negocien.

"3°. Los que hayan dado declaración falsa al solicitar la patente; y

"4°. Los que hicieren aparecer como patentado, un objeto sin estarlo legalmente.

"ART. 25. Los que vendan objetos que falsifiquen á los patentados están en la obligación de dar al patentado noticias del nombre del autor ó vendedor de ellos y de la época en que les fueron entregados, debiendo considerarse cómplices en caso de que no den explicación satisfactoria de su procedencia.

"ART. 26. Además de la pena que fija el artículo 24 se impondrá la de la pérdida de los objetos falsificados y la indemnización de daños y perjuicios.

"ART. 27. No se podrá intentar acción civil ni criminal, si los objetos de procedencia legítima no llevan la indicación de estar patentados y el número de la patente siempre que sea posible indicarlo.

"Tampoco podrán intentarse tales acciones después de transcurridos tres años de cometido el delito ó después de un año contado desde el día en que el patentado tuvo conocimiento del hecho por primera vez.

"Los actos que interrumpen la prescripción están determinados por el derecho común."

PARAGUAY.

PRIMAS Á LOS CONSTRUCTORES NAVALES.

El "Diario Oficial" de la República del Paraguay, de fecha 3 de octubre de 1900, trae el siguiente decreto del Congreso acordando primas á los constructores navales:

"ARTÍCULO 1°. Desde la publicación de la presente ley, se abonará á los constructores de buques de vela ó á vapor las siguientes primas por las embarcaciones que construyan en los astilleros nacionales:

"1°. Quince pesos, oro, por cada tonelada de arqueo de los que en totalidad midan las embarcaciones, sea de madera ó de construcción mixta, de hierro ó acero, siempre que sea á vapor.

"2°. Cinco pesos, oro, por cada tonelada de arqueo de los buques á vela, de madera ó de construcción mixta, de más de cincuenta toneladas.

"3°. Dos pesos y cincuenta centavos, oro, por cada tonelada de arqueo de las mismas embarcaciones del inciso 2° que no pasen de cincuenta toneladas.

"ART. 2°. El pago de las primas acordadas por el artículo anterior se hará por la Administración, en la forma establecida por la ley de contabilidad en órdenes de pago contra las Aduanas y previo el informe de la Capitanía General de Puertos, en que se expresarán clase, material y capacidad de los buques, el día en que fueren botados al agua y los nombres de los armadores ó constructores.

"ART. 3°. Las órdenes de pago contra las aduanas, á que se refiere el artículo anterior, serán recibidas por éstas en pago de los derechos de importación de los artículos destinados á la construcción naval, que el Poder Ejecutivo detallará en la reglamentación de esta ley.

"ART. 4°. Cada astillero estará obligado á tener de quince á veinte jóvenes paraguayos en calidad de aprendices, cuyo salario será pagado por la empresa."

PERÚ.

LEY SOBRE MONEDA.

Con fecha 20 de octubre de 1900, el Congreso de la República peruana, considerando conveniente adoptar medidas que tiendan á mantener la equivalencia de valor entre la moneda nacional de plata y la de oro en la proporción de diez soles de plata por una libra de oro peruana, dió la ley siguiente:

"ART. 1°. La libra de oro peruana es moneda legal de total poder cancelatorio, á razón de diez soles por una libra.

"ART. 2°. Se autoriza la acuñación de medias libras, con arreglo á las condiciones que establezca el Poder Ejecutivo.

"ART. 3°. La libra esterlina inglesa queda equiparada á la libra de oro peruana hasta nueva disposición del Congreso."

URUGUAY.

LA PRODUCCIÓN DE CEREALES Y OLEAGINOSOS EN LA REPÚBLICA.

La revista de Buenos Aires, titulada "La Industria Molinera," publica el siguiente artículo:

"El Departamento de Ganadería y Agricultura de la República del Uruguay ha publicado la estadística correspondiente á 1899–1900, de la producción de cereales (menos el maíz) y oleaginosos, y del cual tomamos las siguientes cifras:

Cereales.	Hectáreas.	Sembrado.	Cosechado.
		Kilos.	*Kilos.*
Trigo	377,988	22,231,414	187,553,151
Lino	1,325	46,872	1,009,411
Avena	40	2,547	33,024
Cebada	643	42,699	424,774
Alpiste	1,010	31,664	518,855

"De este cuadro, sacando la producción de cada grano por hectárea, tendremos los siguientes resultados:

	Kilos por hectárea.
Trigo	496
Lino	761
Avena	825
Cebada	660
Alpiste	513

"Como se ve, la avena es el grano que mayor resultado da por hectárea, y después por orden de cantidad, el lino, la cebada, el alpiste y el trigo.

"La proporción entre lo sembrado y recogido se verá en el cuadro siguiente:

	Por uno kilo.	Por cien kilos.
Trigo	8.43	843
Lino	21.53	2,153
Avena	12.96	1,296
Cebada	9.94	994
Alpiste	16.28	1,628

"Respecto al resultado por uno y por ciento el lino es el que mejor ofrece, siguiendo después por orden de inferioridad el alpiste, la avena, la cebada y el trigo.

"La producción de trigo por departamentos se expone en la tabla que sigue:

Departamentos.	Producción.	Por hectárea.	Departamentos.	Producción.	Por hectárea.
	Kilos.	*Kilos.*		*Kilos.*	*Kilos.*
Colonia	56,541,397	557	Río Negro	782,856	639
San José	54,088,676	647	Rocha	765,942	394
Canelones	32,651,898	440	Flores	685,923	548
Soriano	17,806,931	912	Tacuarembó	583,569	456
Florida	9,199,639	592	Treinta y Tres	261,915	400
Minas	5,262,005	487	Montevideo	201,265	460
Paysandú	3,821,517	579	Rivera	128,928	511
Maldonado	2,681,753	480	Salto	126,739	716
Durazno	1,086,105	492	Artigas	80,492	570
Cerro Largo	845,544	418			

"El Departamento que más contribuyó á la cosecha de 1899–1900 fué el de Colonia, aproximándosele mucho el de San José, y después los de Canelones y Soriano, siguiendo por orden de cantidad los de Florida, Minas, Paysandú, Maldonado y Cerro Largo. Los demás ninguno alcanzó á un millón de kilogramos, siendo el inferior Artigas.

"Respecto al rendimiento por hectárea está sobre todos Soriano, que dió 912 kilos, siguiendo luego Salto con 716, San José con 647 y Río Negro con 639; todos los demás que no alcanzan á esas cantidades figuran en el orden siguiente: Florida, Paysandú, Artigas, Colonia, Flores, Rivera, Durazno, Minas, Maldonado, Montevideo, Tacuarembó, Canelones, Cerro Largo, Treinta y Tres, y Rocha, que solo rindió 394 kilos por hectárea."

LA DOCTRINA DE MONROE.

El capítulo XII de la obra titulada "A Century of American Diplomacy," á la cual se hizo referencia en el último número del BOLETÍN MENSUAL, lleva el título de "The Monroe Doctrine," y es una exposición admirable de la misma. Considerando que no puede menos de ser muy interesante para todos los lectores del BOLETÍN MENSUAL en la América latina, se ha traducido dicho capítulo al español, previo consentimiento del Honorable JOHN W. FOSTER, autor del libro, y de la casa editora HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN AND COMPANY, de Boston y de Nueva York. Á continuación se le encontrará íntegro:

"La mayor parte de los americanos reconoce la llamada Doctrina de MONROE como sabia medida política de nuestro Gobierno. Tratar de definirla con exactitud, ó de ponerla en práctica son puntos que han dado margen por lo general á discusiones y profunda divergencia de pareceres entre escritores políticos y hombres públicos. Apenas puedo lisonjearme de que lo que diga yo acerca del asunto haya de ejercer influencia alguna en la consolidación de tan variadas opiniones; pero, como es materia comprendida entre las que estamos estudiando, habré de limitarme á hacer una reseña del origen de la doctrina y de la historia de su aplicación, ó la práctica del principio que ella encierra, con la esperanza de que pueda arrojar alguna luz en un asunto tan importante como debatido.

"Cítanse en la historia de nuestro país tres declaraciones ajenas á todo carácter ó autoridad de derecho público nacional ó internacional, y que, esto no obstante, han ejercido poderosísima influencia en los destinos de nuestra nación, al propio tiempo que han servido de freno poderoso á la conducta de muchos otros países del mundo. Hablo de la Declaración de Independencia, de aquella parte de la despedida de WÁSHINGTON que se refiere á nuestras relaciones extranjeras y de la Doctrina de MONROE, de las cuales bien puede decirse que no sólo están íntimamente relacionadas entre sí, sino que han sido unas el resultado de las otras.

"Después que las colonias hicieron conocer al mundo la declaración de su independencia, que mantuvieron luego por la fuerza de las armas y establecieron permanentemente al adoptar la Constitución, la índole de nuestro sistema y de nuestros principios políticos, á la par que nuestra posición geográfica, exigieron de una manera inequívoca la política de la no intervención en los asuntos de Europa, tan sabiamente expresada en la despedida de WÁSHINGTON, de la cual hago este breve extracto:

"'La Europa tiene intereses primordiales que en nada ó muy remotamente se relacionan con los nuestros. De aquí que deba hallarse frecuentemente comprometida en controversias, cuyas causas son completamente extrañas á nuestros intereses. * * * Nuestra situación

distante y separada de la suya nos invita y nos faculta á seguir distinto rumbo. Si, bajo un gobierno eficaz, conservamos nuestra unidad como nación, no está muy lejano el día en que podamos desafiar los peligros que puedan traernos complicaciones extranjeras; en que podamos asumir una actitud tal, que haga respetar escrupulosamente la neutralidad que en cualquier momento nos convenga adoptar; en que naciones beligerantes, imposibilitadas de hacer adquisiciones en nuestro territorio, no se arriesguen inconsultamente á provocarnos.'

"Aquí tenemos no solamente enunciada la política de la no intervención en asuntos europeos, sino también una intimación clara y sencilla de que no estaba muy distante el día en que pudiéramos advertir á las naciones europeas que no deben intervenir en asuntos americanos. Y como á medida que los años pasaban iba en aumento nuestra prosperidad y se desarrollaba nuestra potencia como nación, creció en el ánimo de nuestros hombres públicos, hasta convertirse en convicción sólida, el sentimiento de que el hemisferio americano debía estar reservado para sus propios habitantes. Cuando las colonias españolas comenzaron á levantarse contra la soberanía extranjera, nuestras cordiales simpatías por su causa estribaban no tan sólo en la proclamación de los principios republicanos que habían hecho, sino en nuestro ardiente deseo de ver á la América libre de todo dominio é influencia europeos. Aun antes de que tuvieran lugar estos sucesos, cuando las disensiones en la Península indicaban la próxima disolución del vasto imperio español, y el riesgo que había de que algunas de sus colonias cayesen en manos de otras potencias europeas, el más astuto de nuestros políticos y uno de nuestros hombres de estado más sabios, Mr. JEFFERSON, cuando era Presidente en 1808, escribió lo que sigue al Gobernador del Territorio de Nueva Orleans:

"'Nos satisfará ver que Cuba y México conserven su estado actual de dependencia; pero muy contra nuestra voluntad habríamos de verlas, ya sea política ó comercialmente, dependientes de Francia ó de Inglaterra. Consideramos como uno solo sus intereses y los nuestros, y el objetivo común debe ser excluir de este hemisferio toda influencia europea.'

"En 1820, cuando una parte de las colonias hispano-americanas había alcanzado prácticamente su independencia, Mr. JEFFERSON, á la sazón retirado á la vida privada, escribió lo que sigue con respecto á un Ministro del Portugal en Wáshington, que iba para el Brasil:

"'Por las conversaciones que he tenido con él confió en que vea, y en su nueva posición estimule, las ventajas de una confraternidad cordial entre todas las naciones americanas y la importancia de que se liguen para formar un sistema de política americana totalmente independiente y separado del de Europa.'

"JEFFERSON, al expresar así sus opiniones, se adelantaba muy poco á la época en que esos sentimientos tomarían cuerpo en las masas públi-

cas, y con la perspicacia extraordinaria que poseía logró formular desde entonces una política de más amplio radio.

"Los presidentes que sucedieron á WÁSHINGTON se habían adherido estrechamente en la práctica el principio de la no intervención en asuntos europeos que aquél había enunciado. De esta práctica, unida al desarrollo de la nación y á la independencia de otras colonias americanas, germinó naturalmente la doctrina que, cuando las circunstancias hicieron necesaria su promulgación, apareció encarnada en el mensaje anual que con fecha 2 de diciembre de 1823 dirigió al Congreso el Presidente MONROE. Dicho documento fué calificado por JEFFERSON como el paso más importante que se había dado desde la Declaración de la Independencia. Fué á la revolución francesa, á las guerras de NAPOLEÓN y á su imperio militar á lo que la doctrina en referencia debió su enunciación. El temor de que semejantes acontecimientos pudieran repetirse trajo consigo la formación de la llamada Santa Alianza, celebrada en 1815 entre los emperadores de Rusia y Austria y el rey de Prusia, y cuyo objeto ostensible era subordinar la política á la religión cristiana. Se sabía, empero, que sus propósitos eran hostiles á los derechos del pueblo y á la liberated de las naciones. Un poco más tarde Francia fué admitida, y hasta 1822 tuvieron lugar varios congresos ó conferencias, en algunos de los cuales estuvo presente la Gran Bretaña, cuyo gobierno nunca formó parte de la alianza.

"La restauración de FERNANDO VII al trono fué uno de los primeros actos de la Santa Alianza, y para llevarlo á cabo mandó á España un grueso ejército francés y contra el querer de la mayoría del pueblo español colocó al rey en el trono. El segundo paso era, según se tenía entendido, ayudar á Fernando á restablecer su autoridad sobre las colonias españolas de la América, que se habían sublevado declarándose gobiernos independientes. Después de la feliz separación, el antiguo sistema colonial de comercio exclusivo con la madre patria había decaido, produciendo este cambio pingües beneficios al comercio de Inglaterra, en cuyo interés estaba conservar el orden de cosas tal y como existía entonces.

"Con el objeto de impedir que la Santa Alianza pusiera en práctica sus planes en América, el Ministro de Relaciones Extranjeras de la Gran Bretaña, Mr. GEORGE CANNING, se acercó al de los Estados Unidos en Londres, Mr. RUSH, proponiéndole que ambos gobiernos se uniesen en una declaración, que entre otras contenía las siguientes cláusulas:

" 'Cuarto. No pretendemos la posesión de ninguna porción de ellas (las colonias de España).

" 'Quinto. No podemos ver con indiferencia que se traspase parte de ellas á ninguna otra potencia.'

"Mr. RUSH convino en unirse á la declaración, siempre que la Gran Bretaña reconociese la independencia de las colonias, lo que Mr. CANNING rehusó, temeroso de que semejante acto pusiese á su gobierno en conflicto con la Alianza. La proposición de entrar en este acuerdo no se vólvió á discutir, pero como Mr. RUSH ya la había comunicado al Secretario de Estado, JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, quien á su vez la presentó al Presidente MONROE, la cuestión fué llevada á Gabinete.

"El Presidente solicitó la opinión de JEFFERSON y de MADISON á quienes sometió la correspondencia de Mr. RUSH. Mr. JEFFERSON aprobó calurosamente la propuesta en una voluminosa carta de la cual tomo lo siguiente:

" 'Nuestra máxima, primera y fundamental, debe ser no mezclarnos en las disensiones de la Europa; nuestra segunda máxima, no permitir jamás que la Europa intervenga en los asuntos cis-atlánticos.'

"Aconsejó al Presidente que respecto de las colonias españolas declarase:

" 'Que por todos los medios á nuestro alcance nos opondríamos á la intervención armada de cualquier potencia, ya fuese como auxiliar, ya por estipendio, ó bien bajo cualquier otra forma ó pretexto; y más especialmente nos opondríamos á su traspaso á cualquier potencia ya fuese por conquista, cesión ó adquisición de cualquier otra manera.'

"En lenguaje más comedido, Mr. MADISON favoreció también la declaración.

"Determinóse entonces que los Estados Unidos hiciesen independientemente una declaración, que se insertó en el mensaje anual al Congreso de 2 de diciembre de 1823. No hay duda que fué Mr. ADAMS quien la escribió, y es de creerse que su jefe, más moderado y conservador, hubo de modificarla un tanto. Consta de dos partes completamente separadas en el mensaje, y que se refieren á asuntos que no guardan relación directa entre sí. La primera es como sigue:

" 'Considero oportuno este momento para asentar, como principio que involucra los derechos é intereses de los Estados Unidos, que los continentes americanos, en virtud de la condición libre é independiente que han adoptado y que mantienen, no han de ser considerados en lo adelante como objeto de colonización futura por parte de ninguna potencia europea.'

"Esta declaración fué hecha á seguidas de la cuenta que se daba del estado de las negociaciones pendientes entonces con Rusia, resultantes del Ukase de 1821, que pretendía títulos de soberanía en América, los cuales disputaban los Estados Unidos. Estas reclamaciones como lo hemos visto, fueron arregladas por el tratado de 1824.

"La segunda parte de la declaración, que va precedida en el mensaje de una referencia á las perturbaciones de España y la intervención armada de las potencias aliadas, dice así:

" 'Debemos, por consiguiente, á la sinceridad y á las relaciones amistosas que existen entre los Estados Unidos y aquellas potencias

(las potencias aliadas de Europa), el declarar que, cualquier atentado por parte de ellas para extender su sistema á cualquier porción de este hemisferio, hemos de considerarlo como peligroso para nuestra paz y seguridad. No hemos intervenido, ni intervendremos con las colonias ó dependencias que hoy existan pertenecientes á cualquier potencia Europea. Pero no podríamos ver sino como muestra de una disposición no amigable hacia los Estados Unidos, la intervención de cualquier potencia Europea con el propósito de oprimir, ó bien de ejercer autoridad de cualquier otra manera sobre los destinos de los gobiernos que han declarado y mantenido su independencia; independencia que, después de madura consideración y basados en los principios de la justicia, hemos reconocido. * * *

" 'Esto no obstante, nuestra política con la Europa, adoptada á los comienzos de las guerras que por tanto tiempo han agitado aquella porción del globo, se conserva siempre la misma, es decir, la no intervención en los asuntos interiores de ninguna de aquellas potencias; considerar el gobierno *de facto* como legítimo gobierno para nosotros; cultivar con ellos relaciones de amistad y conservarlas por medio de una política franca, firme y varonil, oyendo siempre las justas reclamaciones de cada una de las potencias sin someternos á los agravios de ninguna. Pero, en lo que se refiere á estos continentes, las circunstancias varían notable y eminentemente. Es imposible que las potencias aliadas extiendan su sistema político á cualquier porción de los dos continentes sin poner en peligro nuestra paz y nuestra felicidad; ni es de creerse que nuestros hermanos del sur, de propia voluntad hubieran de adoptarlo de común acuerdo. Es así mismo imposible que podamos ver con indiferencia semejante intervención en cualquier forma que sea.'

"Aun cuando los acontecimientos que dieron lugar á las dosd eclaraciones contenidas en el mensaje, no estaban entre sí directamente ligados, guardaban empero íntima relación, desde luego que ambas tendían á excluir de este hemisfero la influencia europea. La primera se dirigía contra la futura colonización europea en este hemisferio; y la segunda, contra la extensión allí del sistema político de la Santa Alianza, y contra la intervención de cualquiera potencia europea en los asuntos de los países de hispano-américa, á fin de oprimirlos ó de dirigir sus destinos de cualquier otra suerte. Tiempo hace ya que la primera declaración llenó su objeto con la ocupación de todo el territorio de los dos continentes por naciones libres y civilizadas ó sus dependencias. Su aplicación ha cesado ya.

"La segunda declaración, sin embargo, encarna un principio activo que ha de aplicarse cada vez que las circunstancias así lo exijan. La causa primera á que obedeció su promulgación en 1823, la Santa Alianza, tiempo ha dejó de existir; pero el principio en que está basada la Doctrina de MONROE subsiste hoy tan activo como siempre. Ese principio es el deber y el derecho de la propia conversación. Fundado en que lo considerábamos "peligroso para nuestra paz y seguridad"

fué que el Presidente MONROE advirtió á la Santa Alianza no intervenir con las repúblicas hispano-americanas, cuya independencia habíamos reconocido; por 'nuestra paz y seguridad' era que no podíamos ver con indiferencia 'la intervención (de las naciones europeas) con el propósito de oprimirlas (las repúblicas) ó ejercer autoridad de cualquier otra manera sobre sus destinos.' Aun cuando nos contabamos entre las primeras naciones que reconocieron la independencia por la cual aquellas repúblicas lucharon, el Presidente MONROE al hacer la declaración no obedecía á la influencia determinada de reservar este hemisferio para la forma de gobierno republicano, por mucho que nuestro pueblo se complaciera en su éxito, puesto que él mismo había reconocido el imperio de Iturbide en México y el imperio del Brasil. Procedió así porque 'nuestra paz y seguridad' exigían que la influencia y el dominio europeos no se extendieran más en estos continentes.' 'Es imposible'—decía el Presidente MONROE ampliando su declaración—'que las potencias aliadas extiendan su sistema político á cualquiera porción de los dos continentes, sin poner en peligro nuestra paz y felicidad.' Y en el mensaje anual del año subsiguiente (1824) repitió:

"'Es imposible que los gobiernos de Europa intervengan en sus (las otras naciones de América) asuntos * * * sin que ello nos afecte.' Aún cuando en su aplicación la doctrina es de amplio alcance, por lo que se refiere á las causas que la produjeron es precisa y restringida. Significa que América es para los Americanos, porque de otra suerte 'la paz y la seguridad' de los Estados Unidos peligraría.

"El Presidente MONROE pudo haber comunicado esta declaración á las potencias aliadas en la forma diplomática de estilo, por medio del Departamento de Estado, á nuestros ministros en las diversas capitales de Europa; pero adoptó sábiamente el promulgarla en su mensaje anual al Congreso, y por este medio se convirtió en una notificación de la política de los Estados Unidos, no sólo para la Santa Alianza, sino para el mundo entero.

"Entre las manifestaciones oficiales de este siglo muy pocas, ó acaso ninguna, han tenido una influencia tan general como duradera. Cuando el mensaje se publicó en Londres fué objeto de universal alabanza. Uno de los periódicos dijo: 'Ya no oiremos hablar más de un Congreso que determine la suerte de las repúblicas sud-americanas;' y otro decía: 'Es digno de la ocasión y del pueblo destinado á ocupar tan grande espacio en la historia futura del mundo.' Un biógrafo de Mr. CANNING dice, al referirse al efecto de su publicación en Europa, que el mensaje no sólo había tenido como resultado el que Inglaterra rehusase tomar parte en el propuesto Congreso para discutir asuntos sud-americanos, sino que había acabado de raíz con el proyecto. El estadista inglés, Mr. BROUGHAM, se expresó así: 'La cuestión referente á Sud América terminó ya, ó está para terminar, porque acaba de verificarse un acontecimiento que, como ningún otro, ha sido motivo

de gozo, de animación y de gratitud entre los hombres libres de la Europa; ese acontecimiento, decisivo por lo que se refiere á Sud América, es el mensaje del Presidente de los Estados Unidos al Congreso.' En otra parte añádese que 'los representantes de Sud América en Londres estaban locos de contento, y las acciones sud-americanas de todas clases subieron en la bolsa.'

"Cómo fué recibida esta declaración en los Estados Unidos, con las siguientes frases lo describió Mr. WEBSTER tres años más tarde en un discurso ante el Senado:

"'Recibió, Señor, todo el apoyo y la aprobación cordial del país. Un recocijo vehemente de que todos participabamos, un sentimiento universal de amor por la libertad satisfecho, una percepción consciente y orgullosa de la consideración á que nuestro país era acreedor, y del respeto y honor que se le debía, hinchó todos los pechos.'

"Á Mr. CANNING se le ha dado, injustamente parte en los honores de la promulgación de la Doctrina de MONROE, y aun hay quien le considere como el que primero la ideó. Quince años antes, sin embargo, el Presidente JEFFERSON había expuesto esta política en términos mucho más amplios que los que empleó CANNING en la proposición hecha á RUSH. La correspondencia diplomática que corre impresa demuestra que el Secretario ADAMS se hallaba perfectamente al corriente de los designios de la Santa Alianza y que seis meses antes de que se hubiera hecho la proposición, ya había comunicado instrucciones á nuestro ministro en España para que, llegado el momento, manifestase que nuestro gobierno se opondría á cualquiera intervención por la fuerza en asuntos americanos, y contra el traspaso de cualquiera de las posesiones españolas á otra potencia, lo cual es de un alcance mucho más restringido que el del mensaje de MONROE. Claramente demuestra la correspondencia, además, que la Gran Bretaña estaba influenciada tanto por el deseo de conservar y ensanchar su comercio, cuanto por sus celos con Francia.

"Hemos visto que Mr. RUSH ofreció unirse á Inglaterra en la protesta, siempre que ella reconociese la independencia de las colonias españolas que se habían sublevado, lo cual rehusó Mr. CANNING, quedando así abandonado el proyecto. En nota al Secretario ADAMS, dijo Mr. RUSH:

"'Parece que ella (Inglaterra), teniendo fines propios á que atender, ha deseado facilitar su labor invocando mis oficios como Ministro de los Estados Unidos. Por lo que respecta á la independencia de las nuevas naciones de América, en beneficio propio, esto parece ser otra cuestión en su diplomacia. Es Francia la que no debe engrandecerse y no Sud América la que no debe hacerse libre * * * He cuidado de no prestarle apoyo gratuito * * * Esta nación, en su entidad celectiva, no siente hoy más simpatías por los derechos del pueblo y su libertad que las que la animaban en las llanuras de Lexington.'

"El Secretario ADAMS al anotar en su diario, digno de toda fé, las conferencias sobre la proposición que había hecho CANNING de obrar de común acuerdo, dice que se decidió eludir los avances de la Gran Bretaña; y con su intenso americanismo agrega: 'Sería más franco, al propio tiempo que más digno, confesar abiertamente nuestros principios á Rusia y á Francia, que seguir como un botecito la estela del buque de guerra británico.' Hay que confesar que la proposición de Mr. CANNING atrajo la atención directa de nuestro gobierno hacia este punto, ejerciendo una influencia decidida en la actitud que éste asumió entonces. Pero no fué Mr. CANNING el padre de la idea; ésta fué, por el contrario, resultado natural de nuestra independencia y de la política enunciada en la despedida de WÁSHINGTON. Quince años antes de esta época ya había sido neta y ámpliamente formulada por uno de nuestros presidentes y comunicada luego, con seis meses de anticipación á estos sucesos, á nuestro Ministro en España para su conocimiento. Con vista, pues, de estos hechos, á saber: el reconocimiento de la independencia de las naciones hispano-americanas, por parte de los Estados Unidos; la negativa de Mr. CANNING á reconocerla, cuando se lo propuso Mr. RUSH, y su reconocida hostilidad contra las instituciones republicanas, apenas puede decirse que tuvo razón para jactarse, como lo hizo en el Parlamento pocos años después, cuando decía: 'Para ajustar el equilibrio del Viejo Mundo, traje el Nuevo á la vida.'

"Aun cuando la Santa Alianza abandonó sus propósitos, no maduros, de intervenir en los asuntos del hemisferio occidental, no pasó mucho tiempo sin que á los Estados Unidos se les presentara la ocasión de poner en práctica la Doctrina de MONROE. En 1825, se temió que España cediese la Isla de Cuba, bien á Francia ó á Inglaterra. Mr. CLAY, Secretario de Estado entonces, dió instrucciones á nuestros ministros para que manifestasen á aquellos gobiernos que no podíamos consentir en que dicha isla pasase de manos de España á cualquier otra potencia europea.

"Por segunda vez volvió á ser la Doctrina de MONROE materia de discusión pública con motivo de la reunión del llamado Congreso de Panamá, nacido del proyecto de BOLÍVAR, el Libertador de Sud América, de unir las naciones de América entre sí y organizar un ejército y una armada aliados con el fin de resistir las invasiones que amenazaba efectuar la Santa Alianza, y conseguir por ende la libertad é independencia del resto de las colonias hispano-americanas. En 1825 los ministros de México y Colombia en Wáshington se acercaron á Mr. CLAY, Secretario de Estado del Presidente ADAMS, para ver de averiguar si los Estados Unidos, caso de ser invitados, estarían representados en dicho congreso. Mr. CLAY pidió que se le presentara una relación especificada de las medidas que el congreso había de considerar, lo cual efectuaron ambos ministros en notas separadas, contentivas de las referidas materias y de una invitación formal para que los Estados Unidos

enviasen sus representantes. El Ministro de Centro América pasó idéntica comunicación.

"Estas notas manifestaban que se trataba de formar una alianza armada con el objeto indicado ya, y añadían que los Estados Unidos estaban en libertad de tomar parte ó no en las discusiones. En ellas se pedía á los Estados Unidos, sin embargo, que conjuntamente con aquellos países se declarase contra la intervención europea en asuntos americanos; que entrase con ellos en el estudio de las medidas conducentes á la supresión de la trata de negros, á reconocer la república negra de Haití y á determinar su condición. Mr. CLAY, en respuesta, aceptó con prudentes reservas por lo que hace á la parte que los representantes de los Estados Unidos habrían de tomar en el congreso. Poco tiempo después el Presidente ADAMS, en un mensaje dirigido al Senado el 21 de marzo de 1826, nombraba dos plenipotenciarios, y estudiaba las razones á que el congreso obedecía y el objeto que le guiaba. Con dicho documento envió la correspondencia en la materia.

"El mensaje dió margen á una discusión tan animada como larga. La Comisión de Relaciones Extranjeras presentó un informe contrario al nombramiento de los plenipotenciarios, al cual acompañaba un extenso estudio de las cuestiones en referencia. El Senado, sin embargo, terminó por confirmar los nombramientos. El Presidente dirigió entonces un mensaje á la Cámara de Representantes, pidiendo se votase una suma para atender á los gastos de la misión; y, no contento con hacer la solicitud, entró en un largo estudio de la materia, lo cual provocó nuevas discusiones en aquel cuerpo. Con escasa mayoría de votos fué aprobado el desembolso y los plenipotenciarios partieron á desempeñar su cometido; pero á causa de la tardanza en ratificar sus nombramientos llegaron á Panamá después que el congreso había suspendido sus sesiones para no volverse á reunir.

"En el Congreso de los Estados Unidos los debates participaron de la mayor acrimonia inspirada por el espíritu de partido, votando los que hacían la oposición al Gobierno, casi unánimemente, contra el envío de los plenipotenciarios. Los puntos principales de ataque fueron: primero, reparos á contraer alianzas, especialmente si éstas eran armadas, con cualquier otro país, y, segundo, el reconocimiento de la república negra de Haití, lo cual provocó un debate sobre la cuestión de la esclavitud. Uno de los ragos más notables de este debate fué que los Señores POLK y BUCHANAN, que más tarde, como Presidentes de la República, fueron partidarios decididos de la Doctrina de MONROE, se opusieron entonces á la misión. DANIEL WEBSTER pronunció uno de sus discursos más notables á favor de ella, en donde encomiaba la declaración hecha por el Presidente MONROE.

"Durante el debate JAMES BUCHANAN presentó á la Cámara una resolución, que ésta aprobó, y que decía así:

"'En el sentir de la Cámara * * * los Estados Unidos * * * no deben formar alianzas * * * con todas ó con ninguna de las

repúblicas sud-americanas; ni deben tomar parte junto con ellas * * * en ninguna declaración hecha en común con el propósito de impedir la intervención de cualquiera potencia europea en su independencia ó forma de gobierno; ni entrar en convenio alguno con el fin de impedir la colonización en los continentes de América. Los Estados Unidos, sin embargo, deben conservar su libertad para proceder, en cualquier crisis, tal y como sus sentimientos de amistad hacia esas repúblicas, ó su propio honor y su política lo exijan en las circunstancias del momento.'

"Háse sostenido que este proceder fué una denegación de la Doctrina de MONROE. Muy lejos de ello. La ocasión demandaba que se demarcara netamente la línea de conducta que habrían de observar los Estados Unidos; y ésta, tal y como lo expresaba la resolucíon de la Cámara, no fué sino el resultado lógico del principio de la propia defensa latente en el mensaje del Presidente MONROE. Aquella declaración obedeció á la amenaza de un movimiento 'peligroso para *nuestra* paz y seguridad;' es decir, para la paz y seguridad de los Estados Unidos y no de otros países. Por esto es que no sería acertado que entrásemos á formar alianzas ó convenios que delegaran en otras potencias la facultad de decidir, en todo ó en parte, lo que es peligroso para *nuestra* paz y seguridad. Debemos reservarnos el derecho exclusivo de decidir en materias de tan vital interés y la cordura demanda que reservemos nuestra decisión hasta que llegue el momento de obrar. De aquí que la resolución de la Cámara en 1826, lejos de denegar la doctrina, viniese á corroborar su verdadero espíritu y alcance. Felizmente los Estados Unidos, desde la época de la declaración del Presidente MONROE, han visto septuplicarse su poder y su influencia, y no han menester alianzas con sus vecinos para hacer respetar la doctrina de la no intervención. Más aún, estimulan y aplauden que nuestras repúblicas hermanas la acepten.

"En 1848 se trató de aplicar otra vez la Doctrina de MONROE. En un mensaje especial el Presidente POLK llamó la atención del Congreso á que la población blanca de Yucatán (un estado de México) solicitaba de los Estados Unidos auxilio contra los indios que le hacían la guerra á muerte, ofreciendo, caso de que se les socorriese, traspasar 'el dominio é imperio' de aquel territorio. También se manifestaba que á Inglaterra y á España se había hecho idéntica proposición. El Presidente POLK, al rechazar toda política de adquisición, hizo constar que, si los Estados Unidos no intervenían, había riesgo de que la península cayera en manos de una potencia europea, lo cual consideraba peligroso para nuestra paz y seguridad.

"Después de este mensaje se presentó un proyecto de ley, por el cual se autorizaba temporalmente la ocupación militar de Yucatán, lo cual provocó un debate cuyo rasgo más notable fué el discurso de Mr. CALHOUN, el único miembro superviviente del Gabinete del Presidente MONROE, pues Mr. J. Q. ADAMS había fallecido pocos meses antes.

En su discurso Mr. CALHOUN trató de desvirtuar la Doctrina de MONROE, manifestando que aquel Presidente, cuando hizo la declaración, no pensó en el empleo de la fuerza. Este parecer y este recuerdo son contradictorios á los de Mr. J. Q. ADAMS, miembro también del Gabinete de MONROE. En conversación con Mr. BANCROFT, miembro del Gabinete de POLK en 1845, aprobó CALHOUN la actitud de éste en la asunto de límites del Oregón y, refiriéndose á la Doctrina de MONROE, dijo 'que creía indispensablemente necesario hacer fuertes gastos para prepararse á defenderla por mar y por tierra, en caso de necesidad, por la fuerza de las armas.' Mr. CALHOUN, sin embargo, no erraba al asegurar que los acontecimientos de Yucatán no daban ocasión á invocar la doctrina. Para aquella época estabamos terminando la guerra con México y el desamparo de la población blanca de Yucatán en su mayor parte se debía al desorden consiguiente á aquella lucha. No había entonces indicios de que ninguna de las potencias europeas meditase la ocupación de la península. La seguridad y el orden se restablecieron con la paz, y no se volvió á tratar del asunto en el Senado.

"Poco después, en 1850, se negoció el tratado CLAYTON-BULWER, cuyos puntos principales eran, primero, estimular la construcción de un canal interoceánico á través del istmo de Centro América, y, segundo, restringir el dominio británico en aquel punto. Con motivo de la adquisición de California, se había despertado en el pueblo de los Estados Unidos un gran interés en la apertura del canal y se creía que los fondos necesarios vendrían de Inglaterra. Por otra parte, la influencia británica en el istmo era á la sazón muy activa. La colonia de Belize había crecido en proporciones y se trataba de extender el protectorado británico sobre la costa de la Mosquitia, abarcando así la salida oriental de la ruta del canal por Nicaragua.

"Mr. CLAYTON, que era entonces Secretario de Estado, entró con el Ministro británico en negociaciones que dieron origen al tratado por el cual ambos gobiernos estipulaban, de mutuo consentimiento, la garantía del canal que se construyera; y convenían en no ocupar, fortificar, colonizar ni asumir ó ejercer dominio sobre ninguna porción de Centro América. El tratado se ratificó sin mucha discusión, en la creencia que aseguraría la apertura inmediata del canal excluyendo de Centro América la colonización y el protectorado británicos. Tan pronto como se publicó, sin embargo, dió origen á controversias acerca de su alcance y significación. En 1881 Mr. BLAINE se expresó así: 'Sin entenderlo se convino él; fué apenas comprendido; se le interpretó de manera contradictoria y fué causa de desagrado para ambos.' El Presidente BUCHANAN dijo en 1857, que si en los Estados Unidos se hubiera creído que el tratado se prestaba á la interpretación que le daba la Gran Bretaña, nunca se hubiera celebrado, ni hubiera recibido tampoco la aprobación del Senado. Mr. CASS, que ocupaba una silla en este cuerpo cuando se ratificó, hizo idéntica declaración.

"Las esperanzas que América abrigaba de que se construyera el canal con capitales británicos jamás llegaron á realizarse, y por diez años consecutivos nuestros Secretarios de Estado se ocuparon en hacer que el Gobierno inglés cumpliera los compromisos contraídos en lo que se refiere á la colonización y el protectorado. Este tratado es el error más serio de que hay noticia en los anales de nuestra diplomacia. Es el único ejemplo de desconocimiento tácito ó falta de acatamiento á la Doctrina de MONROE, desde que esta se enunció en 1823, puesto que admitía la participación de la Gran Bretaña, en términos iguales, para proteger y dirigir una gran empresa americana. Nada demuestra mejor la cordura de esa doctrina que los efectos de este caso único de desconocimiento, las calurosas discusiones á que dió lugar y la posición embarazosa en que dicho tratado colocó á este Gobierno, que aun sufre las consecuencias.

"Ya nos hemos referido á la advertencia que el Secretario CLAY hizo llegar á oídos de Francia y de la Gran Bretaña, que no podíamos consentir en la cesión de Cuba á ninguna otra potencia europea. Como ya lo hemos visto, esta actitud que asumió el Presidente JEFFERSON allá por 1808, la han conservado casi todas las administraciones hasta nuestros días. Esa actitud, que tiene por fundamento la Doctrina de MONROE, ha recibido el apoyo unánime de todos nuestros hombres públicos, aun cuando en ciertas épocas de nuestra historia, no ha dejado de prestarse á la censura la posición que respecto á Cuba ha asumido nuestro Gobierno. Idénticas declaraciones se han hecho acerca de Santo Domingo cuando parecía amenazado de ser víctima de la agresión europea ó correr riesgo de ser cedido. En 1890 el Presidente GRANT, al ocuparse en un mensaje del desgobierno de España en Cuba y de la relación que con las otras naciones de América guarda la Doctrina de Monroe, empleó este lenguaje: 'Quizás no esté lejano el día en que, siguiendo el desarrollo natural de los acontecimientos, desaparezcan los lazos políticos que unen á Europa con este continente.' En la memoria que acompañaba este mensaje, decía el Secretario FISH que la política enunciada por MONROE 'aguarda esperanzada el día en que, por el retiro voluntario de los gobiernos de Europa de este continente é islas adyacentes, la América sea completamente americana.'

"Me he referido ya á la anarquía que reinaba en México durante la administración del Presidente BUCHANAN, y á las medidas que él tomó en aquellas circunstancias. Era evidente que aquel estado de cosas haría necesaria la intervención extranjera, para ver de satisfacer agravios inferidos; y el Secretario CASS, anticipándose á esto, comunicó al Ministro en México, Mr. MCLANE, instrucciones en las cuales hacía constar que: 'Aun cuando no negamos el derecho que asista á cualquier otra potencia de emprender, en desagravio propio, operaciones hostiles contra México, si objetamos con toda firmeza á que se adueñe de parte alguna del país, ó que trate de dirigir por la fuerza sus des-

tinos políticos. Esta actitud de los Estados Unidos con respecto á la intervención extranjera, así como su determinación de resistir, por todos los medios á su alcance, contra tales atentados, son ya conocidas de Francia, Inglaterra y España.' En su mensaje anual de diciembre de 1860, el Presidente BUCHANAN, al recordar que ya antes había solicitado autoridad para intervenir en el restablecimiento del orden en México, manifestó que, concedida aquella, quedaríamos 'relevados de la obligación de resistir, aun por la fuerza en caso de necesidad, cualquier atentado de los gobiernos europeos para privar á nuestra vecina república de parte de su territorio; deber que no podemos eludir sin abandonar la política tradicional y establecida del pueblo americano.'

"He narrado ya los acontecimientos que se verificaron, tanto durante nuestra guerra civil como á su término, y que se refieren á la intervención tripartita de Inglaterra, España y Francia; á la separación de estas dos últimas potencias; á la occupación continuada de México por el ejército francés; al atentado contra las instituciones republicanas, y por último á la retirada de los franceses cuando nuestro gobierno manifestó al Emperador NAPOLEÓN que nuestras relaciones amistosas 'correrían peligro inminente, á no ser que Francia considerase que, el desistir de prolongar la intervención armada en México, era contrario á sus intereses y á su honor.'

"He aquí un verdadero ejemplo de la aplicación de la Doctrina de MONROE. Cierto es que el Secretario SEWARD no la invocó por su nombre; pero los principios que ella encierra los expuso de manera clara y explícita en la correspondencia cruzada con motivo de la intervención tripartita, reiterándolos luego en diversas ocasiones durante la Guerra Civil. Al terminar ésta se tomaron medidas para hacer efectiva su observancia por medio de la fuerza armada. Es indudable que los medios pacíficos que se emplearon entonces hicieron innecesario aquél procedimiento; de lo contrario el ejército americano habría ido á México á expulsar de allí las tropas francesas y establecer la república.

"En 1866, España estaba en hostilidad abierta con las repúblicas del Ecuador, Perú, y Chile. Respecto á este conflicto, el Secretario SEWARD escribió á nuestro Ministro en Chile lo que sigue: 'El Gobierno de los Estados Unidos mantiene, é insistirá en ello con toda la decisión y energía compatibles con nuestra neutralidad actual, que el sistema republicano aceptado por cualquiera de esas naciones no ha de ser atacado por malevolencia, ni destruido como fin de una guerra legal, por las potencias europeas.' Pero, añadía, los Estados Unidos 'no se considerarán obligados á tomar parte en las guerras entre una república sud américana y un soberano europeo, cuando el propósito de éste no sea establecer la monarquía bajo un príncipe europeo en lugar de la república derrocada.'

"Los intereses de nuestro país en un canal interoceánico á través del istmo, y las relaciones de nuestro gobierno con semejante empresa, han dado mayor ampliación en años recientes á la Doctrina de MONROE. En 1880 adquirió forma definitiva el proyecto de DE LESSEPS para construir un canal por el istmo de Panamá. A la cabeza de dicha obra estaba un célebre ingeniero francés; la compañía que había de dirigirla era una sociedad francesa; los fondos para la construcción habían sido levantados casi exclusivamente en Francia y se suponía que el gobierno francés de una ú otra manera habría de favorecerla ó acordarla su protección.

"Esto hubo de despertar interés general en los Estados Unidos y el Presidente HAYES juzgó necesario hacer una manifestación pública de la política de este gobierno con respecto á la nueva empresa, lo que verificó en un mensaje especial dirijido al Senado el 8 de marzo de 1880, del cual tomo los siguientes párrafos:

"'Un canal bajo la jurisdicción americana es lo que exige la política de este país. Los Estados Unidos no pueden consentir en ceder esta jurisdicción á ninguna potencia europea, ni á una combinación de ellas. * * * El capital que las sociedades ó los ciudadanos de otros países inviertan en dicha empresa debe, en su mayor parte, solicitar la protección de una ó más de las grandes potencias del mundo. No hay potencia europea que intervenga para prestar esa protección sin que adopte medidas que los Estados Unidos rechacen como totalmente inadmisibles en este continente. * * * Habrá de ser (el canal) la gran ruta marítima entre nuestras costas del Atlántico y las del Pacífico, y formar, virtualmente, parte del litoral de los Estados Unidos. Nuestros intereses meramente comerciales en el canal, son mucho mayores que los de todos los otros países, y por lo que toca á nuestra potencia y prosperidad como nación, á nuestros medios de defensa, á nuestra unidad, paz y seguridad, son asuntos estos de interés primordial para el pueblo de los Estados Unidos. En igualdad de circunstancias ninguna otra gran potencia dejaría de mantener su derecho de jurisdicción sobre una obra que de manera tan íntima y vital afecta sus intereses y su bienestar.'

"Este mensaje fué acompañado de una reseña histórica de la correspondencia oficial en el asunto canal interoceánico, preparada por Mr. EVARTS, Secretario de Estado, y que termina así:

"'El interés primordial de los Estados Unidos en estos proyectos de comunicación interoceánica á través del istmo americano es, ante los ojos de las potencias europeas, tan indisputable como en el sentir de las naciones de este continente. * * * Es como cuestión territorial que la materia se presenta clara y distintamente ante el criterio de este gobierno, y es como tal que debe ejercer dominio completo sobre su dirección.'

"El Secretario EVARTS, á raiz de esta declaración pública, preguntó al Ministro de Francia en Wáshington cual era la ingerencia que el

Gobierno francés pretendía atribuirse en la empresa de De Lesseps. La contestación fué que:

"'El Gabinete francés desde un principio había manifestado su propósito firme de permitir que la empresa inaugurada por M. De Lesseps conservará su índole esencialmente privada. * * * El Gobierno francés no tiene interés de ningún género en la empresa y de ninguna manera se propone intervenir en ella ni prestarle apoyo alguno, ya sea directa ó indirectamente.'

"El Presidente Garfield en su discurso de inauguración, en 1881, ratificó la actitud asumida por el Presidente Hayes, manifestando que 'Los Estados Unidos tenían el deber y el derecho de hacer valer y mantener aquella supervigilancia y autoridad sobre cualquier canal interoceánico por el istmo * * * que exigen la protección de nuestros intereses nacionales.' Á poco de haberse instalado la nueva administración se publicó la noticia de que Colombia gestionaba acerca de las potencias europeas en solicitud de su común garantía sobre el canal propuesto por De Lesseps en Panamá. Entonces el Secretario de Estado, Mr. Blaine, con fecha 24 de junio de 1881, pasó una circular á los ministros americanos en Europa refiriéndose á los términos del tratado de 1846 con Colombia, por los cuales los Estados Unidos garantizaban la perfecta neutralidad del tránsito por el istmo. Con esta circular les comunicó instrucciones de hacer saber que "cualquiera medida que tienda á adicionar aquella garantía, ha de ser considerada por este gobierno como una intrusión completamente fuera de lugar en una materia en que los intereses locales y generales de los Estados Unidos deben ser consultados antes que los de ninguna otra potencia, excepción hecha de Colombia, nada más.'

"El Secretario de Estado no circunscribió sus instrucciones á los términos contenidos en el tratado con Colombia, sino que las hizo aplicables á la cuestión general de tránsito por el istmo. Manifestó que 'el Presidente juzgaba, en honor de la franqueza, ser aun más explícito' y continuó diciendo:

"'Es en lo que se refiere al dominio político sobre dicho canal, y no á su dirección administrativa ó comercial, que el Presidente se cree llamado á expresarse con claridad y energía. Durante una guerra en la cual tomen parte ó los Estados Unidos de América ó Colombia, el paso de buques de guerra pertenecientes á la nación hostil no podría ser más admisible que el de su ejercito por los ferrocarriles que unen las costas del Atlántico y del Pacífico de los Estados Unidos ó de Colombia. Los Estados Unidos insistirán en mantener el derecho que les incumbe de tomar todas las precauciones necesarias contra la posibilidad de que en cualquier caso el tránsito por el istmo pueda acarrear perjucios á sus intereses en tierra ó en mar.'

"Ratifica, luego, la manifestación del Presidente Hayes de que el canal por el istmo formará parte de nuestra línea costanera y 'será canal de comunicación entre los Estados del Este y los del lejano

Oeste, como lo son nuestros ferrocarriles trascontinentales.' Un convenio entre países europeos para obrar de común acuerdo en garantizar el canal propuesto, reitera el Secretario, 'sería interpretado como una indicación de sentimientos no amistosos' que—añade—'este gobierno estimaría como de la más grave importancia.' Para terminar dice que la circular no indica el desarollo de una nueva política, sino una declaración abierta á favor de la Doctrina de MONROE.

"Pocos meses más tarde, el Secretario BLAINE propuso al Gobierno inglés reformar el tratado CLAYTON-BULWER en el sentido de que sus términos conformasen con los principios enunciados en la circular. En contestación el Gobierno inglés rehusó convenir en las modificaciones que Mr. BLAINE proponía hacer al tratado, alegando detenidamente las razones en que se fundaba para ello. Continuó la correspondencia el sucesor de Mr. BLAINE, el Secretario FRELINGHUYSEN, quien sostuvo que, á opción de los Estados Unidos, el tratado era rescindible porque la Gran Bretaña lo había violado; y terminó manifestando que el Presidente se conservaba firme en la opinión de que el único protectorado que el canal necesitaba era el de los Estados Unidos y el del país por donde atravesara; que el protectorado de las naciones europeas estaría en conflicto con la Doctrina de MONROE, por la que el pueblo americano tiene un grande aprecio y que ha reconocido el Gobierno de la Gran Bretaña.

"En 1884 se celebró con el Gobierno de Nicaragua un tratado para la construcción del canal por el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos, en el cual se estipulaba que éstos garantizaban la integridad del territorio nicaragüense. Cuando subió al poder del Presidente CLEVELAND dicho tratado aguardaba la ratificación del Senado; pero el Presidente lo retiró, porque sus ideas en la materia no concordaban con las de su predecesor.

"En 1893–94 sobrevino un incidente, que en cierto modo se relaciona con la materia que estudiamos. Estalló en el Brasil una revolución contra el gobierno republicano que se acababa de establecer y gran parte de la marina brasilera, con el almirante á la cabeza, se pronunció á favor de la restauración del imperio. Á Río Janeiro, teatro principal del conflicto, se envió un grueso destacamento de la marina de los Estados Unidos, con instrucciones de conservar la más extricta neutralidad. El almirante americano se encontró con que los que comandaban las escuadras europeas surtas en la bahía, simpatizaban con los imperialistas y rehusaban tomar medida alguna para desarmarlos. Cuando los revolucionarios trataron de poner trabas al comercio extranjero y establecer el bloqueo, el único comandante de la armada extranjera que se opuso á semejantes medidas fué el almirante americano que, al ser notificado por los revolucionarios de que desaprobaban su conducta, dió órdenes de hacer zafarrancho de combate y obligó al almirante imperialista á desistir de su intento. Esta determinación

ejerció una influencia positiva en el mal éxito del atentado para restablecer el gobierno monárquico en Sud América.

"Llegamos ahora á la última y más reciente declaración que en la historia de nuestro país ha tenido la Doctrina de MONROE, la intervención del Presidente CLEVELAND en la controversia de la Gran Bretaña con Venezuela, por la cuestión de límites de la Guayana Británica. Hacía más de medio siglo estaba pendiente esta controversia, en la cual iba interesada la gran extensión de territorio comprendido entre los ríos Esequibo y Orinoco. Durante todo ese tiempo el Gobierno británico había ido extendiendo sus pretensiones poco á poco, é invadiendo un territorio que Venezuela reclamaba como suyo y sobre el cual su Gobierno había ejercido jurisdicción. Imposibilitada de llegar á un acuerdo con el Gobierno británico respecto á la línea divisoria, propuso Venezuela el arbitraje de la cuestión, invocando, con este fin, los buenos oficios de los Estados Unidos. Nuestro Gobierno solicitó desinteresadamente durante quince años, sin obtener resultados definitivos, que la Gran Bretaña aceptase la proposición de Venezuela, que irritada ya por las continuas invasiones inglesas, terminó por romper sus relaciones diplomáticas con la Gran Bretaña. Ya para entonces los ingleses habían ocupado un punto en las bocas del Orinoco, desde donde les era fácil dominar el vasto territorio que en el interior de Sud América riegan las aguas de aquel río. Nuestros ministros en Londres, bajo administraciones sucesivas, instaron á la Gran Bretaña la aceptación del arbitramento, pero ésta mantenía la línea arbitraria que habían trazado sus empleados y rehusaba someter á arbitraje porción alguna de territorio que estuviese comprendida dentro de aquella línea divisoria.

"Á este punto había llegado la controversia cuando el Presidente CLEVELAND, en su mensaje anual de diciembre de 1894, llamó la atención del Congreso al estado nada satisfactorio de las negociaciones y expresó la creencia que "su pronto arreglo * * * es cónsono con nuestra política establecida de hacer desaparecer de este hemisferio todo motivo de diferencias con las potencias de allende el mar;" y manifestó su intención de renovar sus esfuerzos para ver de conseguir que la cuestión fuese referida á arbitraje. Pocas semanas después, el Congreso aprobaba una resolución de ambas Cámaras unidas, por la cual se declaraba 'que la indicación del Presidente * * * que la Gran Bretaña y Venezuela sometan á un arbitramento amigable su disputa de límites se recomiende con instancia á la consideración favorable de ambas partes interesadas.'

"Apoyado en la acción del Congreso, el Presidente CLEVELAND resolvió hacer otro esfuerzo más decidido para arreglar la controversia. El Secretario de Estado, Mr. OLNEY, preparó un estudio detenido y completo, en forma de instrucciones al Embajador en Londres, Mr. BAYARD, en el cual hacía una reseña histórica de la cuestión

de límites y de los esfuerzos hasta entonces inútiles de los Estados Unidos en la materia, y manifestaba que la presente intervención de estos en el asunto estaba basada en la Doctrina de MONROE. Añadió que, en vista de la continua negativa de la Gran Bretaña á aceptar el arbitraje, á no ser á condición de que Venezuela renunciase á una gran parte de su reclamación y que se le concediese á Inglaterra una extensa porción del territorio en disputa, los Estados Unidos se verían en el caso de decidir hasta qué punto estaban obligados á hacer que la integridad del territorio venezolano no sufriese á manos de su poderoso antagonista. Aseguró el Presidente que un pueblo puede hacer uso del derecho que le incumbe de intervenir en las disputas de otras naciones, siempre que lo que una de ellas haga ó se proponga hacer constituya una amenaza á la integridad de dicho pueblo, su tranquilidad ó su bienestar. El espíritu de la Doctrina de MONROE es que nuestra propia seguridad y bienestar exigen que una potencia extranjera no asuma por la fuerza el dominio político de un Estado americano. Aunque la disputa con Venezuela sólo se refería á una línea limítrofe, significaba, sin embargo, ganancia ó pérdida de jurisdicción política sobre una gran extensión de territorio, y en ella estaba envuelto el dominio sobre las bocas del Orinoco, materia esta de gran momento para todas las naciones de la América del Sur.

"La Gran Bretaña—dijo—porque posea colonias en América no es un estado americano y sus avances en territorio venezolano, si se llegase á probar que tal es su nacionalidad, constituiría una infracción abierta de la Doctrina de MONROE; y el deber de los Estados Unidos era hacer que se respetaran los derechos de Venezuela. Añadió el Secretario que la actitud de la Gran Bretaña con respecto á Venezuela era en sustancia como sigue: 'No podéis obtener por la fuerza el territorio en disputa, porque no sois suficientemente fuertes; no podéis obtenerlo por medio de tratados, porque yo no convengo en ellos, y sólo os queda al azar de conseguir un pedazo por medio del arbitraje, si convenís primero en abandonarme las porciones que yo designe.' Mr. OLNEY sustuvo que semejante actitud, si continuaba, equivalía á la invasión y conquista del territorio de Venezuela. Dadas estas circunstancias, el deber del Presidente en este caso le parecía inquívoco é imperioso y así daba instrucciones á Mr. BAYARD para que instara á Lord SALISBURY á contestar definitivamente si la Gran Bretaña convenía en someter á arbitramento toda cuestión de Venezuela.

"La prensa inglesa calificó esta nota de palabrería difusa, escrita en un estilo que no es el que se emplea por lo regular en documentos de estado; violenta en su lenguaje; de un desdén ofensivo para las otras grandes naciones, conteniéndo una chocante tergiversación de hechos, y llena de extravagancias, de espíritu de contradicción y de audacia. Esto, sin embargo, es lo mismo que se ha dicho de todos los Secretarios de Estado, desde JOHN QUINCY ADAMS hasta nuestros días, cada vez

que han hecho frente á la conducta presuntuosa y egoísta de la Gran Bretaña. La verdad es que no puede achacarse á dicho documento el emplear un lenguaje que no sea el de la diplomacia, y aun cuando se le pueda calificar de cualquier otra manera, constituye por sí la manifestación más completa y satisfactoria que se haya hecho hasta hoy de la Doctrina de MONROE.

"De una manera tan cuidadosa cuanto comedida, contestó Lord SALISBURY en dos comunicaciones dirigidas al Embajador inglés en Wáshington, una de las cuales estaba consagrada á discutir la Doctrina de MONROE y la otra á la cuestión de límites de Venezuela. Sostuvo que el Presidente MONROE jamás pensó en pretender las nuevas prerogativas que para los Estados Unidos reclamaba Mr. OLNEY, y que, aun cuando la Doctrina de MONROE era merecedora de gran respecto, no había sido admitida en el canon de derecho internacional, de suerte que no obligaba á otras naciones; que el presente caso no era imponer á un pueblo de Sud América un sistema de gobierno europeo, sino únicamente determinar las fronteras de una posesión británica; que aun cuando á los Estados Unidos les asiste el derecho, como á cualquier otra nación, de mediar en cualquiera controversia que afecte sus intereses, el hecho de que la controversia afecta parte de un territorio que se llama americano, no puede ni servir de apoyo á sus derechos, ni ampliarlos; que este derecho es el mismo, ni más ni menos, en el caso de China ó del Japón; que aun cuando admitía que cualquiera perturbación causada por una potencia europea en la distribución territorial que hoy existe en el hemisferio americano sería altamente impropia, no podía aceptar que la Doctrina de MONROE fuese aplicable á aquellas circunstancias; y terminaba la nota de SALISBURY reafirmando en sustancia la actitud asumida por la Gran Bretaña, que, aun cuando una parte del territorio en disputa podía ser sometida al arbitraje, había otra que no podía someterse.

"Las comunicaciones de Lord SALISBURY traían fecha de 26 de noviembre de 1895, y el 17 de diciembre, muy poco después de haber sido recibidas en Wáshington, el Presidente CLEVELAND mandó al Congreso su célebre mensaje, que creó intensa exitación tanto en América como en Europa. Con el mensaje envió la correspondencia cruzada entre el Secretario OLNEY y Lord SALISBURY; y refiriéndose á la declaración de éste de que la Doctrina de MONROE era inaplicable 'al estado de cosas que priva en nuestros días' manifestó que consideraba la doctrina 'importante para nuestra paz y seguridad como nación y esencial á nuestras libres instituciones * * * aplicable á cada una de las etapas de nuestra vida nacional, y no puede caer en desuso mientras exista nuestra República;' que habiendo la Gran Bretaña rehusado concluyentemente someter la disputa á arbitramento, sólo quedaba aceptar la situación y proceder en consecuencia; que debía nombrarse una comisión para estudiar y determinar cuál era la verdadera línea

limítrofe entre Venezuela y la Guayana británica; que una vez presentado y aprobado el informe de dicha comisión, los Estados Unidos estarían en el deber de resistir, por todos los medios á su alcance, á que se adueñasen de cualquier territorio que hubiéramos determinado pertenecer de derecho á Venezuela; y que al hacer estas declaraciones 'comprendía todo el peso de las responsabilidades incurridas.'

"El Congreso procedió con gran prontitud y unanimidad en la materia que recomendaba el Presidente, autorizando la comisión y votando la cantidad de $100,000 para hacer frente á los gastos de sus estudios. El Presidente nombró una comisión escogida de entre nuestros primeros sabios. Si hemos de juzgar por el tono de la prensa inglesa mientras sucedían estos acontecimientos, habremos de concluir que era inevitable una guerra entre las dos naciones que hablan la lengua inglesa. Es evidente, sin embargo, que el Gobierno británico no pensaba así. Continuaron las negociaciones diplomáticas y se convino al fin en someter á arbitramento todo el territorio en disputa; y debido á la amigable intervención de los Estados Unidos, Venezuela y la Gran Bretaña celebraron un tratado al efecto. En 1899 terminó el arbitramento, que dió por resultado la fijación de una línea territorial de transacción entre lo que reclamaban ambos países, la cual fué pacíficamente aceptada.

"La conducta del Presidente CLEVELAND recibió entusiasta apoyo del pueblo entero de los Estados Unidos. No faltaron, desde luego, periódicos, escritores políticos y hombres públicos de nota que hicieran la oposición á su conducta, por considerarla fuera de los límites del espíritu de la Doctrina de MONROE. No participo yo de esta opinión; tengo para mí que la acción del Presidente fué una aplicación concienzuda y necesaria de dicha doctrina, compatible con su verdadero alcance y espíritu.

"Es placentero hacer constar que produjo en las naciones de Europa, el efecto más saludable. Desde que nuestro Gobierno triunfó en la Guerra Civil, nada había ocurrido que diera mayor prestigio á nuestro país en el exterior. El 'London Times,' comentando sobre el tratado de arbitraje con Venezuela, dijo: 'Desde el punto de vista de los Estados Unidos, el convenio es la concesión de mayor alcance que ha hecho la Gran Bretaña. Admítese el principio de que por lo que se refiere á las repúblicas de Sud América, los Estados Unidos pueden no solamente intervenir en las disputas, sino poner de lado á uno de los contendores y arrogarse la dirección exclusiva de las negociaciones. Desde luego que la acción de la Gran Bretaña no obliga á ningún otro país; pero ha establecido un precedente que en el porvenir se le puede citar en su contra, y ha fortalecido el brazo del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos en cualquiera disputa que en lo adelante pueda presentarse entre una república de Sud América y una potencia europea, y en la cual deseen intervenir los Estados Unidos.'

"Un escritor en el 'Nineteenth Century' (Londres, diciembre de 1896) comparando las diversas opiniones europeas en la materia, se expresa así: 'Los periodistas franceses y alemanes mejor informados * * * aun cuando reconocen la equidad y prudencia del arreglo (para el arbitraje) en que se ha convenido, creen necesario hacer observar que encierra posibilidades de suma gravedad, no solamente para Inglaterra y los Estados Unidos, sino para el mundo civilizado en general.' Y en prueba del sentimiento que existe cita la "Gaceta de Colonia" que 'insiste en que se ha establecido un precedente por la acción concertada de dos potencias anglo-sajonas, cuyos efectos habrán de sentirse, muy probablemente, mucho después que se haya olvidado la cuestión de límites de la Guayana inglesa.'

"Los delegados de los Estados Unidos á la Conferencia Internacional de la Paz, que se reunió en La Haya en 1899, al firmar el pacto para el arreglo pacífico de los conflictos internacionales, hicieron ante la Conferencia la siguiente declaración, que fué inserta en el protocolo:

"'Nada de lo contenido en esta convención ha de interpretarse como significando que los Estados Unidos de América han de separarse de su política tradicional de no ingerirse, ni intervenir, ni mezclarse en las cuestiones políticas de ninguna nación extranjera, ni en su política ó administración interior; ni nada de lo contenido en esta convención ha de interpretarse como significando que los Estados Unidos de América abandonan su actitud tradicional en las cuestiones puramente americanas.' Esta declaración no comprometió á ninguna otra potencia en la política enunciada; solo fué una advertencia solemne hecha al mundo, de que los Estados Unidos continuaban dando su apoyo á la Doctrina de MONROE.

"De la reseña histórica que precede, creo que podemos deducir claramente que el principio ó la política del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos, que se conoce con el nombre de Doctrina de MONROE declara, en la forma afirmativa, lo siguiente:

"'Primero. Que ninguna potencia europea, por sí ó en combinación con otras, puede intervenir en los asuntos de este hemisferio con el propósito, ó con el fin, de cambiar por la fuerza la forma de gobierno ó de dominar la libre voluntad de los países que lo componen.

"'Segundo. Que ninguna de dichas potencias puede adquirir ó poseer permanentemente nuevos dominios ó territorios en este hemisferio.

"'Tercero. Que las colonias ó territorios que hoy poseen no pueden extenderse por usurpación de territorios adyacentes, ni ser traspasados á ninguna otra potencia europea, y que, aun cuando los Estados Unidos no abrigan el propósito de intervenir en los asuntos de las colonias que hoy existen 'aguardan esperanzados el día en que * * * América sea completamente americana.'

'Cuarto. Que cualquier canal interoceánico que atraviese el istmo de Centro América debe estar exento de la jurisdicción de las potencias europeas.'

"Aunque cada una de las declaraciones ya mencionadas ha sido reconocida oficialmente como justa aplicación de la Doctrina de MONROE, el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos se reserva, sin embargo, el derecho de decidir en cada uno de los casos la oportunidad y el modo de intervenir, la índole y la magnitud de esta intervención y si ha de ser moral ó material, ó ambas cosas á un tiempo.

"En la forma negativa la Doctrina de MONROE se puede enunciar como sigue:

"'Primero. Que los Estados Unidos no piensan en contraer alianzas permanentes con ninguna potencia americana para hacer cumplir la doctrina, pues su manera de proceder está determinada únicamente, por las necesidades de conservar su propia paz y seguridad. Esto, no obstante, aceptan complacidos la cooperación y el auxilio de otros países para hacerla cumplir como y cuando parezca conveniente.

"'Segundo. Que los Estados Unidos no insisten en que el gobierno republicano sea el único que prevalezca; y que aún cuando favorecen dicho sistema reconocen al propio tiempo el derecho que asiste á cada uno de los pueblos de este hemisferio, para determinar por sí mismo su forma de gobierno.

"'Tercero. Que los Estados Unidos no niegan á los gobiernos europeos el derecho de hacer valer sus justas reclamaciones contra las naciones de América, mientras se conserven dentro de los límites indicados.

"'Cuarto. Que los Estados Unidos no tienen en mientes establecer el protectorado sobre ninguna de las naciones americanas, ni tratan de dirigir sus reclamaciones con otros países, ni hacerse responsables de sus actos.'

"Háse dicho que la Doctrina de MONROE no tiene autoridad de ley; primero, porque no ha sido admitida en el Código de Derecho Internacional, y, segundo, porque nunca ha sido aprobada ni promulgada por el Congreso. Á esto podemos contestar que el principio que encierra la Doctrina de MONROE—el derecho de la propia defensa y la conservación de la paz y la seguridad de la nación—es reconocido como parte elemental del derecho internacional. La doctrina no había menester de la acción del Congreso para servir de guía á la conducta del Ejecutivo, como no la necesita la política de la no intervención en los asuntos europeos, enunciada en la despedida de WÁSHINGTON. Pero desde el momento en que el Congreso obró como lo hizo con motivo del mensaje del Presidente CLEVELAND sobre Venezuela, ya no se puede decir que dicho cuerpo no ha dado formal aprobación á la doctrina. Aun aquellos que se opusieron á su última aplicación

admiten que así fué, y en la forma más estricta. Hoy es punto cardinal de la política de nuestro Gobierno. En el lenguaje profético de Mr. JEFFERSON, 'nos sirve de brújula para marcar el derrotero que hemos de seguir en el mar de los tiempos que se extiende ante nosotros.'

"Bien podemos terminar este estudio con las palabras pronunciadas por DANIEL WEBSTER en el Senado de los Estados Unidos: 'Para mí el mensaje de 1823 es una página brillante de nuestra historia. No seré yo quien se preste á borrarla ó á romperla, ni ninguno de mis actos habrá de arrojar sobre ella una mancha ó un borrón.'"

BIBLIOGRAFÍA.

En esta sección del Boletín Mensual se tratará de los libros y folletos enviados á la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas, que se refieren á asuntos relacionados con los países de la Unión Internacional de Repúblicas Americanas.

El canje de publicaciones de Centro y Sud América puede efectuarse por conducto de la "Smithsonian Institution," Wáshington, D. C., por medio de las agencias de distribución que tiene en aquellos países, y que son las siguientes:

Argentina: Museo Nacional, Buenos Aires.

Bolivia: Oficina Nacional de Inmigración, Estadística y Propaganda Geográfica, La Paz.

Chile: Universidad de Chile, Santiago.

Colombia: Biblioteca Nacional, Bogotá.

Costa Rica: Oficina de Depósito, Reparto y Canje Internacional, San José.

El Salvador: Museo Nacional, San Salvador.

Guatemala: Instituto Nacional de Guatemala, Guatemala.

Honduras: Biblioteca Nacional, Tegucigalpa.

México: Todos los envíos gozan de la franquicia del correo.

Nicaragua; Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Managua.

Paraguay: Oficina General de Informaciones y Canje y Comisaría General de Inmigración, Asunción.

Perú: Biblioteca Nacional, Lima.

Uruguay: Oficina de Depósito, Reparto y Canje Internacional, Montevideo.

Venezuela: Museo Nacional, Caracas.

Con el título de "Estadística Comercial de la República de Chile correspondiente al año de 1899," se ha publicado en Valparaiso la última edición de este notable trabajo estadístico, en el cual se da informes de sumo interés relativos á aquella próspera República de la América del Sur. En la introducción del libro se lee lo siguiente:

"El valor del comercio internacional de la República durante el año de 1899 fué de $269,366,491. Comparando estas cifras con lo que arroja el año de 1898, $270,331,489, resulta una diminución en el año próximo pasado de $964,998. Analizando la suma total de nuestras importaciones y exportaciones en 1899, se descompone en esta forma: importación $106,260,358; exportación $163,106,133.

"Relacionando estas cifras con las de 1898, acusan un aumento de la importación en el año pasado de $3,998,300, y una diminución en nuestras exportaciones de $4,963,298.

"Pero un examen atento de estas cantidades permite asegurar que no es del todo exacto, como á primera vista pudiera creerse, que haya disminuido la exportación de nuestros productos. Y es en extremo fácil convencerse de esta aserción. En la cifra de nuestra exportación durante el año 1898, se encuentra incluida la cantidad de $14,271,427, valor de las monedas de oro y plata enviadas al extranjero. Rebajando esta cifra del total de $168,069,431, queda reducida la exportación del año 1898 á $153,798,004."

Los Señores Herbert S. Stone & Compañía de Chicago han publicado últimamente una obra de Mr. William E. Curtis, Director que fué de la Oficina de las Repúblicas Américanas, con este título: "Between the Andes and the Ocean" (Entre los Andes y el Océano). Contiene este trabajo una serie de artículos descriptivos relativos al viaje que el Señor Curtis hizo en la América del Sur desde el istmo de Panamá hasta el estrecho de Magallanes. Hay un capítulo dedicado especialmente al proyectado canal de Panamá y descripciones muy interesantes de algunas ciudades sudamericanas, como, por ejemplo, Guayaquil, Arequipa, La Paz, Santiago y Lima.

Una publicación histórica de importancia es la que lleva el título de "Report of the Census of Cuba, 1899" (Informe sobre el Censo de Cuba en 1899). Trata esta obra de todos aquellos asuntos de interés, relacionados con la isla de Cuba, y por lo que hace á la cuestión del censo, jamás se había levantado en la Isla uno tan perfecto como éste. El trabajo se ha hecho bajo la dirección del Teniente Coronel J. P. Sanger y de los peritos en materia de estadística, Señores Henry Gannett y Walter F. Wilcox. El libro tiene ilustraciones que representan las principales ciudades de la Isla.

La obra titulada "Wright's Australian, India, China, and Japan Directory and Gazetteer" (Directorio y Diccionario geográfico de Australia, India, China y Japón, compilado por el Señor WRIGHT) acaba de publicarse, y trata también del Canadá, la América Central y del Sur, las Antillas, México y el África Austral. Hay en el libro una lista de todas las ciudades de los países mencionados y una descripción de las principales industrias y de los edificios más notables en cada población. Es ésta la quinta edición de este directorio y contiene más de 3,000 páginas.

Con el título de "The Progress of Invention in the Nineteenth Century," Mr. EDWARD W. BYRN ha publicado últimamente un libro en octavo de 400 páginas, en el cual da una relación de los progresos alcanzados durante los últimos cien años. Entre las importantes materias sobre que trata, figuran el telégrafo, el dinámo y sus aplicaciones, la luz eléctrica, el teléfono, las máquinas de vapor, los ferrocarriles, la navegación á vapor, la imprenta, la máquina de coser, la maquinaria para agricultura, etc. La obra está ilustrada con 300 grabados.

Los Señores TUGMAN & Co. de Filadelfia acaban de publicar en cinco idiomas—inglés, francés, alemán, español y portugues—una obra titulada "Classified Directory of the Manufacturing Interests of the State of Pennsylvania" (Guía Clasificada de los Intereses Manufactureros del Estado de Pennsylvania). El libro contiene cerca de 250 páginas de nombres, precedidas de un interesante artículo referente al Estado y al objeto de los editores al publicar la obra. Esta guía ó directorio es para ser distribuida gratis fuera de los Estados Unidos á solicitud de las casas de comercio extranjeras.

Se ha publicado con el título de "Commercial Education; The Training of Business Men as a Branch of Technical Education," una interesante monografía, obra del Dr. CHEESMAN A. HERRICK, de Filadelfia. El autor divide su obra en cinco partes, á saber: 1ª, La educación comercial es una necesidad de la época; 2ª, importancia y necesidad de educación comercial; 3ª, resultados obtenidos últimamente en países extranjeros mediante la educación comercial; 4ª, obstáculos para la educación comercial; 5ª, escuela secundaria de comercio en Filadelfia.

El Señor Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario de Costa Rica en los Estados Unidos tuvo la atención de enviar á la biblioteca de la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas varias publicaciones de verdadero interés, á saber: Colección de Tratados Vigentes de Costa Rica; Colecciones de las Leyes y Decretos emitidos en el año de 1899

y 1900; Compilación de Leyes y Documentos Oficiales Relativos á la Evolución Monetaria de Costa Rica; La Reforma del Sistema Monetario de la República de Costa Rica.

Mr. HENRY C. MORRIS, de Chicago, ex-Cónsul de los Estados Unidos en Gante, Bélgica, ha publicado un libro con este título: "The History of Colonization." Abraza esta historia un inmenso período de tiempo, pues principia con las expediciones y colonizaciones de las razas del Asia Menor, y da una relación de las colonizaciones durante la edad media y llega hasta nuestros días. Esta obra arroja mucha luz sobre los problemas de la política colonial que hoy se discuten en los Estados Unidos.

Se ha recibido en la biblioteca de la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas el volumen correspondiente al año de 1899 de la obra titulada "Sinopsis Estadística y Geográfica de la República de Chile." Es un libro de referencia muy importante, como que contiene toda clase de datos de interés sobre la mencionada República sudamericana. La obra está muy bien impresa y muestra que el arte de la tipografía ha adelantado notablemente en Chile.

La casa de J. B. LIPPINCOTT ha dado á la luz una obra en dos tomos con el título de "History of America Before Columbus" (Historia de América Antes de Colón). El autor, Mr. P. DE ROO, hace en su trabajo una relación completa acerca del continente occidental antes del descubrimiento. Indudablemente su obra tiene gran mérito histórico y llamará la atención de cuantos se interesan en el estudio de asuntos americanos.

El Dr. EDWARD EGGLESTON ha escrito una obra histórica con este título: "The Transit of Civilization from England to America in the Seventeenth Century." En este libro se hace una relación detallada é interesante de la influencia que ejercieron la literatura y las ciencias europeas en los Estados Unidos durante los primeros años de su existencia. Es un trabajo que seguramente va á despertar mucho interés.

El Señor Don MÁXIMO SOTO HALL, conocido literato centro-americano, ha escrito un interesante folleto con este título: "De México á Honduras." Es una relación del viaje de HERNÁN CORTÉS del primero al segundo de estos países. La Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas recibió esta preciosa obrita de la Legación de la República de Costa Rica en Wáshington.

Con el título de "Guía General Descriptiva de la República Mexicana," se ha publicado otro notable volumen, que contiene abundancia y

variedad de noticias, acopio de datos, acertados comentarios, admirables descripciones y una exposición fácil y metódica. Es un libro de referencia relativo á México muy importante para cuantos se interesen en los asuntos de aquella próspera República.

Los Señores McClure, Phillips & Co. han publicado un pequeño volumen con este título: "Abraham Lincoln. His Book." Este es el único libro que Lincoln escribió é hizo publicar. Contiene extractos de sus discursos sobre la igualidad de los negros, y es uno de los recuerdos más interesantes del gran Presidente que en la guerra de rebelión fué la primera figura de los Estados Unidos.

El Profesor Edwin Erle Sparks, de la Universidad de Chicago, ha publicado una reseña sobre la historia de los Estados Unidos con este título: "The Men Who Made the Nation" (Los Hombres que Formaron la Nación). Es este trabajo un estudio histórico sobre los acontecimientos del siglo pasado, y está muy bien ilustrado.

Con el título de "Monetary History of the United States," Mr. Charles J. Bullock ha publicado un interesante trabajo compuesto de 300 páginas, en el cual hay informes de suma importancia y una relación bibliográfica completa sobre la historia monetaria de los Estados Unidos.

Un libro de mucho mérito es el que lleva por título "Moody's Manual of Industrial and Miscellaneous Securities," que últimamente se ha publicado en Nueva York, y en el cual se dan informes relativos á la condición económica de las corporaciones industriales de los Estados Unidos, cuyo capital es de un millón ó más de *dollars*.

Se han recibido los números 2 y 3 de la publicación trimestral titulada "Anales de la Universidad Central de Venezuela," publicada en Caracas. Dicha obra contiene trabajos del mayor interés referentes á los asuntos universitarios de que es órgano, y además artículos y estudios por los profesores de aquel instituto.

Con el título de "Greater America" ha salido á luz en Boston una obra en la cual se hallan muchas noticias de interés relativas á las últimas posesiones insulares adquiridas por los Estados Unidos. Tiene la obra un número considerable de hermosas ilustraciones.

La obra conocida con el nombre de "Poor's Manual of Railroads," correspondiente al año de 1900, ha salido á luz y contiene 1954 páginas, de las cuales 987 están dedicadas á los ferrocarriles. Como de costumbre, el libro está muy bien impreso y encuadernado.

El Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de la República de El Salvador ha honrado esta Oficina con el envío de las siguientes obras para su biblioteca: "Organización del Servicio Diplomático y Consular y sobre Recepción de Ministros Diplomáticos Extranjeros y de sus Privilegios." "Ordenanza del Ejército." "Reglamento Interior del Poder Ejecutivo." "Código de Sanidad de la República de El Salvador." "Tarifa de Aforos y Ley de Facturas Consulares." "Memoria de Relaciones Exteriores." "Código de Agricultura."

D. O. HAYNES & Co., de Nueva York, han publicado en dos tomos la obra titulada "DEPEW'S History of American Commerce." Contiene este trabajo datos de verdadero interés relativos del desarrollo del comercio de los Estados Unidos en el siglo XIX.

El Señor Encargado de Negocios de Venezuela en los Estados Unidos se ha servido remitir á la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas la Recopilación de Leyes y Decretos de Venezuela, correspondientes á los años de 1896 y 1897.

El Señor Dr. D. SAMUEL OROPEZA, Profesor de Derecho en la Universidad de Sucre, y actualmente Ministro de Instrucción Pública del Gobierno de Bolivia, ha publicado recientemente un folleto con el título de "Estudios de la Ciencia Moderna," obra interesantísima no sólo por lo que se refiere á la materia de que trata sino también por el sistema y métodos empleados en la preparación del trabajo.

"El Brasil Intelectual" es el título de la última obra del conocido literato argentino Dr. D. MARTÍN GARCÍA MEROU, Ministro que fué de su país en los Estados Unidos y que hoy desempeña la cartera de Agricultura en Buenos Aires. Es obra de gran mérito literario, que contiene el examen y la crítica de la literatura del Brasil acompañada de comentarios y análisis sobre las obras de los mejores escritores brasileros.

BOLETIM MENSAL

DA

SECRETARIA DAS REPUBLICAS AMERICANAS,

União Internacional das Republicas Americanas.

VOL. IX. DEZEMBRO DE 1900. No. 6.

ACTA DA SESSÃO DA COMMISSÃO EXECUTIVA DA UNIÃO INTERNACIONAL DAS REPUBLICAS AMERICANAS.

Uma sessão da Commissão Executiva da União Internacional das Republicas Americanas realizou-se na sala de recepção da Secretaria de Estado, segunda-feira, 26 de Novembro de 1900.

A sessão foi presidida pelo Honrado Sr. Secretario de Estado, Mr. JOHN HAY, Presidente da Commissão Executiva.

Os outros membros da Commissão que estiveram presentes foram:

O Senhor Dr. Don JOAQUIM BERNARDO CALVO, Ministro de Costa Rica.

O Senhor Don ANTONIO LAZO ARRIAGA, Ministro de Guatemala.

O Senhor Dr. Don EDUARDO WILDE, Ministro da Republica Argentina.

Devido á ausencia temporaria do Sr. W. W. ROCKHILL, Director da Secretaria, o Sr. Dr. HORACIO GUZMÁN, Director-interino, compareceu á sessão.

O director-interino manifestou o objecto da reunião e apresentou o relatorio annual do Director. O dito relatorio leva a data de 26 de Novembro de 1900 e se publica em seguida.

O relatorio foi declarado inteiramente satisfactorio, e á moção do Senhor CALVO, foi approvado.

Referindo-se ao relatorio, o Secretario de Estado exprimiu-se como segue:

"Penso que todos nos concordaremos em que o relatorio é excellente, mostrando o estado satisfactorio dos negocios da Secretaria e a melhora havida na condição geral da União Internacional. Dá-me especial satisfacção este relatorio, pois revela a intelligencia, energia e espirito de economia que tem levado a União Internacional a um estado de prosperidade e utilidade nunca até agora attingido."

Levantou-se a sessão.

WASHINGTON, *26 de Novembro, 1900,*

RELATORIO ANNUAL.

SECRETARIA DAS REPUBLICAS AMERICANAS,
Washington, 26 de Novembro de 1900.

Ao Senhor Secretario de Estado, Presidente da Commissão Executiva da União Internacional das Republicas Americanas e aos outros membros da dita Commissão.

SENHORES: Na ausencia temporaria do Director Sr. W. W. ROCKHILL, me incumbe o dever de remetter o relatorio annual relativo aos trabalhos da Secretaria.

As contas da Secretaria durante o exercicio que terminou o 30 de Junho de 1900, são como segue:

Receita e despeza durante o exercicio que terminou no dia 30 de Junho de 1900.

RECEITA.

Quantia annual votada pelo Congresso dos Estados Unidos, 1900			$36,000.00
Saldo proveniente de vendas, aluguel, etc., 1º de Julho de 1900		$1,234.70	
Quotas das Republicas Latino-Americanas		$18,849.90	
De annuncios	$5,083.81		
De vendas de publicações	1,169.47		
	6,253.28		
		25,103.18	
			26,337.88
Receita total			62,337.88

DESPEZA.

Da quantia annual votada pelo Congresso dos Estados Unidos, 1900	$36,000.00	
De receita proveniente de vendas, aluguel, etc	24,882.51	
		60,882.51
Saldo o 1º de Julho de 1900		1,455.37

Quadro detalhado das despezas no exercicio que terminou no dia 30 de Junho de 1900.

	Da quantia annual votada pelo Congresso dos Estados Unidos, 1900.	Da receita proveniente de vendas, aluguel, etc.	Total.
Ordenados dos empregados	$32,908.79	$385.59	$33,294.38
Artigos de escriptorio	.....	828.57	828.57
Aluguel	1,833.34	166.66	2,000.00
Bibliotheca	.....	832.23	832.23
Sellos de correiro	17.26	1,128.68	1,145.94
Mobilia	.....	985.43	985.43
Impressões	.....	18,592.00	18,592.01
Commissões por contratos para enviar pelo correio os boletins de Nova York a Buenos Aires, feitos antes do 1º de Março de 1899	1,240.61	.....	1,240.61
Gastos varios	.....	1,963.34	1,963.34
Total	36,000.00	24,882.51	60,882.51

Pelo que antecede se vê que no dia 1° de Julho de 1900, havia um saldo a favor da Secretaria de $1,455.37. Na conta atraz mencionada não está incluida a quantia que é devida á Typographia Nacional por trabalhos feitos para a Secretaria durante o exercicio que terminou na data mencionada.

Ao começar o anno economico de 1900, como se vê do relatorio annual anterior, havia um saldo a favor da Typographia Nacional de $6,388.09. Mas esta quantia foi reduzida durante o anno a $3,314.78, como se vê do seguinte quadro:

Conta apresentada pelo Director da Typographia Nacional para o exercicio que terminou no dia 30 de Junho de 1900.

Saldo do exercicio de 1899		$6,388.09
Somma total das contas apresentadas para o exercicio que terminou o 30 de Junho de 1900		20,932.59
Somma total por pagar		27,320.68
Quantia a deduzir da somma cobrada por composição e trabalho typographico, segundo arranjos feitos com o Director da Typographia Nacional e acreditada á Secretaria	$7,005.90	
Somma paga da receita proveniente de vendas, aluguel, etc., durante o anno economico de 1900	$11.000.00	
Quantia paga durante o actual exercicio	6,000.00	
	17,000.00	
		24,005.90
Saldo por pagar		3,314.78

Vos apresento em seguida o orçamento da receita e despeza durante o exercicio que terminará o 30 de Junho de 1901:

Quantia votada pelo Congresso dos Estados Unidos		$36,000.00
Quotas das Republicas Latino-Americanas		16,156.70
Annuncios		4,000.00
Venda de publicações		1,200.00
Total		57,356.70
Calculo da despeza na proporção actual:		
Ordenados	$33,600.00	
Aluguel	2,000.00	
Impressões	14,000.00	
Artigos de escriptorio e moveis	1,500.00	
Bibliotheca	1,000.00	
Sellos de correio	1,150.00	
Gastos diversos	3,000.00	
		$56,250,00
Saldo		1,106.70

Neste calculo não está incluido o que se deve á Typographia Nacional como saldo da conta do anno passado. Si se subtrahe esta quantia, haverá um deficit de $2,208.08. Espera-se, porém, que a receita exceda á calculada de modo a cobrir este deficit.

Em quanto a annuncios, é possivel que a receita desta fonte possa chegar á somma de $4,000, durante o proximo anno financeiro.

É de notar-se que nos calculos para o exercicio passado, a quantia das quotas das Republicas Latino-Americanas é dada em $15,813.53, ao passo que a somma total recebida foi de $18,849.90. Isto se deve ao facto de que varias Republicas, que deixaram de fazer seus pagamentos em annos passados, remetteram suas quotas.

O BOLETIM MENSAL.

A edição do BOLETIM MENSAL ascende a 11,000 exemplares, dos quaes como 9,000 se enviam á America Central e do Sul. O quadro que se publica em seguida mostra o numero de exemplares do BOLETIM que foram remettidos a diversos paizes no mez de Outubro deste anno.—

Distribuição do Boletim durante o mez de Outubro.

Republica Argentina	452	Jamaica	60
Bolivia	57	Mexico	5,090
Brazil	376	Nicaragua	104
Honduras Britannica	28	Paraguay	29
Canadá	171	Peru	134
Chile	246	Porto Rico	201
Colombia	187	Salvador	31
Costa Rica	101	Santo Domingo	141
Cuba	287	Estados Unidos	1,468
Equador	113	Uruguay	143
Europa	80	Venezuela	30
Guatemala	496	As Antilhas	160
Haiti	197		
Honduras	208	Total	10,970

A circulação do BOLETIM fica quasi a mesma que a do anno passado, mas fazem-se alterações constantemente na lista dos a quem se remette, afim de que seja enviado sómente aquelles que o estimem. O Congresso dos Estados Unidos tem votado os meios necessarios para fazer uma edição de 5,000 exemplares mensalmente para ser distribuida nos Estados Unidos e desta maneira dar a conhecer melhor as riquezas e opportunidades commerciaes das Republicas Latino-Americanas. Os Senadores e Representantes, ao abrirem-se as sessões do presente Congresso, serão solicitados a enviar á Secretaria listas de pessoas nas diversas secções do paiz a quem seja de interesse esta publicação.

Na preparação do BOLETIM MENSAL teem prestado valiosa cooperação os membros correspondentes honorarios da União Internacional. A secretaria está hoje representada por estes membros em quasi todas as Republicas, e espera-se que dentro de pouco tempo haverá um membro correspondente honorario em cada uma das Republicas latino-americanas. A esperança que o Director exprimiu em seu ultimo relatorio annual de que as informações prestadas por estes membros tenderiam a estender e completar o conhecimento que temos das condições e recursos destes paizes, tem sido realizada.

Durante o anno passado a franquia postal para as publicações da secretaria foi concedida pelas Republicas de Salvador e Uruguay. Este privilegio tem sido concedido á Secretaria por onze Republicas, assim como por Canadá, Cuba, Porto Rico e as Philippinas.

MANUAES.

A Secretaria tem dada á luz uma publicação de quasi 400 paginas intitulada "Mexico; a Geographical Sketch, with Special Reference to Economic Conditions and Prospects of Future Development." Este livro foi em geral bem recebido pela imprensa do paiz e tem sido muito procurado.

Das outras publicações em via de preparação, o manual do Brazil está concluido e prompto para a impressão; os sobre Guatemala, Costa Rica, e Chile estão-se compilando, e em devido tempo serão publicados.

O Director propõe-se a publicar um manual no idioma castelhano sobre os Estados Unidos, e elle mesmo tem preparado o primeiro capitulo sobre o Governo. Outros capitulos serão escriptos por pessoas de reconhecida competencia e diversos especialistas.

No Boletim se publica de tempo em tempo uma lista dos periodicos e revistas que se publicam nas diversas republicas. Quando estas listas forem completas serão publicadas na forma de uma publicação.

MAPPAS.

Outro trabalho importante desta Secretaria em que o Director é muito interessado, é a publicação de mappas. A Secretaria conta com os serviços de um debuxador perito e dous mappas do Mexico já têm sido concluidos. Um é um mappa geral do paiz, e o outro um mappa topographico. Estes mappas estão sendo impressos e logo serão promptos para ser distribuidos. Já se tem dado principio á preparação dos mappas de Costa Rica, Guatemala e Brazil. Quando estejam terminados estes mappas, se procederá a preparar os dos outros paizes.

A BIBLIOTHECA.

Uma porção consideravel do ultimo relatorio annual do Director foi dedicada á bibliotheca, que constitue uma parte importante da Secretaria. Um plano foi suggerido para a reorganização da bibliotheca, o qual em parte tem sido levado a effeito.

Na data do ultimo relatorio havia na bibliotheca 5,000 volumes, mas este numero tem sido augmentado durante o anno por 1,120 volumes e 7,795 folhetos; a maior parte destes têm sido encadernados e catalogados. A acquisição destas novas publicações pela bibliotheca se deve em grande parte á bondadosa cooperação dos representantes diplomaticos das Republicas Latino-Americanas em Washington e á dos representantes dos Estados Unidos no estrangeiro, os quaes teem chamado a

attenção dos seus Governos para a Secretaria, para que lhe subministrem as obras que necessita. As publicações solicitadas dos diversos Governos teem sido promptamente enviados á Secretaria.

Teem-se dirigido communicações ás principaes casas editoras dos Estados Unidos, solicitando-lhes que nos enviem exemplares de novos livros que tratam da America latina e de seus interesses, afim de publicar uma revista delles no BOLETIM. São numerosos os livros obtidos por este meio. A somma de $800 foi expendida durante o anno passado, dando-se attenção especial á compra de trabalhos geographicos, novos mappas e importantes obras de consulta. A despeza por conta da bibliotheca para o presente anno fiscal é calculada em $1,000.

Estão-se fazendo esforços especiaes para obter uma collecção completa das leis e trabalhos dos paizes latino-americanos.

Recebem-se agora na bibliotheca centenares de periodicos dedicados á industria, ao commercio e aos assumptos de interesse geral; faz-se um catologo dos artigos mais importantes que nelles apparecem. Continúa a obra de catalogar os livros que existem na bibliotheca, 9,000 cartões tendo sido inscriptos desde o ultimo relatorio annual. Os principaes periodicos e diarios que se recebem das diversas Republicas latino-americanas são archivados.

Propõe-se fazer deste nucleo a melhor collecção no paiz de obras referentes ás Republicas latino-americanas, onde se podem encontrar informações praticas sobre a historia, geographia, e os recursos naturaes e commerciaes de todos os paizes deste continente.

A EXPOSIÇÃO PAN-AMERICANA.

O Congresso dos Estados Unidos votou os meios para uma exhibição da Secretaria na Exposição Pan-Americana que será realizada em Buffalo durante o verão de 1901, e o Sr. WM. C. FOX, 1° Official da Secretaria, foi nomeado como seu representante na Directoria da Exposição. Uma somma consideravel foi concedida da verba votada pelo Congresso, e ja teem-se tomado os passos necessarios para fazer essa exhibição digna da Secretaria.

CONFERENCIA INTERNACIONAL AMERICANA.

O mais importante incidente na vida da Secretaria desde sua creação, ha dez annos, será a Conferencia Internacional Americana, que terá lugar na cidade de Mexico no dia 22 de Outubro de 1901, e se espera com confiança que esta Conferencia demonstrará a grande utilidade da Secretaria como orgão effectivo em fazer mais estreitas as relações de confiança e de amizade entre todos os paizes da União.

Tenho a honra de ser, Senhores, vosso obediente servidor,

HORACIO GUZMÁN,
Director Interino.

CHILE.

ESTRADA DE FERRO LONGITUDINAL DO CHILE DO NORTE.

Segundo o "Bulletin Commercial" de Bruxellas, a importante casa americana de GRACE & Co. tem sido em conferencia com Chilenos de alta representação com o objecto de concordar em algum plano economico para a conclusão da estrada de ferro longitudinal do norte do Chile.

Esta linha vai de Calera a Pisagua, n'uma extensão total de cerca de 2,300 kilometros, dos quaes 1,300 kilometros ainda estão para construir. Não tendo a via a mesma bitola em todos seus trechos, será necessario assentar de novo uma parte consideravel della. O comprimento da linha que se pode abrir ao trafego é de 942 kilometros.

O consul belga em Santiago diz que seria prematuro exprimir opinião a respeito do valor desta empreza, pois os planos ainda não são completos. O seu custo, porem, não será menos de £6,000,000, somma que é igual a um terço da divida publica do Chile. Os recursos mineiros do paiz, sua boa situação financeira, graças ás rendas provenientes das minas de salitre, fazem possivel a realização deste projecto, que deve attrahir a attenção de capitalistas estrangeiros.

O Chile tem sido sempre interessado na construcção desta linha que é de grande valor estrategico. Abrirá ao trafego as provincias do norte do Chile onde ha muitos depositos de salitre. Ainda que esta linha será um grande factor no desenvolvimento destas provincias, parece que não é destinada a produzir grandes lucros. Por conseguinte sua construcção e exploração não será objecto de emprezas particulares, como é o caso das outras linhas do norte. Mas como o Governo de Chile é directamente interessado em sua conclusão, será disposto, sem duvida, a dar-lhe seu apoio financeiro.

CUBA.

RECEITA DAS ALFANDEGAS DURANTE DEZ MEZES.

A Secção de Rendas Aduaneiras do Departamento da Guerra tem preparado o seguinte quadro da renda arrecadada de todas as fontes nas diversas alfandegas da ilha de Cuba, durante os primeiros dez mezes de 1900, comparada com a do mesmo periodo de 1899.

A receita total das alfandegas durante os dez mezes findos em 31 de Outubro, foi de $13,215,499.03, contra $12,120,991.59 para o mesmo periodo de 1899, o qual mostra um augmento em favor de 1900, de $1,094,507.40. Houve um augmento na receita do mez de Outubro de 1900, de $76,174.55, sobre a do mesmo mez de 1899.

Dá-se em seguida um quadro comparativo da receita arrecadada nos diversos portos nos annos de 1899 e 1900:

Baracoa, $31,949.81 em 1899 comparados com $24,682.78 em 1900; Batabano, $1,803.76, contra $2,728.54; Cienfuegos, $954,261.98, contra $916,391.14; Cardenas, $228,693.33, contra $244,462.35; Caibarien, $122,839.03, contra $162,852.47; Guantanamo, $90,946.45, contra $96,463.15; Gibara, $132,008.31, contra $176,432.20; Havana, $9,035,939.47, contra $9,949,699.55; Manzanillo, $130,057.63, contra $141,129,59; Matanzas, $337,593.05, contra $339,360.99; Nuevitas, $182,849.99, contra $136,775.20; Sagua la Grande, $114,801.26; contra $178,232.72; Santa Cruz, $1,018.43, contra $4,317.52; Santiago, $731,561.48, contra $769,799.69; Trinidad, $19,384.43, contra $21,197.17; Tunas de Zaza, $5,133.18, contra $1,013.97.

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

MENSAGEM DO PRESIDENTE.

O Presidente McKinley dirigiu ao quinquagesimo-sexto Congresso, em sua sessão de 3 de Dezembro, sua mensagem annual. É um documento interessantissimo, pois nelle se tratam as questões de maior importancia que teem tido lugar durante o anno.

Em parte diz assim:

Ao Senado e á Casa de Representantes:

Ao despedir-se este seculo e entrar no seculo novo, inaugurais as ultimas sessões do Congresso quinquagesimo-sexto, tendo por todas as partes evidencias da prosperidade nacional e individual e prova da crescente e poderosa influencia benefica das instituições republicanas. Vossos compatriotas ao par que vós deveis sentir-vos felizes de que a liberdade americana se encontre estabelecida mais firmemente que antes, e que o amor que por ella existe e a determinação que ha de mantel-a sejam mais geraes que em qualquer outro periodo de nossa historia.

A Republica nunca sentiu-se mais forte, porque nunca se achou tão solidamente apoiada no coração do povo como o está agora. A constituição, com poucas emendas, existe como sahiu das mãos dos seus auctores. O que se lhe tem accrescentado tem tido por objecto ampliar as liberdades e fazer mais extensos os direitos dos cidadãos. O Governo popular tem demonstrado na prova de cento trinta e quatro annos a que tem estado submettido, sua estabilidade e sua efficacia como o melhor instrumento do desenvolvimento nacional, e a melhor salvaguarda dos direitos da humanidade.

Quando o sexto Congresso reuniu-se em Novembro de 1800, a população dos Estados Unidos alcançava 5,308,483. Hoje chega a 76,304,799. Então tinhamos dez e seis Estados, hoje são quarenta e cinco. Nosso territorio então comprehendia 909,050 milhas quadradas, hoje mede

3,846,595 milhas quadradas. A instrucção, a religião e a moralidade teem seguido os passos de nosso desenvolvimento em outros sentidos e ao estender seu poder o Governo tem adherido a seus principios fundamentaes sem deixar de applicar nenhum no que se refere a nossos novos povos e possessões."

A mensagem trata minuciosamente da questão com China, dando um historico completo dos acontecimentos e as negociações que a entrada a Pekim tem feito necessarios.

Ao referir-se aos tratados de differentes especies que tem negociado o Governo dos Estados Unidos, diz que no dia 2° de Junho proximo passado se trocaram as ratificações de um tratado de extradição com a Republica Argentina e mais adiante accrescenta:

"Nos interesses da expansão commercial entre este paiz e a America do Sul teem-se feito esforços durante o anno passado para celebrar convenios com as republicas do sul para dar maior extensão ás facilidades postaes. Dous convenios desta natureza se firmaram com Bolivia no dia 24 de Abril, dos quaes o que estabelece o systema de ordens postaes está soffrendo algumas modificações suggeridas pela Repartição de Correios. No mesmo dia firmou-se com o dito paiz um tratado de extradição que tem sido submettido ao Senado.

"A questão de limites entre o Brazil e Bolivia sobre o territorio do Acre está em caminho de ser arranjado amigavelmente, pois pelo protocollo firmado em Dezembro de 1899 se tem concordado em uma fronteira definitva cuja demarcação estará a cargo de uma commissão mixta.

"As condições no Brazil teem feito sentir seu peso a nosso commercio de exportação com aquelle paiz, fazendo contraste notavel com as que favorecem em nossos mercados a entrada dos productos brazileiros. Com instancia se tem manifestado isto áquelle Governo, tendo-se conseguido alguma melhora no assumpto. Confiamos na justiça e boa vontade reciproca daquelle Governo para obter uma melhora de nossas relações commerciaes.

"A convenção firmada no dia 24 de Maio de 1897 para o ajuste final das reclamações pendentes á dissolução da commissão de 1893, foi ratificada pelo Congresso do Chile, e uma commissão supplementaria organizada. Resta que o Congresso vote a somma necessaria para os gastos desta Commissão.

"A insurreição que purturbou a ordem em Colombia em fins de 1899 tem sido praticamente supprimida, ainda que em certos departamentos ha guerrilhas todavia. O Poder Executivo daquella Republica cambiou de mãos em Agosto ultimo quando o Vice-Presidente Maroquin tomou as redeas do Governo durante a ausencia da Capital do Presidente San Clemente. O novo Governo não encontrou seria opposição e seguindo os precedentes estabelecidos nestes casos o ministro dos Estados Unidos entrou em relação com o novo Governo de facto, no dia 16 de Septembro.

"É me grato annunciar que as questões pendentes entre Costa Rica e Nicaragua, resultado do laudo do Presidente CLEVELAND em 1888, teem sido adjustadas por um engenheiro americano, o General E. P. ALEXANDER, escolhido como arbitro para a demarcação da citada linha, quem tem cumprido sua tarefa á satisfacção de ambas as partes.

"A revolução que se effectuou na Republica Dominicana em fins do anno passado deu em resultado a installação do Presidente JIMENEZ, cujo Governo foi formalmente reconheeido em Janeiro. Desde então se tem effectuado o ultimo pagamento da reclamação americana sobre a ponte de Ozama."

Referente á Exposição de Paris e a parte que nella tomaram os Estados Unidos, se exprime assim o Presidente:

"Uma idea da parte que tomamos e de nosso exito, assim como da perfeita organização de nossas exhibições alli, pode ter-se pelo numero de premios adjudicados pelo jurado internacional aos expositores americanos, assim: Grandes premios, 240; medalhas de ouro, 597; medalhas de prata, 776; medalhas de bronze, 541; e menções honorificas, 322; por todo 2,476, que representa um total maior que o que se adjudicou á qualquer outra nação, ao mesmo tempo que é o maior total em cada classe.

"Este reconhecimento significativo do merito, em competencia com as exposições escolhidas de todas as outras nações, feito por jurados quasi em sua totalidade de representantes da França e outros paizes competidores, não sómente é muito satisfactorio, mas tem valor especial desde o momento em que nos dá posto em primeira linha nas questões internacionaes de producção e de demanda, ao passo que uma grande parte das adjudicações feitas ás artes e manufacturas artisticas têm sido uma prova, que não se esperava, do estimulo de nossa cultura nacional devido á prosperidade filha da riqueza natural e da excellencia nas industrias."

Com referencia ás diversas reclamações de cidadãos dos Estados Unidos contra outras nações, se exprime assim a mensagem, no que toca á America Latina:

"A reclamação pendente de R. H. MAY contra o Governo de Guatemala, tem sido arranjada por arbitramento. Mr. George F. B. JENNER, Ministro Britannico em Guatemala, que foi escolhido como arbitro unico, adjudicou $143,750.73 em ouro ao reclamante.

"Varias reclamações americanas contra Haiti teem sido já submettidas ou estão para submetter-se ao arbitramento.

"Como resultado das negociações com o Governo de Honduras acerca da indemnização pedida pelo assassinato de FRANK H. PEARS, em Honduras, aquelle Governo tem pago já $10,000 como ajuste da reclamação dos herdeiros."

Menciona o Presidente o assassinato do Rei HUMBERTO e a expressão de pena que isto houve de causar no Governo e povo dos Estados Unidos,

e com este motivo trata de outras questões que se relacionam com assumptos internos deste paiz. Ao referir-se ao Mexico se exprime assim:

"Não tem occorrido nenhum incidente digno de nota em nossas relações com a importante vizinha do sul. Nossas relações commerciaes com o Mexico continuam desenvolvendo-se, e nenhum dos dous governos perde opportunidade de dar impulso por todos os meios praticaveis a seus interesses communs.

"Em virtude da declaração da Corte Suprema que as adjudicações feitas pela extincta Commissão Mixta nas reclamações La Abra e Weil foram obtidas fraudulentamente, a somma concedida no primeiro caso, $403.030.08, tem sido ja devolta a Mexico e a correspondente á adjudicação Weil, lhe será devolta de igual maneira.

"Tem-se firmado uma convenção que estende indefinidamente o tempo para os trabalhos da Commissão Internacional de Limites Fluviaes entre os Estados Unidos e Mexico."

A convenção da paz que se reuniu na Haya occupa tambem a attenção do Presidente.

Ao referir-se a Nicaragua diz o que segue a mensagem:

"Como um incidente da curta revolução que teve lugar no districto da Mosquitia, em Nicaragua, a principios de 1899, os iusurrectos cobraram pela força direitos de importação a alguns commerciantes americanos. Ao restabelecer a ordem as autoridades de Nicaragua exigiram pela segunda vez o pagamento destes direitos, baseadas em que se lhe deviam ao Governo titular e que ao desvial-os haviam servido para ajudar a revolução.

"Não aceitamos esta interpretação. Depois de prolongado estudo se levou a cabo uma transacção que dispunha que a importancia dos segundos pagamentos se depositasse com o Consul britannico em San Juan del Norte até que os dous Governos houvessem determinado si os primeiros pagamentos haviam sido feitos a uma autoridade de facto obrigados pela força. Não se chegou a um ajuste, pois o Governo de Nicaragua ao pedir ao Consul britannico que devolvesse os depositos aos commerciantes desfez o ponto.

"Algumas desintelligencias que se teem suscitado entre algumas das Republicas Centro-Americanas teem sido arranjadas, devido aos bons officios de nossos ministros.

Á questão do canal dedica o Presidente os seguintes paragraphos:

"A importantissima questão de um canal interoceanico tem tomado uma nova phase. Adherindo-se a sua negativa de volver a tratar a questão de caducidade do contrato da companhia do canal maritimo, que foi declarado nullo em Outubro de 1899 por não haverse cumprido suas estipulações, o Governo de Nicaragua tem vindo a complementar esta acção declarando nulla a chamada opção Eyre-Cragin por não haver feito o pagamento da garantia estipulada. No Departamento de Estado

teem-se submettido protestos referentes a estes actos, os quaes são materia de estudo. Considerando-se desembaraçado de compromissos actuaes, o Governo de Nicaragua mostra a disposição de tratar livremente a questão do canal, já seja por meio de negociações com os Estados Unidos ou tomando aquellas medidas que teem por resultado a construcção da via maritima.

"As proposições feitas para uma convenção com o objecto de construir o canal sob os auspicios dos Estados Unidos são materia de estudo. No emtanto, se pode aguardar a opinião do Congresso sobre a materia em geral, depois do relatorio da commissão nomeada para examinar o merito relativo dos diversos projectos para um canal maritimo atravez do isthmo.

"Recommendo ao Senado que se occupe á maior brevidade da convenção com a Grã Bretanha para facilitar a construcção do dito canal e afastar quaesquer obstaculos que possa apresentar o tratado conhecido geralmente pelo titulo de Clayton-Bulwer."

Diz tambem a mensagem que o tratado de extradição firmado não ha muito com o Peru, com as modificações que lhe fez o Senado, tem sido ratificado pelo Congresso peruano.

Faz logo o Presidente referencia as reclamações americanas contra a Turquia e tambem á necessidade de que o Congresso tome medidas sobre as convenções commerciaes que foram submettidas a seu estudo em sua ultima sessão e a este respeito diz assim:

"Depois de minha ultima communicação ao Congresso sobre esta materia, teem-se proclamado convenios commerciaes especiaes, em virtude da secção terceira da Lei de Tarifa, com Portugal, Italia e Allemanha. Teem-se celebrado convenções commerciaes sob as limitações geraes da quarta secção da mesma lei com Nicaragua, Equador e a Republica Dominicana, com a Grã Bretanha para a Ilha da Trinidade e com Dinamarca para a Ilha de Santa Cruz. Estes convenios serão transmittidos dentro de pouco ao Senado. Estão-se fazendo negociações com outros Governos para o desenvolvimento e seguridade de nossas relações commerciaes.

"A politica de reciprocidade descança de uma maneira tão manifesta nos principios de equidade internacional e tem sido tantas vezes approvada pelo povo dos Estados Unidos, que não deveria existir duvida alguma nas Camaras do Congresso para pol-a em vigor.

"Este Governo deseja conservar as relações commerciaes mais justas e amigaveis com todos os paizes estrangeiros. Crê-se que os Governos estrangeiros, pelo geral, abrigam os mesmos propositos, ainda quando em alguns casos ha exigencias que pesam sobre elles em favor de uma legislação especialmente hostil aos interesses americanos. Em caso que estas exigencias cheguem a produzir effeito, me dirigirei ao Congresso com o objecto de recommendar as leis que sejam necessarias para fazer frente a esta emergencia."

Com referencia á exposição de Buffalo e á reunião do Congresso Internacional Americano que tem de ter lugar em Mexico se exprime assim o Presidente:

"A Exposição dos productos do Hemispherio occidental que se effectuará em Buffalo em 1901, promette resultados importantes não só para os Estados Unidos, mas para os outros paizes que tem de participar nella.

"É me grato manifestar que os paizes latino-americanos teem demonstrado o maior interesse neste assumpto e o facto de que o Congresso Internacional Americano se reunirá na cidade de Mexico, ao mesmo tempo que se celebra a Exposição, accrescenta as esperanças de que o que se exhiba em Buffalo ha de ser em escala maior que a que houvesse tido em outras circumstancias. O trabalho de preparar uma exposição de nossas fontes de riquezas nacionaes faz progressos satisfactorios sob a direcção de varios empregados do Governo Federal, e alguns dos Estados da União têm mostrado boas disposições de tomar parte da maneira mais extensa nesta empreza."

O Presidente dedica este paragrapho á Secretaria das Republicas Americanas: "A Secretaria das Republicas Americanas continúa desempenhando com os resultados mais felizes a obra importante de promover as relações cordiaes que existem entre os Estados Unidos e os paizes latino-americanos, que hoje são todos membros activos da União Internacional. A Secretaria tem sido factor principal no convenio que se tem celebrado para a reunião de outro Congresso Internacional Americano que terá lugar na cidade de Mexico em Outubro de 1901. O porvir da Secretaria pelo termo de outros dez annos tem sido assegurado pelo pacto internacional; mas muito terá que fazer o Congresso com a formação de novos planos para seus trabalhos e sua politica geral. Sua utilidade em pro dos interesses do commercio latino-americano é apreciado por todos e demonstra um desenvolvimento muito satisfactorio."

Depois de referir-se ao serviço consular americano e a efficacia com que attende aos interesses que lhe estão encommendados, se occupa a mensagem da condição economica do paiz nos seguintes termos:

"Me é grato poder manifestar que o excedente nas rendas para o anno fiscal que terminou no dia 30 de Junho de 1900 alcançou a $79,527,060.18. Durante os seis annos que precederam a este, só tivemos deficits, os quaes tomados em conjuncto desde 1894 até 1899, inclusive, sommam $283,022,991.14. As receitas durante o anno, procedentes de todas as fontes, excepção feita das receitas postaes, alcançaram a $567,240,851.89, e as despezas em todos os ramos, excepto para a administração do Departamento de Correios, subiram a $487,713,791.71. As receitas das alfandegas montaram a $233,164,871.16, ou um augmento de $27,036,389.41 sobre as do anno anterior. As receitas da renda interna foram de $295,327,926.76,

havendo augmentado em $21,890,765.25 sobre 1899. As receitas de fontes diversas subiram a $38,748,053.97, contra $56,394,976.92 no anno precedente.

"Tambem é grato fazer constar que durante o anno tem havido uma reducção consideravel nos gastos do Governo. Os do Departamento da Guerra no anno fiscal de 1900 foram $134,774,767.78, é dizer, $95,066,486.69 menos que em 1899. No Departamento da Marinha as despezas foram $65,953,077.72 para o anno de 1900, contra $63,942,104.25 no anno anterior, ou seja uma differença favoravel de $7,989,026.53. Nas despezas occasionadas pelos indios houve uma differença de $2,630,604.38 em 1900, menos que em 1899; e nos gastos civis e varios uma reducção de $13,418,065.74 em 1900.

"Por motivo do excesso das receitas sobre as despezas o Secretario do Thesouro póde applicar apolices e outros valores ao fundo de amortização por valor de $56,544,556.06. Os detalhes do fundo de amortização se encontram no relatorio do Secretario do Thesouro, para o qual vos chamo a attenção. O Secretario do Thesouro calcula que as receitas no corrente anno fiscal alcançarão a $580,000,000 e as despezas a $500,000,000, deixando um excesso de receitas sobre despezas de $80,000,000. A condição presente do Thesouro é indubitavelmente forte. O balanço em effectivo disponivel para o 30 de Novembro alcançava a $139,303,794.50. Si se seguira a forma em uso antes de ter effeito a lei fiscal de 14 de Março ultimo, se houvesse incluido na conta de fundos disponiveis o ouro acunhado e em barra que se conserva para resgatar os bilhetes dos Estados Unidos.

"Seguindo esta forma, o balanço em effectivo, incluindo a actual reserva em ouro de $150,000,000, teria sido de $289,303,794.50. O balanço a 30 de Novembro de 1899 era de $296,495,301.55. No fundo geral, que é completamente distincto do fundo de reserva e o de deposito, havia no dia 30 de Novembro $70,090,073.15 em moeda e barra de ouro, ao qual deve aggregar-se $22,957,300 em certificados de ouro para ser emittidos, para o qual ha na Secção de Resgate ouro acunhado e em barra, o qual faz um total de ouro não affecto a pagamentos pela quantia de $93,047,373.15.

É o dever do Congresso dar leis necessarias para assegurar a paridade continuada sob todas as condições, entre nossas duas formas de dinheiro metallico, prata e ouro.

"O excesso de nossas rendas tem permittido ao Secretario do Thesouro recolher desde o fin do anno fiscal o emprestimo consolidado de 1891 a 2 por cento pela somma de $25,364,500; estes bilhetes têm sido pagos até Novembro 30, inclusive, pela somma de $23,458,100. Esta somma junto com a que resultar de outros resgates por estè respeito, serão applicadas ao fundo de amortização.

"A lei de 14 de Março de 1900 dispõe refundir em titulos por trinta annos a 2 por cento, capital e juros pagaveis em moeda de ouro do typo

corrente, aquella parte da divida publica representada pelos bilhetes de 3 por cento de 1908, os de 4 por cento de 1907, e os de 5 por cento de 1904, dos quaes na epoca daquella lei estavam por pagar $839,149,930. Os portadores dos antigos bilhetes os apresentaram para ser trocados de 14 de Março a 30 de Novembro, pela somma de $364,943,750.

"Outro effeito desta operação, segundo o manifesta o Secretario, tem sido reduzir em mais de $7,000,000, a responsabilidade do Thesouro para o pagamento de juros desde a data em que se refundio a divida até o 1° de Fevereiro de 1904. Desde essa data até o dia 1° de Julho de 1907, o cargo a juros annuaes se reduzirá em mais de cinco milhões e pelos treze mezes que terminam em 1° de Agosto de 1908, em cerca de um milhão. O relatorio annual do Secretario do Thesouro dá os detalhes desta operação."

A mensagem faz referencia ao numero de bancos que se teem estabelecido ao amparo da nova lei da materia, e ao augmento da circulação dos bilhetes de bancos nacionaes, segundo a mesma lei, que desde Março 14 a 30 de Novembro têm alcançado á cifra de $77,889,570.

Os paragraphos dedicados ao commercio são estes:

"Nosso commercio estrangeiro é um admiravel exemplo de progresso mercantil e industrial. O total das importações e exportações, pela primeira vez na historia do paiz, têm passado de dous bilhões de dollars. As exportações são muito maior do que haviam sido até agora, sendo seu total para o anno fiscal de 1900 de $1,394,483,082, ou seja um augmento sobre 1899 de mais de $167,459,780; de $163,000,752 sobre 1898; de $343,489,562 sobre 1897 e de $511,876,144 sobre 1896.

"O desenvolvimento alcançado pelas manufacturas dos Estados Unidos e demonstrado pelo facto de que as exportações de productos manufacturados excederam em muito ás de quaesquer annos anteriores alcançando seu valor em 1900 a $433,851,756, contra $339,592,146 em 1899, ou seja um augmento de 28 por cento.

"Tambem se exportaram em 1900 productos agricolas em maior quantidade que em 1899, alcançando o total para o primeiro anno a $835,858,123, contra $784,776,142 em 1899.

"As importações no anno alcançaram a $849,941,184, o que mostra um augmento de $152,792,695 sobre 1899. Este augmento se deve em sua maior parte ás materias para a manufactura e responde ao rapido desenvolvimento destes interesses nos Estados Unidos. Ainda quando em 1900 se importaram para o uso das manufacturas materias por valor de $79,768,972 mais que em 1899, é satisfactorio observar a tendencia que ha para a diminuição na importação de artigos manufacturados promptos para o consumo, que em 1900 alcançou a 15.17 por cento das importações totaes, contra 15.54 por cento em 1899 e 21.09 por cento em 1896."

O Presidente recommenda em seguida que em suas presentes sessões reduza o Governo a renda de impostos internos creada para os gastos da

Guerra com Hespanha na somma de trinta milhões de dollars, e indica a maneira de effectual-o. Á marinha mercante americana dedica a mensagem os seguintes paragraphos:

"Durante os tres ultimos annos as embarcações americanas teem transportado cerca de 9 por cento de nossas exportações e importações. Os navios estrangeiros devem transportar a menor e não a maior parte do commercio americano. O crescimento notavel de nossas industrias de aço, o progresso na fabricação de navios para o commercio do paiz, e nossos gastos para a marinha apresentam opportunidade de collocar os Estados Unidos no primeiro plano das potencias maritimas commerciaes.

"Alem de alcançar por este meio a aspiração nacional, isto significaria o estabelecimento de um robusto desenvolvimento em todas nossas costas de uma industria verdadeiramente nacional, ampliando o radio do emprego proveitoso do trabalho e o capital. Augmentará as facilidades de transporte reduzindo os fretes de uma quantidade de productos que se trazem do interior á costa para a exportação, e fortalecerá um ramo da defesa nacional com que sempre teem contado os fundadores do Governo e seus successores."

A questão dos monopolios merece na mensagem attenção especial, assim como o assumpto das Philippinas, o qual occupa uma grande extensão deste documento, em que se acha uma relação minuciosa dos acontecimentos em relação á materia. Cuba e Porto Rico tambem merecem a attenção especial do Presidente, que annuncia o exito do governo civil estabelecido em Porto Rico pela lei do Congresso e o estado satisfactorio da parte administrativa da Ilha. Com respeito a Cuba, refere-se ás eleições e outros assumptos de interesse para a boa marcha da Ilha. Tambem menciona a necessidade de estabelecer communicação por cabo com as Ilhas do Havahi e as Philippinas.

Com referencia ao exercito e as fortificações diz assim a mensagem:

"O exercito actualmente consta de 100,000 homens, 65,000 de linha e 35,000 voluntarios. Pela lei de 12 de Março de 1899, no dia 30 de Junho proximo se licenciarão os voluntarios, ficando reduzido o exercito de linha a 2,447 officiaes e 29,025 praças. Mais de sessenta milhões de dollares se teem invertido em um grande numero de fortes e canhões com todas as machinas scientificas complicadas e apparelhos electricos para seu uso. O cuidado destas machinas necessita de homens habeis e o numero necessario d'elles, o Departamento da Guerra o calcula como minimo em 18,420."

A marinha de guerra recebe tambem attenção na mensagem, assim como todos os outros ramos dependentes das carteiras respectivas. Pelo que se refere ás patentes e marcas de fabrica diz a mensagem que durante o anno que terminou o 30 de Junho de 1900 se concederam 26,540 patentes e 1,660 marcas de fabrica; 682 etiquetas e 93 impressos foram registrados. Os productos nestes ramos foram $1,358,228.35 e os gastos $1,247,827.58.

Depois de occupar-se de Havahi, o recenseamento e outros assumptos interiores, dos trabalhos extensissimos e utilissimos do Departamento de Agricultura, da lei sobre contratos com trabalhadores estrangeiros, e outros pontos da maior importancia, termina assim a mensagem:

"Em nossa grande prosperidade devemos cuidar-nos contra o perigo que esta attrahe de fazer gastos e votar sommas extravagantes. Os representantes escolhidos pelo povo darão uma mostra dessa sabia economia que em epocas de abundancia guarda para o porvir. Nesta era de grande actividade e grandes opportunidades commerciaes não está fora de lugar o proceder com cautela; isto não destruirá a confiança, mas a robustecerá; não retardará nossa legitima expansão industrial e commercial, mas que as estimulará. Nosso poder crescente trae consigo tentações e perigos que para evital-os requerem constante vigilancia e não deve usar-se nem para trazer conflictos, nem para exercer oppressão, mas para manter mais efficazmente aquelles principios de igualdade e justiça de que dependem nossas instituições e nossa felicidade. Não olvidemos nunca que a liberdade é a base de nosso Governo, e a paz o edificio sobre ella levantado."

RELATORIO DO SECRETARIO DO THESOURO.

O relatorio do Secretario do Thesouro foi apresentado ao quinquagesimo-sexto Congresso, ao abrirem-se suas ultimas sessões. Este relatorio é um documento voluminoso e interessantissimo, do qual se publica o seguinte extracto que dá uma idea da situação economica do paiz.

Segundo calculos do Secretario, o excedente da receita sobre a despeza em 1901 passará de $26,000,000. Este calculo não parece exaggerado, pois o relatorio diz assim mais adiante:

"A situação actual do Thesouro e a que promette o porvir induz a crêr que as obrigações do fundo de amortização podem ser satisfeitas, tanto pelo que se refere ao anno fiscal corrente como ao proximo vindouro, e ainda mais permittir a reducção moderada dos impostos que se cobram por virtude da lei Impostos de Guerra. Assim, pois, se recommenda ao estudo do presente Congresso o meio de effectuar uma reducção de $30,000,000 neste ramo."

RECEITAS E DESPEZAS.

O total das receitas do Governo durante o exercicio que terminou em 30 de Junho de 1900 alcançou a $669,595,431.18 e as despezas a $590,068,371, o que mostra um saldo de $79,527,060.18. As receitas de 1900 comparadas com as de 1899 accusam um augmento de $58,613,426.83. Houve uma diminuição de $117,358,388.14 nas despezas de 1900, comparadas com as para 1899. O valor dos bilhetes resgata-

dos por conta do fundo de amortização foi de $56,544,556.06. Calcula-se que as receitas do Governo para o presente anno fiscal subirão a $687,773,253.92 e as despezas a $607,773,253.92, mostrando um saldo de cerca de $80,000,000.

MOEDA SUBSIDIARIA DE PRATA.

O Secretario diz que a auctorização concedida pela acta de 14 de Março de 1900, para augmentar a emissão de moeda subsidiaria de prata a $100,000,000, tem sido vantajosa tanto para o Thesouro quanto para o povo. No dia 1° de Outubro de 1900 a circulação tinha sido augmentada a $79,432,193.

O valor do ouro existente nas casas de moeda e officinas de ensaio dos Estados Unidos durante o anno foi de $203,553,813.88. O valor da prata depositada nos mesmos estabelecimentos foi de $35,201,922.36. 1,290,055.94 onças de prata no valor de $908,868.86 foram compradas durante o anno para serem cunhadas em moeda subsidiaria. A cunhagem de moeda dos Estados Unidos durante o anno foi de $141,301,960.36. As recunhagens foram no valor de $1,401,454.50, ouro, e de $5,261,070.35, prata. A quantidade de prata existente no Thesouro no dia 1° de Julho de 1900 para ser cunhada em dollars de prata e moeda subsidiaria e para o pagamento de depositos de prata em barras finas foi de 83,740,690.96 onças de lei no valor de $68,224,562.31. Durante o anno fiscal de que se trata fabricaram-se barras de ouro do valor de $96,267,169.02 e barras de prata no valor de $8,649,307.14.

O preço maior em Londres da prata durante o anno foi de $28\frac{9}{16}$ pence, equivalente a $0.62612 em moeda dos Estados Unidos por onça fina, e o preço mais baixo foi de $26\frac{5}{8}$ pence, equivalente a $0.58365 em moeda americana. O preço médio do ouro e da prata foi na proporção de 1 a 34.44. Durante o anno commum de 1899 os Estados Unidos produziram 3,437,210 onças de ouro fino, no valor monetario de $71,053,400, e 54,764,500 onças de prata, do valor monetario de $70,806,626. A cunhagem de moeda no mundo durante o anno foi de $466,110,614, ouro, e $166,226,964, prata, ou um total de $632,837,578.

ESTABELECIMENTOS BANCARIOS.

Os fundos publicos existentes nos establecimentos bancarios dos Estados Unidos no dia 30 de Junho de 1900 montaram a $98,736,806.93, ou a $22,453,151.63 mais que na mesma data de 1899. Destes estabelecimentos, cerca de 240 foram designados especialmente para o deposito temporario de fundos. Chama-se a attenção do Congresso para o modo inconveniente de manajar os fundos publicos em Havahi e Porto Rico, pois, por virtude da secção 5153 dos *Revised Statutes*, fica prohibido o deposito das receitas aduaneiras em establecimentos bancarios nacionaes. O Secretario recommenda uma modificação desta lei.

BANCOS NACIONAES.

Durante o anno que findou em 30 de Junho de 1900, houve um augmento liquido nos capitaes dos bancos nacionaes de $19,631,851. A quantidade de bilhetes de banco em circulação indica um augmento no anno de $68,289,572. Os depositos dos bancos em 29 de Junho de 1900 foram $130,499,437.29 mais que os na mesma data de 1899. A moeda total em deposito nos bancos foi de $356,013,709.08, ou seja $808,337.11 menos que em 30 de Junho de 1899. Desde o dia 31 de Outubro de 1899, 383 bancos com um capital total de $20,025,000, teem sido constituidos, dos quaes 348 concluiram sua organização entre os dias 14 de Março e 31 de Outubro de 1900. A disposição da lei que auctoriza a organização de bancos nacionaes com um capital minimo de $25,000, em lugares em que a população não excede de 3,000, tem posto muitas secções do paiz em condição de gozar das facilidades bancarias que necessitam.

DIVIDA.

No dia 1° de Julho de 1900 a divida que paga juros consistia de bilhetes dos Estados Unidos não vencidos representando a somma de $1,028,443,390. Desde o dia 1° de Julho de 1899, a divida tem sido reduzida em $22,567,580. Isto foi effectuado pela compra de bilhetes a 4 por cento do emprestimo consolidado de 1907, pela somma de $14,310,350; de bilhetes de 5 por cento do emprestimo de 1904, pela somma de $4,990,300, e bilhetes de 2 por cento do emprestimo consolidado de 1891, pela somma de $3,384,650.

CIRCULAÇÃO POR CABEÇA.

A quantidade de moeda em circulação no dia 1° de Novembro de 1900 foi de $2,139,181,412, ou um augmento sobre a quantidade em circulação na mesma data de 1899, de $175,465,264; a circulação por cabeça é de $27.82, segundo calculos feitos sobre uma população de 76,891,000.

COMMERCIO ESTRANGEIRO.

Quatro factos importantes, diz o Secretario, caracterisam o commercio estrangeiro dos Estados Unidos no anno economico de 1900: Primeiro, excedeu ao de qualquer anno anterior, e pela primeira vez o grande total das importações e exportações passaram de dous bilhões de dollars; segundo, as materias primas constituiram maior proporção das importações que em annos anteriores; terceiro, artigos manufacturados formaram maior proporção das exportações que em epocas anteriores; quarto, a exportação foi a maior de que ha recordo e sua distribuição foi mais extensa que em qualquer anno precedente. As importações durante o anno alcançaram a $849,941,184, contra $697,148,489 em 1899, o qual indica um augmento de $152,792,695. Este augmento, porém, é principalmente em materias primas.

Artigos para uso nas manufacturas constituiram 35.58 por cento das importações durante o anno que acaba de findar, contra 31.94 por cento em 1899. Artigos por todo ou em parte manufacturados para uso nas artes mechanicas constituiram 10.41 por cento das importações em 1900, contra 8.70 por cento em 1899. Por outro lado, os artigos manufacturados promptos para o consumo constituiram sómente 15.17 por cento das importações em 1900, comparado com 15.54 por cento em 1899. Ao passo que as materias primas formam uma porcentagem crescente de nossas importações, as manufacturas acabadas continuam occupando um lugar proeminente em nossas exportações.

A exportação total durante o anno foi no valor de $1,394,483,082, dos quaes $1,370,763,571 correspondem á exportação de productos nacionaes. Desta enorme quantia as manufacturas formaram 31.65 por cento, contra 28.21 por cento em 1899. A exportação total de manufacturas durante o anno de 1900 foi no valor de $433,851,750, contra $339,592,146 em 1899, o qual mostra um augmento em favor de 1900 de cerca de $100,000,000, ou seja de 28 por cento. A exportação de productos agricolas tambem accusa um augmento consideravel sobre a de 1899, sendo no valor de $835,858,123 em 1900, contra $784,776,142 em 1899, ao passo que a exportação de productos mineiros, florestaes, de pesca e productos miscellaneos tambem mostra um augmento em 1900 comparada com a do anno anterior.

As importações de Cuba, Porto Rico, Hawaii e as Philippinas subiram a $61,129,463 em 1900, o qual mostra um augmento de 58.1 por cento sobre as de 1897. As exportações para estas ilhas foram no valor de $47,303,446, ou seja um augmento de 214.6 por cento sobre as de 1897.

IMMIGRAÇÃO ESTRANGEIRA.

Durante o anno fiscal que terminou no dia 30 de Junho de 1900 chegaram aos Estados Unidos 448,572 immigrantes, dos quaes 304,148 foram homens e 144,424 mulheres. Com este respeito accrescenta o relatorio: "Pelo que se refere ao gráo de cultura das pessoas de 14 annos para arriba, 93,576 não sabem ler nem escrever e 2,097 só sabem ler; 54,288 immigrantes trouxeram comsigo dinheiro em quantia de $30 para cima e 271,821 sommas menores de $30, alcançando o total destas sommas á quantia de $6,657,580. A immigração total representa um augmento de 136,857, ou seja 43.9 por cento sobre o anno anterior. Classificada por paizes, a immigração foi como segue: europeos, 424,700; asiaticos, 17,946; africanos, 30, e 5,893 de outras procedencias."

MARINHA MERCANTE.

"Ao findar o anno fiscal anterior," diz o relatorio, "a marinha mercante dos Estados Unidos, pelo que se refere á capacidade de transporte e

ao valor dos materiaes e salarios despendidos em sua construcção, tem sido sem rival em nossa historia. A tonelagem total existente, representada por 5,164,839 toneladas brutas, foi maior que a de qualquer outro anno desde 1861, em que a tonelagem americana alcançou seu maximo até então, com a cifra de 5,539,813 toneladas brutas. Como nossas estatisticas daquella epoca comprehendiam muitos navios que hoje pela lei não estão obrigados a ser registrados, resulta que ainda pelo que se refere á tonelagem, a marinha mercante americana é muito mais grande que em qualquer epoca do passado."

Com motivo do desenvolvimento do ramo de construcções navaes no paiz para o serviço costeiro e em geral do commercio interior, o Secretario faz notar que a marinha mercante americana que se occupa no trafico estrangeiro é relativamente insignificante. Faz notar tambem as grandes facilidades que ha no paiz para a construcção de navios, não só desde o ponto de vista da abundancia dos materiaes necessarios mas tambem por sua barateza, e assim pede ao Congresso que dicte leis que estimulem o commercio americano e a creação de uma marinha mercante para o commercio estrangeiro que seja digna do paiz.

A DIVIDA PUBLICA.

"A lei de 14 de Março de 1900 dispõe em uma de suas clausulas que se refundam certos bilhetes por pagar, do juro de 3, 4 e 5 por cento em bilhetes de 2 por cento, por trinta annos, pagaveis, capital e juros, em moeda de ouro corrente dos Estados Unidos. Até o dia 15 de Novembro de 1900 inclusive se tinham recebido para fazer o cambio bilhetes das tres classes referidas pela somma de $352,083,450, os quaes foram trocados por bilhetes de 2 por cento a trinta annos por igual quantia. A economia liquida que resultou desta operação até a data indicada alcançou a $8,828,052."

MOEDA.

Acerca do assumpto importantissimo do padrão de ouro e a moeda corrente, o Secretario do Thesouro se exprime como segue:

"Os resultados obtidos das disposições da lei de 14 de Março ultimo referentes a estes dous pontos importantes de nossas finanças, teem demonstrado a sabedoria daquella lei. Tem-se feito cada vez mais solida a confiança que existia no proposito do Governo de manter o padrão de ouro e seu poder para leval-o a cabo. O resultado tem sido que o ouro corre para a Thesouraria em vez de fugir della. Na data deste relatorio, o ouro não affecto por nenhum respeito que existe na Thesouraria é maior em quantia do que tem sido em nenhum outro periodo de nossa historia. Incluindo os $150,000,000 da reserva, o ouro depositado na Thesouraria pertencente ao Governo passa de $242,000,000, sem contar com mais de $230,000,000 depositados na

Thesouraria para resgatar os certificados emittidos. A disposição da dita lei ampliando as condições a que obedece a emissão de bilhetes de banco foi tambem sabia e opportuna. A favor della, como já se tem dito neste relatorio, a emissão de bilhetes de banco augmentou em uns $77,000,000." * * *

Não obstante os bons resultados, abundantemente obtidos por este meio, faz-se necessario em alguns casos dictar leis especiaes, na opinião do Secretario. Pelo que se refere ao fundo de resgate que dispõe aquella lei, ainda quando a autoridade de que está investido o Secretario do Thesouro é talvez sufficiente para que um empregado cuidadoso possa proteger perfeitamente a reserva de ouro, parece sem embargo que carece de autoridade sufficiente para manter a completa confiança necessaria na paridade continuada, sob todas as condições, entre o ouro e a prata. Assim, pois, o Secretario pede que se dictem leis especiaes na materia.

Pelo que se refere ao meio circulante, ainda quando a lei mencionada tem dado em resultado augmento na emissão de bilhetes de banco, não ha seguridade ao presente de que o volume deste meio circulante possa fazer frente sempre ás necessidades do paiz, já seja augmentando ou diminuindo, segundo o exijam as circumstancias. O Secretario encontra que, ainda quando o meio circulante é seguro e satisfaz ás necessidades, não guarda, sem embargo, proporção com as do commercio e da industria, e diz assim: "Entre as necessidades que experimentam o commercio e o trafico por um meio de cambio e um instrumento de credito, tal como o do bilhete de banco, e o valor dos bilhetes do Governo, que é hoje o factor mais importante para determinar as necessidades de um meio circulante, não ha relação alguma descernivel."

COMMERCIO DE EXPORTAÇÃO.

Segundo as estatisticas publicadas pelo Departamento do Thesouro, o valor da exportação no mez de Outubro de 1900 excedeu ao da importação em $92,475,226. A magnitude deste saldo a favor da exportação é indicada pelo facto de que no mesmo mez de 1897 o valor total da exportação foi inferior a este saldo e que em 1898 a exportação total foi sómente no valor de $695,954,507. A exportação total em Outubro de 1900 foi no valor de $163,093,597, comparada com $125,966,527 no mesmo mez de 1899, e $118,619,563, em 1898. A importação foi no valor de $70,618,371, contra $72,232,238 no mez de Outubro de 1899.

As estatisticas para os dez mezes findos em Outubro mostram um saldo a favor da exportação de $499,667,936. O valor total da exportação durante os dez mezes de 1900 foi de $1,194,775,205, o qual mostra um augmento de $166,331,178 sobre o valor da exportação para o

mesmo periodo de 1899. O valor da importação durante os dez mezes de 1900 foi de $695,107,269, o qual, comparado com o valor da importação para o mesmo periodo de 1899, accusa um augmento de $36,972,633.

CARVÃO E DEPOSITOS DE CARVÃO.

O "New York Herald," em sua secção editorial, chama a attenção para o facto de que o Departamento da Marinha dos Estados Unidos tem achado que é menos custoso enviar o carvão americano para seus depositos de carvão estrangeiros que compral-o no estrangeiro. O preço médio pago pelo Departamento nos mercados americanos foi de $5.88 por tonelada, ao passo que o preço a que se lhe vendeu no estrangeiro foi de $8.53 por tonelada. Como a quantidade total de carvão contratada excedeu de 225,000 toneladas, a differença de custo—incluindo-se os fretes e outras despezas—representa uma economia consideravel para o Governo, ao passo que a qualidade do carvão americano é muito superior á do estrangeiro.

Essa questão de supprimento de carvão é de tanta importancia ás potencias maritimas que enormes quantidades delle estão sendo depositados nos portos fortificados e nas possessões insulares. A França é especialmente activa neste empenho de suster-se por si mesmo no caso de guerra, e um dos cargos dos navios de guerra daquella nação é examinar os mercados de carvão que se podem utilizar em tempos de paz, e apresentar ao Governo relatorios sobre elles. Ultimamente os vasos de guerra *Cécille* e *Suchet* visitaram os Estados Unidos e partiram carregados de enormes quantidades de carvão americano; si o carvão for considerado satisfactorio, os commerciantes dos Estados Unidos poderão esperar com confiança grandes encommendas deste producto.

O Governo dos Estados Unidos tem estabelecido depositos de carvão em Havahi, Samoa, nas Philippinas, Yokohama, Japão, Porto Rico e em Pichilinque, Mexico.

AGENCIAS POSTAES.

O relatorio annual do Quarto Sub-Director Geral dos Correios mostra que durante o exercicio proximo passado foram nomeados 14,435 agentes do Correio de quarta classe e 707 agentes postaes de primeira, segunda e terceira classe. Pediram demissão 8,060 agentes postaes, que foi um augmento de 1,043 sobre os do anno passado. Estabeleceram-se durante o anno 3,600 agencias postaes, ou 665 mais que as estabelecidas no anno anterior. A extensão do serviço da distribuição de malas ruraes deu por resultado a suspensão durante o anno de 195 agencias postaes, montando a $12,259 os salarios dos chefes destas agencias. No dia 30 de Junho de 1900 havia nos Estados Unidos 76,688 agencias postaes, sendo 193 da primeira classe, 852 da segunda classe, 187 da terceira classe e 71,456 da quarta classe.

PRODUCÇÃO DE LÃ EM 1900.

A producção total de lã dos Estados Unidos no anno de 1900, como calculada pelo Secretario da Associação Nacional de Fabricantes de Lã, foi de 288,636,621 libras lavadas e sem lavar, ou 118,223,120 libras de lã limpa.

O numero de ovelhas no paiz é calculado em 40,267,818, contra 36,464,405 em 1896.

O augmento da producção de lã em 1900 sobre a de 1899 é de 16,445,291 libras. A existencia visivel de lã de todas as classes é calculada em 578,084,304 libras, contra 667,109,028 libras em 1899.

ESTAÇÕES AGRONOMICAS EXPERIMENTAES.

Os gastos occasionados pelas estações agronomicas experimentaes dos Estados Unidos durante os ultimos dez annos teem subido a mais de $10,000,000, dos quaes $7,000,000 representam a verba votada pelo Governo Federal. Mr. A. C. True, Director da Secção Experimental do Departamento de Agricultura, enumera alguns dos beneficios que teem resultado destas estações hoje estabelecidas em quasi todos os Estados e Territorios da União, que são: (1) A introducção de novos methodos agricolas e de novas culturas e o desenvolvimento das já em exploração; (2) remoção das difficuldades com que lucta a lavoura, taes como enfermidades de plantas e animaes, insectos injuriosos e outros inimigos; (3) a protecção do lavrador contra fraude na compra de adubos, forragens, insecticidas, etc.; (4) legislação em beneficio dos lavradores e a industria agricola e (5) ensino agricola.

COMMERCIO DE FRUCTAS COM JAMAICA.

Diz-se que o commercio de fructas de Jamaica, especialmente com os Estados Unidos, vai augmentando constantemente. Esta ilha das Antilhas britannicas, que outr'ora foi tão prospera por causa da sua industria de canna de assucar e que soffreu grande decadencia depois da abolição da escravidão em 1833, tornou a adquirir sua prosperidade de outr'ora pela exploração dos seus bananaes.

Com o objecto de desviar parte do commercio de fructas de Jamaica dos Estados Unidos, que são o principal comprador do producto, o Governador desta ilha firmou recentemente um contracto com uma companhia de navegação ingleza para o transporte directo de bananas para a Grã Bretanha. A partir do mez de Maio de 1901, uma linha de vapores fará o serviço entre os portos da Grã Bretanha e de Jamaica. A companhia receberá a subvenção annual de £40,000, da qual metade será paga pelo Governo da Grã Bretanha e o restante pelo Thesouro Colonial de Jamaica.

VENDA DE LIVROS NO MEXICO.

Segundo o "Mexican Herald," o Mexico compra dos Estados Unidos maior numero de livros que a Franca e quasi o mesmo numero que a Allemanha. O Herald diz que uma parte consideravel deste commercio se deve ao grande numero de Americanos que se encontram nas cidades e nas regiões mineiras do Mexico, e uma parte não pequena resulta da divulgação crescente da lingua ingleza entre o povo mexicano. Nota-se aqui uma tendencia em favor de tornar mais popular o idioma inglez, e entre os que estão aprendendo aquella lingua figuram homens de negocio, assim como milhares de moços. Em algumas das mais importantes instituições de instrucção, a lingua ingleza occupa um lugar mais proeminente que a franceza.

ESTIMATIVA DA COLHEITA DE ALGODÃO.

Segundo calculos feitos por H. M. Neill, que é autoridade em materia de algodão, a colheita de algodão para o presente anno attingirá a 9,750,000 fardos, mas parece exaggerado este calculo. O *stock* visivel de algodão está diminuindo. Calcula-se que a existencia total de algodão no dia 1° de Setembro de 1901 será de só 820,000 fardos, contra 1,400,000 fardos no dia 1° de Setembro de 1900. Os 9,750,000 fardos calculados pelo Sr. Neill são discriminados assim: Estados do Atlantico, 3,200,000 fardos; Estados do Golfo, 2,800,000; Texas e o Territorio indiano, 3,500,000, e existencias ainda não conhecidas sufficientes para fazer provavelmente 250,000 fardos mais.

FUNDOS EMPREGADOS NO ESTADO DE OHIO.

Segundo o relatorio annual do Secretario de Estado, a importancia dos fundos empregados em novas emprezas no Estado de Ohio durante o exercicio findo em 15 de Novembro de 1900 foi de $77,593,199. Além desta somma, houve um augmento nos fundos de emprezas já em operação ao principio do anno de $35,446,900, perfazendo o total de capitaes empregados no Estado durante o exercicio de $113,040,099.

AUGMENTO DO COMMERCIO POR MEIO DOS PACOTES POSTAES.

Segundo o relatorio do superintendente dos correios estrangeiros, o commercio dos Estados Unidos por meio dos pacotes postaes augmento rapidamente. Este augmento em 1899, em comparação com o anno anterior, foi de 28.52 por cento, e o superintendente recommenda que se dê maior amplidão ao dito systema. O paiz tem feito tanto progresso no commercio de exportação durante os ultimos annos que os fabricantes, que outr' ora oppunham-se fortemente a convenios de pacotes postaes celebrados com paizes de que os Estados Unidos importaram

productos manufacturados, não mais sentem apprehensões a este respeito. A Associação Nacional de Fabricantes ultimamente deu seu apoio ao projecto de celebrar convenios de pacotes postaes com os paizes de Europa.

Um dos ultimos convenios de pacotes postaes celebrado pelo Governo dos Estados Unidos foi com a Republica de Venezuela no dia 17 de Novembro de 1900. Os documentos no caso, firmados pelo Presidente CASTRO, foram levados de Caracas pelo Honrado FRANCIS B. LOOMIS, Ministro dos Estados Unidos. O Sr. LOOMIS é da opinião que este arranjo, que tem sido objecto de negociações diplomaticas durante muitos annos, será muito vantajoso ao commercio entre as duas nações.

O DESENVOLVIMENTO DE HAWAII.

O primeiro recenseamento das Ilhas de Hawaii foi tomado em 1832, segundo-se-lhe outros em 1836, 1850, 1853 e 1860, os quaes effectuaram-se de um modo muito simples e elementar. Um recenseamento, tomado a periodos regulares, não foi ordenado até o anno de 1865, quando a Assemblea Legislativa auctorizou á Junta de Educação a fazer um recenseamento completo dos habitantes cada seis annos, contando do anno de 1860. De conformidade com esta lei, um recenseamento da população de Hawaii tem sido tomado cada seis annos de 1866 a 1896, inclusive. O recenseamento de 1900 foi tomado juntamente com o decimo-segundo recenseamento dos Estados Unidos, tendo sido auctorizado o Director do Recenseamento a fazer os necessarios preparativos para a enumeração da população e dos productos dessas possesões insulares.

O primeiro recenseamento das Ilhas de Hawaii, realizado em 1832, deu uma população de 130,313, mas os recenseamentos realizados posteriormente até 1872 têm mostrado uma diminuição na população. O recenseamento de 1872 calculou a população em só 56,897, o qual mostra uma diminuição sobre a de 1832 de 73,416, ou 56.3 por cento. O recenseamento effectuado em 1878 mostrou um ligeiro augmento na população comparada com a de 1872. De 1872 a 1878 a população augmentou-se notavelmente. O recenseamento de 1884 calculou a população em 80,578, ou um augmento sobre a de 1878 de cerca de 39 por cento. O augmento havido na população de 1884 a 1890 foi de 11.6 por cento, e de 1890 a 1896 21.1 por cento, sendo 109,020 a população total em 1896.

Durante os quatro annos de 1896 a 1900 a porcentagem de augmento da população tem quasi duplicada, o recenseamento de 1900 dando uma população de 154,001, representando um augmento de 44,981, ou 41.2 por cento. Durante os ultimos dez annos de 1890 a 1900, a população tem augmentado em 64,011, ou 71.1 por cento.

A superficie total das ilhas é approximadamente de 6,449 milhas quadradas. O numero de habitantes por milha quadrada foi de 13.9 em 1890, 16.9 em 1896 e 23.8 em 1900.

A população da cidade de Honolulu é de 29,306, o qual mostra um augmento sobre a de 1890 de 16,399, ou 71.5 por cento. Em 1896 a população foi calculada em 29,920, o qual mostra um augmento na população durante os quatro annos de 9,386, ou 31.3 por cento.

OS MERCADOS DE CAFÉ.

Uma edição recente do periodico "New York Commercial" contem um artigo sobre o commercio de café que diz que a cidade de Nova York, não obstante que lhe fazem concurrencia mais ou menos seria as cidades de Nova Orleans e Baltimore, ainda tem a primazia nas transacções deste producto nos Estados Unidos. As importações de café nos Estados Unidos ascendem a cerca de 800,000,000 libras annualmente. Nos annos anteriores ao de 1899 quasi 90 por cento das importações entraram pelo porto de Nova York, sendo discriminadas assim: Nova York, 6,000,000 saccas; Nova Orleans, 300,000; Baltimore, 200,000; São Francisco, 150,000 saccas, com pequenas quantidades para outras cidades. Não houve alteração material dessa distribuição relativa no anno passado, ainda que Nova Orleans tem feito e faz esforços especiaes, após a annexação de Porto Rico e a extensão da influencia dos Estados Unidos a Cuba, para augmentar suas importações de café. Como Porto Rico e Cuba são productores de café e estão mais proximos a Nova Orleans que a Nova York, e como a proximidade dos portos da America Central e de muitos dos da America do Sul é factor importante em favor daquella cidade, parece que estes esforços teem de ter resultados praticos.

Da quantidade total de café que os Estados Unidos importam annualmente mais de 600,000,000 libras, ou cerca de tres quartas partes, são procedentes do Brazil; 60,000,000 libras vêm dos outros paizes da America do Sul e 80,000,000 libras do Mexico e da America Central. Quer dizer que quasi sete oitavos destas importações vêm de portos que estão mais proximos a Nova Orleans que a Nova York. Além disso, os importadores de Nova Orleans affirmam que os preços de fretes desde os portos do Brazil até Nova Orleans são sómente a metade dos que se pagam pelo transporte do café daquelles portos a Nova York. Dizem tambem que as facilidades de Nova Orleans para a distribuição do café são superiores ás de Nova York, e que, como certas estradas de ferro do Oeste dos Estados Unidos teem feito de Nova Orleans o seu ponto terminal para o embarque de cereaes e productos destinados ao estrangeiro, a entrada por este porto de café que se destina aos estados do Sul e do Oeste dos Estados Unidos tem sido muito facilitada.

Si bem que as condições enumeradas favorecem Nova Orleans, deve-se tomar em consideração por outro lado que Nova York, depois de importar umas 6,000,000 saccas de café por anno, exporta uma quantidade consideravel á Europa e que tem melhores facilidades de transporte que qualquer outra cidade dos Estados Unidos. A Bolsa de Café da cidade de Nova York é tambem poderoso factor em manter o centro do commercio do café naquella cidade.

A INDUSTRIA DA SEMENTE DO ALGODÃO.

A fibra do algodão não é o unico producto do algodoeiro. Provavelmente não ha outra importante industria dos Estados Unidos tão ignorada pelos paizes estrangeiros e mesmo pelo povo americano em geral como a industria da extracção de oleo das sementes de algodão. Ha menos que vinte annos os cultivadores de algodão dos Estados Unidos consideravam as sementes de algodão sem valor algum, ao passo que hoje as fabricas de Texas e de outros do Sul pagam por ellas de $12 a $14 por tonelada. Ainda que a industria da fabricação de azeite das sementes de algodão está na sua infancia, ha nos estados do sul mais de 500 fabricas, representando um capital total de $25,000,000, approximadamente, e uma producção annual no valor de $50,000,000. Calculando em 40 o numero de operarios empregados por cada fabrica, este industria dá emprego a mais de 20,000 pessoas. Para a construcção e installação de uma fabrica se exige, pela média, um capital de $50,000. A maior fabrica de azeite de algodão no mundo está situada na vizinhança de Sherman, Texas, e é propriedade da *Sherman Oil and Cotton Company*. Esta fabrica pode esmagar 450 toneladas de sementes de algodão por dia.

Depois de extrahido o azeite, o residuo emprega-se como alimento de gado e adubos. O azeite, depois de refinado e classificado, usa-se como alimento, para illuminar e lubrificar, assim como para fabricar velas e sabão. Usam-se tambem grandes quantidades de azeite de algodão na fabricação de substitutos de banha e manteiga. A Inglaterra e a Allemanha, porém, são os principaes consumidores dos productos das fabricas de azeite de algodão dos Estados Unidos. Tambem a França e a Italia importam grandes quantidades deste azeite. A exportação de azeite das sementes de algodão occupa um lugar de grande importancia nos portos do Sul. Grandes carregamentos de azeite dos caroços do algodão em parte refinado são enviados dos portos de Nova Orleans y Galveston para Marselha para ser outra vez refinado por processos francezes. Para Genoa se envia cada anno uma quantitade consideravel de azeite das sementes de algodão, que volta depois, affirma-se, para ser vendido como azeite doce.

BIBLIOGRAPHIA.

Nesta secção do Boletim Mensal se tratará dos livros e folhetos enviados á Secretaria das Republicas Americanas que se referem a assumptos de interesse aos paizes da União Internacional das Republicas Americanas.

Raras vezes tem uma publicação official o interesse historico para o leitor em geral que possue o "Report of the Census of Cuba, 1899" (Relatorio do Recenseamento de Cuba, 1899), publicado pelo Governo dos Estados Unidos. Este livro é uma historia de Cuba sob todos os pontos de vista. Dá uma revista dos seus combates com a pobreza e as más condições politicas; conta sus recursos e opportunidades e faz um estudo cuidadoso dos seus habitantes. A parte estatistica do livro é muito interessante, offerecendo-nos as primeiras informações fidedignas que se tem podido obter do povo de Cuba. Alguns dos enumeradores tinham de soffrer grandes privações afim de fazer a enumeração da população.

A enumeração e classificação da população de Cuba nunca foi realizada de modo tão completo como esta. Havia muitos problemas sociologicos a resolver, e muitos obstaculos a vencer. A ilha tinha sido devastada por fome e assolada por guerra. Assim não era uma população regular que os representantes do Governo dos Estados Unidos encontraram, mas uma população confusa e desmoralisada. Prova disto se vê no grande numero de viuvas e orphãos na ilha e no facto de que muitos dos adultos encontraram-se sem occupação remunerativa. Em certas secções houve grande numero de analphabetos, indicando que no regimen passado não se dara a attenção devida á educação.

O relatorio foi preparado sob a inspecção do Tenente-Coronel J. P. Sanger, ex-Director do Censo, e dos Srs. Henry Gannett e Walter F. Wilcox, habilitados organizadores de estatisticas. Contem numerosas illustrações das principaes cidades da ilha, mappas de côr indicando alguns dos resultados da enumeração, diagrammas, etc. Artigos sobre agricultura, educação, etc., formam um supplemento á obra estatistica.

"Between the Andes and the Ocean" é o titulo de um livro publicado ultimamente por Herbert S. Stone & Co., de Chicago. Este livro contem uma serie de artigos escriptos pelo Sr. William Eleroy Curtis, ex-Director da Secretaria das Republicas Americanas e descriptivos de uma viagem que elle fez pela costa occidental da America do Sul, desde o Isthmo de Panama até o Estreito de Magalhões. O Sr. Curtis visitou o canal de Panama e a antiga cidade de Panama, Equador e a cidade de Guayaquil, Peru, Bolivia, Chile, incluindo as cidades de Valparaiso e Santiago e Terra do Fogo. Ha um capitulo especial sobre o canal de Panama, e varios capitulos que tratam da situação economica

do Peru, das sessões do Congresso e das vias ferreas do Peru. Bolivia e Chile recebem tambem attenção especial. Incidentemente o Sr. Curtis dá umas descripções bem delineadas das cidades de Guayaquil, Arequipa, La Paz, Santiago e Lima, as quaes são pouco conhecidas pelo povo americano, ainda que são centros importantes de actividade commercial e litteraria. É muito opportuno o livro do Sr. Curtis, em vista dos esforços feitos pelos americanos para augmentar seu commercio com estes paizes.

"Wright's Australian, India, China, and Japan Directory and Gazetteer," que acaba de sahir á luz, comprehende tambem Canadá, America do Sul, America Central, as Antilhas, Mexico e Africa do Sul. O livro dá uma lista das cidades e povoações dos paizes mencionados; descreve as principaes industrias de cada paiz, os edificios de nota nas principaes cidades, e contem uma lista dos commerciantes, fabricantes, mineiros, etc., dos differentes paizes. As cidades, assim como as industrias e profissões, são dispostas em ordem alphabetica. A obra contem um indice completo de cada paiz, e no caso de alguns dos paizes dá os funccionarios publicos, os consules, instituições commerciaes e informações detalhadas a respeito dos direitos impostos sobre artigos importados. Esta é a quinta edição deste Directorio e contem mais de 3,500 paginas. Foi publicado pelo Sr. George Wright, de Nova York e Londres, Inglaterra.

"Moody's Manual of Industrial and Miscellaneous Securities" é o titulo de um volume de 1,100 paginas publicado ultimamente pela companhia typographica de O. C. Lewis, Nova York. As informações contidas neste livro são o resultado da primeira tentativa que se tem feito para colher e organisar dados estatisticos relativos ás corporações industriaes da America do Norte. O livro contem relações de umas 1,800 corporações, representando um capital total de mais de $9,325,000,000. A obra divide-se em doze secções. A ultima secção consta de uma serie de artigos relativamente ás leis de corporação dos Estados de New Jersey, Delaware e West Virginia. Ainda que este livro não é um compendio completo das corporações industriaes dos Estados Unidos, contem informações relativas á maioria destas companhias com um capital de $1,000,000.

Os Srs. Munn & Co., de Nova York, têm publicado um livro intitulado "The Progress of Invention in the Nineteenth Century," por Edward W. Byrn. É um livro em oitavo, de 480 paginas, e contem uma descripção muito interessante do progresso feito nas invenções neste seculo. Entre os assumptos de que trata figuram o telegrapho, o dynamo e suas applicações, o motor, a luz electrica, o telephono, as diversas applicações da electricidade, as machinas a vapor, estradas de

ferro, navegação a vapor, impressão, machinas de escrever, machinas de coser, machinas agricolas, borracha, processos mechanicos, etc. O livro tem 300 illustrações, planos e diagrammas.

A Secretaria das Republicas Americanas tem recebido do Departamento da Guerra dos Estados Unidos um exemplar da "Civil Service Law," que foi promulgada pela Commissão Philippina em Setembro de 1900. Esta lei é applicavel em todas as nomeações para postos executivos nas ilhas, com excepção dos que são preenchidos por pessoas nomeadas pelo Presidente dos Estados Unidos. Sendo iguaes outras qualificações, dá-se a preferencia, primeiro, aos nativos das Ilhas, e, segundo, aos soldados e marinheiros dos Estados Unidos que teem sido honradamente exonerados. A lei é muito completa e explicita.

Mr. Henry C. Morris, de Chicago, ex-Consul dos Estados Unidos em Ghent, Belgica, tem escripto um volume publicado por Macmillan & Co., que é intitulado "The History of Colonization" (A Historia da Colonisação). É uma historia comprehensiva das colonisações, desde as primeiras expedições das raças da Asia menor e as da Idade meía até as colonisações europeas mais recentes. Esta obra esclarece incidentemente os problemas da administração colonial que actualmente confrontam os Estados Unidos. A obra é muito opportuna e deveria ser de grande valor pratico.

Os Srs. Tugman & Co., de Philadelphia, têm publicado um livro em cinco idiomas—inglez, francez, allemão, hespanhol e portuguez—intitulado "Classified Directory of the Manufacturing Interests of the State of Pennsylvania" (Directorio classificado das Emprezas Manufactureiras do Estado de Pennsylvania). O livro contem umas 250 paginas e é precedido por um interessante artigo relativo as Estado e os intuitos dos redactores em promulgar a obra. Este directorio será distribuido gratuitamente a commerciantes estrangeiros que o pedirem.

"Poor's Manual of Railroads for 1900" contem 1,954 paginas, das quaes 987 paginas se dedicam aos relatorios de 2,026 companhias de vias ferreas; os relatorios de 1,132 companhias de *bonds* occupam 209 paginas; os relatorios de 166 das principaes corporações industriaes occupam 84 paginas, ao passo que 132 paginas são dedicadas ás relações de dividas de estados, cidades e condados, cobrindo os negocios de 367 corporações. O preço do Manual é de $10. A impressão da obra é nitida e a encadernação elegante.

Dr. Edward Eggleston tem escripto uma obra historica com o titulo de "The Transit of Civilization from England to America in the Seventeenth Century," que será publicada pelos Srs. D. Appleton & Co.,

de Nova York. Este livro, que dá conta das influencias litterarias e scientificas que foram introduzidas nos Estados Unidos da Europa nos primeiros annos de sua existencia como colonia, promette ser de grande interesse.

Sahiu á luz ultimamente um livro intitulado "Monetary History of the United States" (Historia Monetaria dos Estados Unidos), por CHARLES J. BULLOCK, Ph. D., Professor Ajudante de Economia Politica em *Williams College*. Este livro consta de tres memorias occupando 300 paginas, e contem uma bibliographia completa do assumpto que será muito appreciada pelos investigadores da materia.

Os Srs. D. O. HAYNES E Co., de Nova York, tem publicado ultimamente uma obra em dous volumes intitulada "Depew's History of American Commerce." A obra é repleta de factos e dados estatisticos de grande interesse relativos ao desenvolvimento do commercio dos Estados Unidos durante o seculo XIX. Contem 100 capitulos escriptos por 100 americanos de alta representação.

A PERRY MASON COMPANHIA de Boston deu á luz ultimamente, sob o titulo "Greater America," um volume de artigos, contos e esboços que foram publicados no periodico "Youth's Companion." Contem informações uteis relativas ás possessões insulares dos Estados Unidos e é bem illustrado.

BULLETIN MENSUEL

DU

BUREAU DES RÉPUBLIQUES AMÉRICAINES,

Union Internationale des Républiques Américaines.

VOL. IX. DÉCEMBRE 1900. No. 6.

PROCÈS VERBAL DU COMITÉ EXÉCUTIF DE L'UNION INTERNATIONALE DES RÉPUBLIQUES AMÉRICAINES.

Le Comité Exécutif de l'Union Internationale des Républiques Américaines s'est réuni le 26 novembre 1900 dans la salle diplomatique du Ministère des Affaires Etrangères.

La réunion a eu lieu sur la demande de l'Honorable JOHN HAY, Secrétaire d'Etat, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, Président du Comité.

Les autres membres présents, étaient:

Señor Don JOAQUIN BERNARDO CALVO, Ministre de Costa-Rica;

Señor Don ANTONIO LAZO ARRIAGA, Ministre de Guatemala;

Señor Don EDUARDO WILDE, Ministre de la République Argentine;

En l'absence temporaire de Mr. W. W. ROCKHILL, le Directeur du Bureau, Mr. le Dr. HORACIO GUZMÁN, Directeur par intérim assistait à la réunion.

Le Directeur par intérim, après avoir expliqué le but de la réunion, présenta le rapport annuel du Bureau. Il portait la date du 26 novembre 1900 et est annexé au procès-verbal.

Voici comment s'est exprimé le Secrétaire d'Etat au sujet de ce rapport:

Je crois que nous sommes tous d'avis que ce rapport est admirable, car il démontre que les affaires se trouvent dans des conditions on ne peut plus satisfaisantes, que le progrès fait a été immense et qu'il s'est produit un grand changement pour le mieux dans la condition de l'Union Internationale. Le rapport me plait spécialement parce qu'il démontre, d'une façon remarquable, l'intelligence, l'énergie et l'esprit d'économie déployés pour amener l'Union Internationale à un état de pouvoir et de prospérité qu'elle n'avait jamais atteint.

Le Comité s'est alors ajourné.

RAPPORT ANNUEL DU DIRECTEUR DU BUREAU DES RÉPUBLIQUES AMÉRICAINES.

WASHINGTON, *le 26 novembre 1900.*

Le Secrétaire d'Etat pour les Affaires Etrangères, Président, et Messieurs les Membres du Comité Exécutif de l'Union Internationale des Républiques Américaines.

MESSIEURS: Pendant l'absence temporaire du Directeur, Mr. W. W. ROCKHILL, c'est à moi que le devoir incombe de vous soumettre le rapport annuel du Bureau, et j'ai l'honneur de vous présenter ci-dessous le compte rendu de ses finances pour l'année fiscale finissant le 30 juin 1900:

Recettes et dépenses pour l'année fiscale finissant te 30 juin 1900.

RECETTES.

Allocation annuelle des Etats-Unis, 1900			$36,000.00
Balance provenant des recettes des ventes, loyers, etc., 1er juillet 1899		$1,234.70	
Des allocations des Républiques Latines-Américaines	$18,849.90		
Des annonces	$5,083.81		
Des ventes de publications	1,169.47		
	6,253.28		
		25,103.18	
			26,337.88
Total des recettes			62,337.88

DÉPENSES.

Allocation annuelle, 1900	36,000.00	
Recettes provenant des ventes, loyers, etc	24.882.51	
		60,882.51
Balance au 1er juillet 1900		1,455.37

Bordereau détaillé des dépenses pendant l'année fiscale finissant le 30 juin 1900.

	Provenant de l'allocation annuelle de 1900.	Provenant des recettes des ventes, loyers, etc.	Totaux.
Compensation	$32,908.79	$385.59	$33,294.38
Fournitures de bureaux		828.57	828.57
Loyer	1,833.34	166.66	2,000.00
Bibliothèque		832.23	832.23
Affranchisement	17.26	1,128.68	1,145.94
Ameublement		985.43	985.43
Frais d'impression		18,592.01	18,592.01
Réglement final de l'envoi par la poste des bulletins de New-York á Buenos-Ayres, antérieurement au 1er mars, 1899	1,240.61		1,240.61
Dépenses diverses		1,963.34	1,963.34
Total	36,000.00	24,882.51	60,882.51

D'après les chiffres précédents, il paraîtrait qu'une balance de $1,455.37 existait au crédit du Bureau le 1er juillet 1900. Ce compte, cependant, n'inclut pas le montant des sommes dues à l'Imprimeur Public pour travaux d'impression exécutés pour ce Bureau pendant l'année fiscale alors terminée.

D'après le dernier rapport annuel, il restait à payer à l'Imprimeur Public, au commencement de l'année fiscale 1900, une balance de $6,388.09. Il a été cependant possible de liquider les sommes dues et de réduire la dette de telle sorte que la balance impayée sur l'année fiscale antérieure est de $3,314.78, comme le montre l'exposé suivant.

Mémoire de l'Imprimeur Public pour l'année fiscale finissant le 30 juin 1900.

Balance de l'année fiscale 1899 restant à payer		$6,388.09
Total des mémoires remis pour l'année fiscale finissant le 30 juin 1900		20,932.59
Somme totale à payer		27,320.68
Réduction faite pour travaux de composition et de stéréotypage, qui, d'après l'arrangement fait avec l'Imprimeur Public, sont portés au crédit du Bureau	$7,005.90	
Paiements provenant des recettes des ventes, loyers, etc., pendant l'année fiscale 1900	$11,000	
Paiements faits pendant l'année fiscale courante	6,000	
	17,000.00	
		24,005.90
Balance restant à payer sur l'année fiscale 1900		3,314.78

J'ai l'honneur de vous soumettre ci-dessous une estimation des recettes et des dépenses pour l'année fiscale finissant le 30 juin 1901:

Estimation des recettes:		
Allocation des Etats-Unis		$36,000.00
Allocation des Républiques Latines-Américaines		16,156.70
Annonces		4,000.00
Vente des publications		1,200.00
Total		57,356.70
Estimation des dépenses sur la base actuelle:		
Feuille d'émargement	$33,600.00	
Loyer	2,000.00	
Imprimerie	14,000.00	
Fourniture de bureaux et ameublement	1,500.00	
Bibliothèque	1,000.00	
Affranchissement	1,150.00	
Dépenses diverses	3,000.00	
		56,250.00
Balance		1,106.70

Cette estimation ne tient pas compte de la balance due à l'Imprimeur Public pour l'année fiscale passée. Si cette somme y était comprise, il y aurait un déficit apparent de $2,208.08. Il faut espérer, cependant, et les résultats de la dernière année fiscale justifient cet

espoir, que les recettes excéderont suffisamment celles estimées pour combler ce déficit.

En ce qui concerne les annonces, la condition est la même que celle indiquée dans le dernier rapport annuel. Il est possible, cependant, que les recettes provenant de cette source atteignent la somme de $4,000 pendant l'année fiscale prochaine.

Il faut remarquer que dans les estimations pour l'année fiscale passée, le montant des contributions des Républiques Latines-Américaines est chiffré à $15,813.53, tandis que la somme actuelle reçue est $18,849.90. Cette condition satisfaisante est due à ce que plusieurs Républiques qui avaient différé le paiement de leur quote-part pour les années passées l'ont maintenant acquittée.

BULLETIN MENSUEL.

Le tirage du BULLETIN MENSUEL se monte à 11,000 exemplaires, dont 9,000 sont envoyés aux différents pays de l'Amérique Centrale et de l'Amérique du Sud. Le tableau suivant montre le nombre de copies du BULLETIN envoyées dans les différents pays pendant le mois d'octobre 1900 et servira d'index à sa circulation:

Distribution du Bulletin pendant le mois d'octobre 1900.

République Argentine	452	Jamaïque	60
Bolivie	57	Mexique	5,090
Brésil	376	Nicaragua	104
Honduras Britannique	28	Paraguay	29
Canada	171	Pérou	134
Chili	246	Porto-Rico	201
Colombie	187	Salvador	31
Costa-Rica	101	Saint-Domingue	141
Cuba	287	Etats-Unis	1,468
Equateur	113	Uruguay	143
Europe	80	Antilles (Petites Antilles)	30
Guatemala	496	Venezuela	540
Haïti	197		
Honduras	208	Total	10,970

La circulation du BULLETIN est, comparativement parlant, à peu près la même que pendant la dernière année fiscale, mais les listes sont continuellement changées afin d'en envoyer seulement qu'aux personnes qui peuvent l'apprécier.

Le congrès des Etats-Unis a alloué les fonds nécessaires pour 5,000 copies de plus destinées à être distribuées aux Etats-Unis afin de faire mieux connaître les ressources et les possibilités commerciales des Républiques Latines-Américaines. Les Sénateurs et les Membres de la Chambre des Députés seront priés, à l'ouverture du présent Congrès, de vouloir bien fournir au Bureau les noms des personnes, dans les différentes sections du pays, qui seraient désireuses d'en recevoir une copie.

Des personnes éminentes et dignes de foi, dans les différentes capitales, ont prêté un précieux concours dans la préparation du BULLETIN

en agissant en qualité de membres correspondants honoraires de l'Union Internationale. Le Bureau est représenté dans presque toutes les Républiques par de tels membres et on espère sincèrement, qu'avant longtemps, il y aura un membre correspondant honoraire dans chacun des pays Latins-Américains.

L'espoir exprimé par le Directeur dans son dernier rapport annuel, que les renseignement fournis par ces messieurs étendraient matériellement les connaissances du Bureau, s'est complètement réalisé, les sujets qu'ils lui ont adressés étant d'une très grande valeur et pleins d'intérêt.

Pendant la dernière ànnnée fiscale, les Républiques de Salvador et de l'Uruguay ont accordé au Bureau la franchise postale pour ses publications. Le Bureau jouit aujourd'hui du même privilège dans 11 Républiques aussi bien qu'au Canada, à Cuba, à Porto-Rico et les îles Philippines.

AUTRES PUBLICATIONS.

Le Bureau vient de terminer un ouvrage de 400 pages environ, intitulé "Mexico: A geographical sketch, with special reference to economic conditions and prospects of future development." Ce livre a été généralement mentionné avec faveur dans la presse du pays et a été très demandé.

Parmi les autres publications en voie de préparation, celle sur le Brésil est terminée et pratiquement prête pour l'impression ; celles sur le Guatémala, Costa-Rica et le Chili sont en bonne voie et paraîtront en temps opportun.

Le Directeur est particulièrement désireux de produire un ouvrage en langue espagnole sur les Etats-Unis et a lui-même préparé le premier chapitre sur le Gouvernement. Les autres chapitres seront écrits par des hommes d'une habileté et d'une autorité reconnues dans leurs spécialités.

Des renseignements officiels ont été recueillis dans les différentes Républiques, donnant les listes des journaux et des publications périodiques paraissant dans ces pays. Ces listes ont de temps en temps été publiées dans le BULLETIN, et quand elles seront entièrement complètes, elles paraîtront sous forme de publication séparée.

CARTES GÉOGRAPHIQUES.

Un travail dans lequel le Directeur est vivement intéressé, et qui est un des principaux du Bureau, est la publication de cartes de géographie. Un dessinateur expérimenté est employé à cet effet et deux cartes du Mexique, une carte générale et une carte de géographie physique et agricole ont été terminées. Elles sont en ce moment entre les mains de l'Imprimeur et seront bientôt prêtes à être distribuées. Les cartes

de Costa-Rica, de Guatémala et du Brésil ont été commencées, et aussitôt que l'on aura obtenu certaines données, elles seront achevées, après quoi on dressera celles des autres pays.

BIBLIOTHÈQUE.

Une portion considérable du dernier rapport annuel du Directeur fut consacrée à la Bibliothèque qui est une des parties les plus essentielles du Bureau, et qui, pendant les dernières années, n'avait pas reçu l'attention qu'elle méritait afin de pouvoir remplir proprement sa mission. Pour la réorganisation pratique de la Bibliothèque, un plan fut adopté et, jusqu'à un certain point, mis à exécution.

Lors du dernier rapport annuel du Directeur, la Bibliothèque contenait environ 5,000 volumes de toutes sortes dont le nombre a augmenté par l'addition de 1,100 volumes et 7,795 brochures dont la plupart ont été reliés et tous catalogués. La Bibliothèque du Bureau doit, dans une large mesure, ces additions à la courtoisie des Représentants Diplomantiques de l'Amérique-Latine à Washington et à ceux des Etats-Unis à l'étranger qui ont attiré l'attention des autorités compétentes sur la nécessité qu'il y avait pour le Bureau, de posséder les dernières données officielles sur lesquelles il base ses travaux. Les publications demandées ont toujours été envoyées, sans délai, par les différents gouvernements.

La correspondance adressée aux principaux éditeurs américains, pour leur demander les nouvelles publications se rapportant aux Républiques de l'Amérique-Latine afin de pouvoir en donner un compte rendu dans le BULLETIN MENSUEL, a rapporté à la Bibliothèque un nombre d' ouvrages importants.

Jusqu'à présent on n'a pu disposer que d'une très petite somme pour la Bibliothèque, 800 dollars environ ayant été dépensés l'année dernière pour acheter de préférence des œuvres géographiques, des cartes nouvelles et des ouvrages importants d'intérêt général. Pour l'année fiscale courante la dépense estimée est de 1,000 dollars.

On s'occupe activement d'obtenir maintenant une collection complète des lois et traités de l'Amérique-Latine.

La Librairie recoit actuellement des centaines de publications périodiques sur le commerce, l'industrie et sur des sujets d'intérêt général; les articles importants que l'on y trouve sont classés dans une table des matières de façon qu'ils puissent être trouvés plus facilement en cas de besoin. La collection des cartes-index, qui formera un catalogue d'une valeur permanente, augmente continuellement, 9,000 cartes cataloguées ayant été ajoutées depuis le dernier rapport.

Les journaux principaux et les publications périodiques importantes des différentes Républiques de l'Amérique-Latine sont collectionnés d'une manière permanente et sont très demandés.

Le désir du Bureau est de parvenir à réunir dans sa Bibliothèque la collection la plus complète et la plus utile qui puisse se trouver aux Etats-Unis sur l'Amérique entière; une collection qui sera la source la plus digne de foi et où l'on pourra puiser tous les renseignements quelqu'ils soient sur l'histoire, la géographie, les richesses, le commerce et l'industrie de tous les pays de ce continent.

L'EXPOSITION PAN-AMÉRICAINE.

Le Congrès des Etats-Unis a décidé que le Bureau des Républiques Américaines serait représenté à l'Exposition Pan-Américaine qui aura lieu à Buffalo l'été prochain et le Chef de Division de ce Bureau a été désigné pour le représenter près du Conseil des Directeurs de l'Exposition. Afin de faire une exposition digne du Bureau, un crédit suffisant a été alloué au Bureau sur la somme votée par le Congrès des Etats-Unis, des contrats ont été passés et d'autres démarches ont été faites.

LA CONFÉRENCE INTERNATIONALE AMÉRICAINE.

L'incident le plus important dans l'histoire de ce Bureau depuis sa création, il y a dix ans, sera la Conférence Internationale Américaine, qui siégera dans la ville du Mexique, à partir du 22 octobre 1900, et on espère que les résultats que l'on obtiendra de cette conférence, à juger par dix années d'expérience, sera le développement matériel de la valeur du Bureau comme un facteur efficace qui resserrera les liens de confiance et d'amitié entre chacun et tous les pays de l'Union.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, messieurs, votre obéissant serviteur,

Le Directeur par Intérim,
HORACIO GUZMÁN.

RÉPUBLIQUE ARGENTINE.

ÉTABLISSEMENT DE DISTRIBUTIONS D'EAU.

Le "Buenos Ayres Standard" annonce que le Gouvernement argentin a présenté au parlement un projet de loi autorisant: 1° la construction, par l'Etat, de distributions d'eau dans les villes de Jujuy, Rioja, Santiago del Estero, Saltu, Corrientes et Mendoza, et 2° l'agrandissement des distributions de San Luis, San Juan et Caramarca.

Le but poursuivi par le Gouvernement argentin en décrétant ces travaux est, paraît-il, l'assainissement des localités précitées et la diminution de la mortalité infantile que l'on y constate actuellement.

DÉBOUCHES COMMERCIAUX EN PATAGONIE.

Un rapport récent de l'attaché commercial du Consulat général d'Allemagne à Buenos Ayres, signale divers articles qui trouveraient probablement un bon débouché en Patagonie.

L'attention des exportateurs est particulièrement attirée sur la consommation énorme de fil de fer pour clôtures qui se fait dans ces parages. Or, l'élevage des moutons se développe constamment en Patagonie, et, comme les éleveurs font tous clôturer leurs pâturages, il n'est pas douteux que la demande pour le fil de fer augmentera encore dans une forte proportion. Actuellement déjà cet article est compris dans tous les envois qui sont faits vers ce district.

Outre les cinq ou six rangées de fil lisse et la rangée de fil barbelé, quelques propriétaires d'*estancias* renforcent encore leurs clôtures au moyen d'un cable en fil de fer, afin de les protéger contre les dépréda-tions des guanaques.

Les tôles ondulées et galvanisées constituent également un article de bonne vente en Patagonie, où elles sont employées presque exclusivement pour les toitures et parfois aussi pour les parois extérieures des habitations.

La culture étant encore fort peu développée dans la région, les appareils agricoles n'y sont guère demandés. Par contre, les brouettes légères en bois y trouveraient un placement facile, de même que les feuillards et les toiles de jute grossières pour recouvrir les balles de laine. Les poêles et les appareils de chauffage facilement transportables s'y vendraient également bien, de même que les conserves de viande et de légumes et les pommes de terre.

Tous les articles destinés à la Patagonie doivent être soigneusement emballés, à cause de la longueur et des difficultés du transport.

CHEMINS DE FER PROJETÉS DANS LA RÉPUBLIQUE.

Parmi les concessions de chemin de fer qui ont été accordées dernièrement dans la République Argentine, la "Review of the River Plate" signale les suivantes comme offrant un intérêt plus immédiat:

Par l'acquisition de la ligne Oeste-Santafecino, le Central Argentin est devenu propriétaire de la concession accordée pour la construction d'une ligne de San José IV; les travaux sont commencés et l'on espère pouvoir atteindre Rio IV dans un an environ. Cette ligne permettra l'expédition par chemin de fer, à Rosario, des produits de Rio IV et des autres colonies du riche département de Cordoba.

De même, par l'acquisition du chemin de fer Santa Fé et Córdoba, la Compagnie du chemin de fer de Rosario a reçu l'autorisation de prolonger la ligne de La Carlota jusqu'à Rio IV, qui disposera ainsi de deux voies différentes pour l'exportation de ses produits.

Le chemin de fer à voie étroite de Rosario à Buenos Ayres sera prochainement mis en exploitation, ce qui mettra en communication directe tout le réseau des chemins de fer à voie étroite de l'intérieur.

Le chemin de fer du Pacifique se prépare à prolonger l'embranchement d'Italo jusqu'à Esperanza, ce qui permettra d'ouvrir à la colonisation de nouvelles zones très fertiles.

Le chemin de fer de l'Ouest est sur le point de prolonger l'embranchement General Villegas vers Saint-Rafaël, dans la province de Mendoza.

DÉVELOPPEMENT INDUSTRIEL ET AGRICOLE.

Dans un rapport sur le commerce extérieur de l'Argentine pour 1899, avec des observations relatives au commerce français avec ce pays, Monsieur FRANCASTEL, consul de France à Buenos Aires, s'exprime de la manière suivante sur le développement industriel et agricole de l'Argentine, auquel il atribue en partie, le recul du commerce d'importation français, la France n'occupant aujourd'hui que le cinquième rang parmi les nations importatrices, tandis qu'en 1889, elle en occupait le deuxième.

Il s'est créé en ce pays, depuis quelques années, dit Monsieur FRANCASTEL, de nombreuses laiteries et fromageries qui ont fait diminuer de plus d'un million de kilogrammes l'importation des fromages étrangers. En 1899, l'Argentine a même exporté 1,179,496 kilogrammes de beurre et fait aujourd'hui concurrence aux produits similaires français sur le marché brésilien.

Les meuneries du Rio de la Plata ont pris un tel essor que non seulement elles ont arrêté l'importation des farines étrangères, mais qu'elles commencent à en exporter; le marché qu'elles visent plus particulièrement est le marché de Rio où elles tentent de rivaliser avec les farines nord-américaines.

Sur les 2,500,000 hectolitres de vin actuellement nécessaires à sa consommation, l'Argentine en produit aujourd'hui plus d'un million. Les vins ordinaires livrés à la consommation sont en grande partie des vins de coupage composés, pour cent litres, de 35 litres de vin de Mendoza et de San Juan, de 40 litres de vins de raisins secs et de 25 litres de vin italien ou espagnol.

L'industrie sucrière a progressé d'une façon si rapide, depuis vingt ans, qu'elle est obligée de modérer sa production pour éviter le retour de la crise amenée par la surproduction des années 1895 et 1896. Alors que les besoins du pays ne dépassaient pas 95,000 tonnes, les sucriers en étaient arrivés à produire annuellement jusquà 170,000 tonnes. Le stock immobilisé atteignit un moment 165,000 tonnes. Le syndicat des sucriers ne put maintenir les prix et écouler l'excédent de sa production à l'étranger qu'à la faveur de diverses mesures législatives dont il obtint le vote du Parlement (établissement d'un tarif protecteur et de primes à l'exportation).

Les industries qui élaborent d'autres produits que les produits purement agricoles sont certainement moins développées dans l'Argentine; il n'en est pas moins vrai qu'elles tendent à s'y implanter sérieusement.

Il existe dans la seule ville de Buenos-Aires, 2,928 fabriques ou ateliers parmi lesquels on remarque 217 ateliers de bijouterie et d'horlogerie, 182 fabriques de meubles, 151 de liqueurs, 89 de voitures,

85 de charrettes et chariots, 66 de chaussures, 25 de chapeaux, 22 de gants, 25 de chemises et de cols, 13 de fleurs artificielles, 27 de lits en fer, 3 de coffres-forts, 6 de conserves alimentaires, 4 de bière, etc.

BOLIVIE.

SITUATION ÉCONOMIQUE DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE.

Voici ce qu'écrit DE LA PAZ, au sujet de la situation économique de la Bolivie, un des correspondants du "Moniteur officiel du commerce."

"La Bolivie relève, on le sait, d'une longue révolution; la lutte a été longue et les affaires ont été un moment à peu près complètement arrêtées. Néanmoins les choses ont repris leur cours à peu près normal, beaucoup plus rapidement qu'on aurait pu l'espérer. Ce revirement est, à coup sûr, encore incomplet, mais pour peu que dure encore quelque temps sa cause primordiale, la haute valeur des métaux et surtout des étains, on peut espérer que la situation économique générale s'améliorera encore davantage.

"Nous voyons comme résultat de cette abondante production minière le change qui était stationnaire entre 17 et 18 pence le *bolivien* monter à 22½, 22⅝, qui est son type actuel. Or, cela constitue pour tout le commerce un bénéfice immédiat puisqu'il voit s'abaisser sensiblement le prix de coût des marchandises importées sans voir beaucoup baisser les prix de vente au détail, ce qui améliore sensiblement la situation de la seconde et de la troisième main.

"Un second résultat se trouve dans la création de nombreuses nouvelles entreprises métallurgiques, amenant de nouveaux besoins par les travailleurs qu'elles attirent, et dont les salaires passent rapidement à la circulation.

"Sans vouloir faire un tableau trop riant de cette activité encore embryonnaire et peu perceptible dans le chaos aride et solitaire des montagnes boliviennes, nous devons constater la présence de cet élément nouveau et important de prospérité.

"Les régions qui profitent de ce regain d'activité sont celles d'Uynin, d'Oruro, de Potosi, de Colquechaca, et de La Paz. La ville de Cochabamba trouve dans une autre source son activité. Outre une population voisine plus dense en raison de la nature agricole des campagnes, cette ville possède le monopole du transit pour les provinces du Beni, de Santa Cruz, de Valle Grande, dont les envois de quinine, de coca, et de caoutchouc constituent une des grandes richesses de la Bolivie.

"Or, toutes ces provinces s'approvisionnent à Cochabamba qui y trouve un large bénéfice, malheureusement souvent diminué par des pertes qu'amènent forcément des affaires avec des régions aussi primitives que celles de la Bolivie Amazonique. L'ancienne métropole

bolivienne, Sucre, reste seule dans l'ombre et a vu disparaître, depuis la révolution, une grande partie de son activité. Sucre, qui est, par son excellent climat, la ville aristocratique, a été privée d'un élément considérable de prospérité par le transfert à La Paz de tous les services gouvernementaux: Ministéres, Congrès, etc. En outre, presque toutes les mines d'argent qui l'avoisinent et qui étaient jadis une source de richesesses considérables ne peuvent plus, actuellement, aux bas prix du métal blanc, payer leurs frais d'exploitation et bien peu sont en activité. Une reprise du cours de l'argent serait une fortune pour la Bolivie entière et pour Sucre en particulier qui verrait bien vite renaître son ancienne splendeur.

"Quoi qu'il en soit, la situation moyenne est bonne actuellement et elle se maintiendra au moins aussi longtemps que l'on verra aux étains et aux cuivres leurs prix actuels. Une baisse sensible de ces matières pourrait avoir des conséquences très fâcheuses, aussi convient-il de n'agir commercialement qu'avec la plus grande circonspection. * * *

" En effectuant des envois en Bolivie, il importe de tenir compte de la difficulté des transports dans ce pays. Les marchandises doivent être réparties en colis pesant au maximum 75 kilogrammes de manière à pouvoir être chargées à dos de bêtes de somme, dans les régions où ce mode de transport est encore le seul possible.

"Les recouvrements et les traites documentaires doivent être adressés de préférence à l'Agence de la Banque Nationale de Bolivie à Potosi, via Buenos-Aires et Tarija. Le pli mettra de 33 à 35 jours pour parvenir à son adresse, tandis qu'il lui faudrait environ 58 jours pour arriver à l'Agence de la Banque à La Paz, via Panama. * * *

"En Bolivie la Banque Nationale possède des succursales dans toutes les villes principales et c'est, avec la Banque Argandoña, celle qui peut le mieux convenir comme correspondant à nos exportateurs."

BRÉSIL.

PROJET D'ÉTABLISSEMENT D'UNE LIGNE DE CHEMIN DE FER DANS L'ÉTAT DE SAINT PAUL.

D'après le "Bulletin Commercial," de Bruxelles, la commission des travaux publics de l'Etat de Saint Paul a élaboré un projet autorisant le Gouvernement à concéder l'établissement et l'exploitation d'une ligne de chemin de fer à voie étroite (un mètre d'écartement entre rails), destinée à relier la capitale de l'Etat à Iguape, point le plus convenable du fleuve Ribeira.

Les avantages ci-après seraient assurés au concessionnaire:

(1) Garantie d'intérêts de 6 pour cent par an sur le capital n'excédant pas vingt mille de contos de reis, pour un délai maximum de 20 ans, à

compter de la date du contrat, le coût de la construction ne pouvant dépasser 80 contos par kilomètre.

(2) Exemption des impôts dûs à l'Etat aussi longtemps que durera la clause de la garantie d'intérêts.

Les intérêts seront payés par semestres échus sur les sommes qui auront été annuellement autorisées par le Gouvernement, et qui auront été effectivement employées à la construction du chemin de fer. A cette fin, le concessionnaire présentera au Secrétariat de l'Agriculture, en temps opportun, le relevé des travaux à exécuter au cours de chaque année.

Les dépenses préliminaires que le concessionnaire pourrait avoir faites avant de commencer les travaux de la voie seront comprises, dès qu'elles auront été approuvées par le Gouvernement, dans le capital garanti; elles ne pourront excéder toutefois trois cents contos de reis.

Une partie ou la totalité de la voie étant livrée à l'exploitation, les intérêts correspondant au capital seront payés après examen des bilans des recettes et des dépenses, présentés par le concessionnaire et approuvés par le Gouvernement.

Le concessionnaire s'obligerait:

(1) A remettre au Gouvernement, tous les semestres, un rapport détaillé de l'état des travaux en construction, ainsi que la statistique du trafic des marchandises ou des voyageurs, et à autorizer, à n'importe quelle occasion, l'examen des livres par les agents du Gouvernement.

(2) A soumettre à l'approbation du Gouvernement, avant de commencer l'exploitation, la liste de ses employés, avec l'indication de leur traitement respectif, ainsi que toute modification qui serait apportée ultérieurement.

(3) A établir le trafic mutuel entre d'autres voies ferrées ou fluviales.

Lorsque le rendement net de la voie excédera 8 pour cent l'an, la moitié au moins de l'excédent sera remise au Trésor, en compensation des dépenses provenant de la garantie des intérêts de la fiscalité.

Le choix du concessionnaire sera déterminé notamment par—

(1) Le tracé le plus convenable;

(2) La base des tarifs et sa réduction proportionnelle au rendement de la voie;

(3) Le moindre délai pour la jouissance de la garantie d'intérêts, et le remboursement des sommes payées à ce titre.

Il est facultatif pour le Gouvernement, soit au moment de passer le contrat, soit pendant les travaux, de concéder les terrains inoccupés sur les côtes de la voie, et dans le bassin de la Ribeira, aux termes de la loi n° 675, du 9 septembre 1899, art. 2.

Les concurrents doivent joindre à leurs propositions un cautionnement, en argent ou en titres de la dette publique, d'une valeur de 20 contos de reis.

Le concurrent dont la proposition sera acceptée, augmentera son cautionnement de 100 contos de reis, au moment de la signature du contrat, et il perdra la caution primitive, qui deviendra la propriété du Trésor, dans le cas où il refuserait de signer le contrat.

Le concessionnaire ne pourra exiger le remboursement des cautions, que lorsqu'il aura prouvé qu'il a affecté une somme équivalente à la construction de la voie.

Les cautions faites en argent jouiront d'un intérêt annuel de 6 pour cent.

Dans l'édit qui sera publié pour servir de base à l'adjudication publique, outre les conditions qui découlent de la présente loi, le gouvernement pourra faire publier toutes celles qu'il jugerait conformes à l'intérêt de l'Etat.

A l'exception des dispositions précitées, cette ligne ferrée restera sujette au régime de la loi n° 30 du 13 juin 1892 en ce qui lui est applicable.

FACTURES CONSULAIRES POUR LES ENVOIS EN DESTINATION DU BRÉSIL.

Le "Bulletin Commercial," de Bruxelles, dit que l'application de la mesure exigeant des factures consulaires pour les importations de marchandises aux Etats-Unis du Brésil a été prorogée du 9 décembre au 1er janvier prochain.

CHILI.

LE CHEMIN DE FER LONGITUDINAL DU NORD.

Le "Recueil Consulaire Belge" a publié récemment un rapport spécial sur les chemins de fer du Chili. Ce travail contient des renseignements détaillés sur les lignes qui restent à construire pour compléter le réseau de l'Etat.

Dans ces ordre d'idées, le Consul de Belgique à Santiago écrit que, très récemment, une importante maison nord américaine, Grace & Co., a eu des échanges de vues avec des personnes notables du Chili, pour arriver à un plan économique permettant la réalisation du chemin de fer longitudinal du nord du Chili.

Cette ligne irait, comme on le sait, de Calera à Pisagua, et aurait un développement total de près de 2,300 kilomètres, dont plus de 1,300 kilomètres restent encore à construire. L'écartement de voie étant variable dans les tronçons isolés existants, il y aurait lieu de remanier la voie de la majeure partie des lignes construites, dont la longueur utilisable est de 942 kilomètres. Il serait prématuré de se prononcer dès maintenant sur la valeur de cette entreprise, puisque

les études ne sont pas terminées. Néanmoins, le coût ne sera pas inférieur à 6 millions de livres sterling, somme égale au tiers environ de la dette publique actuelle du Chili. Les ressources minières du pays, sa situation financière satisfaisante, grâce à ses fortes rentrées sur le salpêtre, rendent possible la réalisation de ce projet, et comme tel il mérite de fixer l'attention des capitalistes étrangers.

Le Chili s'est toujours intéressé à la construction de cette ligne, dont l'importance stratégique est primordiale; elle permettra l'accès par terre des riches provinces salpêtrières du nord, lesquelles, actuellement, ne peuvent être défendues que par mer. Cette ligne, tout en étant utile au développement des provinces du nord, ne semble pas devoir donner un rendement favorable. Par conséquent, la construction et l'exploitation ne feront pas l'objet d'une entreprise privée, comme c'est le cas pour les autres lignes du nord. Mais le Gouvernement chilien, ayant un intérêt direct dans sa réalisation, sera sans doute disposé à prêter son concours financier à toute proposition sérieuse en rapport avec les finances du pays.

LE NOUVEAU SYNDICAT DU NITRATE ET LA SITUATION DE CETTE INDUSTRIE.

"L'Economist," de Londres, fait les remarques suivantes au sujet de l'influence probable, sur l'industrie et le marché du nitrate, du nouveau syndicat que viennent de former les producteurs chiliens.

Depuis plusieurs années, les producteurs de nitrate du Chili attribuent toutes leurs tribulations et l'absence de dividendes rémunérateurs à la surproduction et au manque d'entente effective entre les compagnies exploitantes. Ces plaintes sont certainements fondées jusqu'à un certain point, mais d'un autre côté, il y a lieu de signaler que la surcapitalisation est également une des principales causes de la situation actuelle des compagnies nitratières. On sait, en effet, que les capitaux de la plupart des anciennes compagnies sont absolument exagérés et que l'on s'est aperçu, après les premières années d'exploitation, qu'il serait impossible, dans ces conditions, de rémunérer convenablement le capital de certaines compagnies par trop surchargées, aussi longtemps que le prix du nitrate ne dépasserait pas un certain taux.

Le nitrate ne se trouvant que dans certaines parties du Chili et les gisements devant être totalement épuisés au bout d'un certain nombre d'années, les compagnies exploitantes devraient, pour être dans une bonne situation financière, distribuer non seulement de beaux bénéfices à leurs actionnaires, mais pouvoir également amortir leur capital avant que leurs gisements ne soient épuisés. Lorsqu'on commence à exploiter un nouveau gisement, il est certainement possible d'estimer à peu de chose près, la durée de l'exploitation, et une compagnie bien administrée devrait régler sa production sur un certain nombre d'années, de manière que le matériel fût à peu près usé lors de l'épuisement des gise-

ments et que le capital, tout en ayant été convenablement rémunéré. fût complètement amorti à la même époque.

C'était donc une erreur de produire le plus de nitrate possible dès le commencement, mais c'est cependant ce qui a été fait par certaines compagnies, précisément parce que le capital était tellement élevé qu'il fallait absolument produire beaucoup pour pouvoir payer de gros dividendes et faciliter ainsi la création de nouvelles compagnies.

A la fin de l'ère de prospérité, la production du nitrate dépassait de beaucoup la demande, et ce, malgré la propagande faite par le gouvernement chilien.

De 136,287 tonnes en 1870, les exportations de nitrate du Chili s'élevèrent à 225,559 tonnes en 1880, à 1,050,119 tonnes en 1890 et à 1,380,000 tomes en 1899. Le tiers environ de cette dernière quantité a été expédié en Allemagne.

On voit par les chiffres ci-dessus que les exportations de nitrate du Chili ont presque doublé de 1870 à 1880 et qu'elles ont quadruplé de 1880 à 1890.

La consommation n'ayant pas, à beaucoup près, marché de pair avec la production, il s'en est naturellement suivi une baisse de prix considérable, qui a fini par forcer plusieurs compagnies à cesser leur exploitation, celle-ci n'étant plus rémunératrice. C'est alors que les producteurs formèrent une sorte de syndicat, aux termes duquel chaque exploitation ne pouvait plus produire qu'une certaine quantité de nitrate. Par ce moyen, le marché fut relevé pendant quelque temps, mais le syndicat dut être dissous par suite de la formation de nouvelles compagnies.

Depuis lors, plusieurs tentatives ont encore été faites pour reformer le syndicat, mais ce n'est que tout récemment, à la suite des démarches du secrétaire de l'Association nitratière du Chili, qu'un syndicat a pu de nouveau être constitué, après une réunion des producteurs, qui a eu lieu le 20 octobre dernier à Iquique.

Pendant ces derniers temps, l'ensemble de la production a été faite au taux d'environ 33 millions de quintaux par an, alors que la demande ne comportait que 32 millions de quintaux. Le nouveau syndicat a fixé le chiffre de la production à 31,273,000 quintaux pendant cinq ans, à partir du 1er avril 1901.

Il paraîtrait, d'ailleurs, que le Gouvernement chilien a prêté son appui à la formation du nouveau syndicat et qu'un des principaux obstacles qui s'opposaient à cette combinaison a ainsi été écarté. Le Gouvernement chilien prélève, en effet, un droit d'exportation sur le nitrate, de sorte que toute diminution des expéditions à l'étranger va directement à l'encontre de ses intérêts. Or, si le syndicat n'avait pas l'appui du Gouvernement chilien, ce dernier pourrait user de représailles contre la restriction de la production, soit en augmentant le droit d'exportation, soit en vendant une partie des gisements qui n'ont

pas encore été exploités. Le fait donc que le Gouvernement est d'accord avec le nouveau syndicat est significatif, d'autant plus qu'il y aura de ce chef une diminution immédiate des recettes. Il est a supposer, toutefois, que le Gouvernement a reconnu que l'augmentation de la valeur des gisements non encore exploités constituera, à l'avenir, une compensation suffisante pour la perte qu'il devra subir momentanément.

Il est plus que probable que le prix du nitrate va subir une certaine hausse par suite de la formation du nouveau syndicat; mais reste à savoir si, dans ces conditions, la consommation se maintiendra au même niveau que pendant les deux ou trois dernières années. C'est là un point douteux qui dépendra probablement du taux même de l'augmentation et que l'avenir seul pourra élucider.

Il y a un an le prix du nitrate à la côte était de 6 fr. 50 c. le quintal, mais une hausse s'est produite depuis lors et il atteint actuellement 7 fr. 15 c. et même 7 fr. 25 c. le quintal. Le prix le plus élevé constaté depuis de nombreuses années a été de 8 fr. le quintal, et comme les frais de transport des usines à la côte ont été réduits récemment de 32 centimes par quintal, le prix actuel est pour ainsi dire aussi favorable pour les producteurs que celui qui était pratiqué il y a quelques années.

D'un autre côté, il y a lieu de signaler que le cours des valeurs nitratières a considérablement augmenté pendant les derniers mois. Il est cependant à noter que le nouveau syndicat n'aura pas pour conséquence de rendre toutes les exploitations rémunératrices, car on sait que quelques-unes d'entre elles ne pourront jamais donner de bénéfice.

La Santiago Nitrate, la Lautaro, l'Anglo-Chilian, la Santa Rita et la Liverpool sont les compagnies qui semblent actuellement se trouver dans les meilleures conditions.

ETATS-UNIS.

MESSAGE DU PRÉSIDENT McKINLEY.

A la date du 3 décembre, le Président McKinley a adressé au 56e Congrès, à l'occasion de la réouverture des chambres, son message annuel. C'est un document des plus intéressants car il traite des évènements de la plus haute importance qui ont eu lieu pendant l'année.

Voici quelle en est, en partie, la teneur:

"*Au Sénat et aux Membres de la Chambre des Députés:*

"Vers la fin de ce siècle et au commencement du nouveau, vous ouvrez la dernière session du 56e Congrès ayant de tous les côtés des évidences d'une prospérité nationale et individuelle et des preuves de la puissante influence des institutions républicaines sur le bien-être

du peuple. Vos compatriotes se féciliteront comme vous que la liberté américaine est plus fermement établie qu'elle ne l'a jamais été et que l'amour qu'ils ressentent pour elle et leur détermination de la conserver sont plus universels qu'à n'importe quelle période de notre histoire.

"La République n'a jamais été aussi puissante, parce qu'elle n'a jamais été aussi fortement enracinée dans les cœurs du peuple comme aujourd'hui. La constitution, avec très peu de réformes, est telle que l'out laissée ses auteurs. Les changements qui y ont été faits ont eu pour but de donner une liberté plus grande et des droits de cité plus étendus. Le gouvernement populaire a prouvé, dans ses 124 années d'expérience, que sa stabilité, sa sécurité et son efficacité sont les meilleurs instruments du développement national et de la protection des droits de l'homme.

Quand le sixième Congrès s'assemblait au mois de novembre 1800 la population des Etats-Unis était de 5,308,483 habitants. Elle est maintenant de 76,304,799 habitants. Alors, nous avions 16 Etats; nous en avons ajourd'hui quarante cinq. A cette époque là, notre territoire mesurait une superficie de 909,050 milles carrés; il en a aujourd'hui une de 3,846,595 milles carrés. L'instruction, la religion et la moralité ont marché de pair avec nos autres progrès et tout en étendant son pouvoir, le Gouvernement est resté fidèle à ses principes fondamentaux en administrant nos nouvelles possessions et nos peuples nouveaux."

Le message traite minutieusement la question chinoise et fait un récit complet des évènements qui se sont passés et des négociations nécessitées à la suite de l'entrée dans Pékin.

Au sujet des différents traités conclus par le Gouvernement des Etats-Unis, le message dit que les ratifications du traité d'extradition avec la République Argentine ont été échangées le 2 juin dernier, et il ajoute que "Dans le but d'étendre le commerce entre ce pays et l'Amérique du Sud, des efforts ont été faits pendant l'année passée pour conclure des conventions avec les Républiques Méridionales pour le développement de nos facilités postales. Deux de ces conventions furent signées avec la Bolivie le 24 avril; celle établissant les mandats postaux étant en train de subir certaines modifications suggérées par le Ministère des Postes. Un traité d'extradition avec ce pays a été signé le même jour et se trouve devant le Sénat.

"Le différend existant entre le Brésil et la Bolivie au sujet de la frontière sur le territoire d'Acre est en train de se régler amicalement; un protocole signé au mois de décembre 1899 ayant fixé les limites définitives de ce pays et nommé une commission mixte pour en tracer la ligne de démarcation.

"Les conditions existantes au Brésil ont ralenti énormement notre commerce d'exportation dans ce pays et contrastent d'une manière frappante avec celles favorables sous lesquelles les produits Brésiliens

sont admis sur nos marchés. Des représentations urgentes ont été adressées à ce gouvernement à ce sujet et quelques progrès ont été faits. Nous comptons sur la justice réciproque et la bonne volonté de ce gouvernement pour nous assurer d'améliorer dans le futur nos relations commerciales.

"Le traité signé le 24 mai 1897 pour le règlement définitif des réclamations auxquelles on n'avait pas fait droit à cause de la dissolution de la Commission de 1893, a été enfin ratifié par le Congrès Chilien et une commission supplémentaire a été nommée. Il reste au Congrès de voter les fonds nécessaires pour les dépenses de cette Commission.

"Le mouvement insurrectionnel qui a troublé la Colombie pendant la dernière partie de l'année 1899 a été pratiquement supprimé, quoique les guérillas continuent dans quelques départements. Le Pouvoir Exécutif de cette République a changé de mains pendant le mois d'oût dernier, le Vice-Président MARROQUIN s'en étant emparé, pendant l'absence de la capitale, du Président SAN CLEMEMTE. Le changement n'a donné lieu à aucune difficulté sérieuse et, suivant les précédents en pareils cas, le Ministre des Etats-Unis est entré en relations avec le nouveau gouvernement de facto le 17 septembre.

"Il est agréable d'annoncer que les différends qui existaient entre Costa-Rica et Nicaraguá, par suite de la sentence arbitrale du Président CLEVELAND en 1888, ont été réglés par un ingénieur américain, le Général E. P. ALEXANDER, désigné comme arbitre pour tracer la ligne contestée. Sa tâche a été accomplie à la satisfaction des deux parties contestantes.

"La révolution qui éclata dans la République Dominicaine à la fin de l'année dernière, termina avec l'installation au pouvoir du Président JIMENEZ, dont le Gouvernement fut formellement reconnu en janvier. Depuis lors, les sommes réclamées au sujet du Pont Ozama ont été payées."

En ce qui concerne l'Exposition Universelle de Paris et la part qu'y ont prise les Etats Unis, le Président s'exprime ainsi:

"Ce qui caractérise l'étendue, le succès de notre participation et le degré de perfection dans l'organisation de nos expositions, ce sont les nombreux prix qui ont été décernés aux exposants américains par le jury international, à savoir: 240 grands prix, 597 médailles d'or, 776 médailles d'argent, 541 médailles de bronze, 322 mentions honorables, soit 2,476 en tout, qui est le plus grand nombre de récompenses qui ait jamais été accordé dans une exposition universelle, aussi bien que le plus grand nombre dans chaque catégorie.

Cette constatation significative de mérite dans cette concurrence avec les meilleures expositions de toutes les autres nations et de la part de presque tous les jurés composés des représentants de la France et des autres pays luttant en rivalité, est non seulement des plus satisfaisantes, mais particulièrment d'une très grande valeur depuis qu'elle

nous place à la tête des questions internationales de productions et de demandes; pendant qu'une grande quantité de récompenses aux arts et aux manufactures artistiques nous ont donné la preuve inespérée de l'encouragement de la culture nationale dû à la prospérité provenant de nos richesses naturelles et de la supériorité de nos industries."

Au sujet des diverses réclamations des citoyens des Etats-Unis contre les autres nations, voici ce que dit le message en ce qui concerne l'Amérique Latine:

"La réclamation de R. H. MAY contre le gouvernement de Guatemala, à laquelle il n'avait pas encore été fait droit, a été réglée par l'arbitration de Mr. GEORGE F. B. JENNER, Ministre Britannique ă Guatemala qui fut choisi comme arbitre unique et qui accorda au réclamant $143,750.73 en or.

"Plusieurs autres réclamations contre Haïti ont été ou seront bientôt soumises à l'arbitration.

"Comme résultat des négociations qui ont été entamées avec le Gouvernement de Honduras au sujet de l'indemnité demandée pour l'assassinat de FRANK H. PEARS dans l'Honduras, ce Gouvernement a payé $10,000 pour faire cesser les réclamations des héritiers."

Le Président s'occupe ensuite de l'assassinat du ROI HUMBERT et manifeste la peine que sa mort a causé au Gouvernement et au peuple des Etats-Unis. Il traite ensuite d'autres questions se rapportant aux interêts du pays et s'exprime comme suit en ce qui concerne le Mexique:

"Aucun incident digne d'être noté ne s'est produit dans nos rapports avec notre importante voisine du sud. Nos relations commerciales avec le Mexique continuent à s'étendre et les deux gouvernements ne négligent aucune occasion pour protéger, par tous les moyens pratiques, leurs intérêts mutuels.

"Conformément à l'arrêt de la Cour Suprême, que les jugements de la dernière "Commission Mixte" dans les réclamations de LA ABRA et WEIL furent obtenus au moyen de fraudes, la somme accordée dans le premier cas, $403,030,08, a été remboursée au Mexique et celle de WEIL sera retournée de la même manière.

"Une convention prolongeant indéfiniment la durée des travaux de la commission des limites fluviales entre les Etats-Unis et le Mexique a été signée."

La conférence Internationale de la Paix qui a siégé à la Haye occupe aussi l'attention du Président. A propos du Nicaragua, voici ce qu'il dit:

"Comme un incident de la courte révolution qui a éclatée dans le district Mosquito de Nicaragua au commencement de l'année 1899, les insurgents perçurent, par la force, des marchands américains, les droits sur les importations. Quand l'ordre fut restoré, les autorités du Nicaragua exigèrent un deuxième paiement de ces droits sous le pré-

texte qu'ils étaient dus au gouvernement titulaire et que leur détournement avait aidé à la révolte.

"Cette interprétation ne fut pas accepté par nous. Après une discussion prolongée, un compromis fut dressé par lequel le montant des seconds paiements serait déposé entre les mains du Consul Anglais à San Juan del Norte jusqu'à ce que les deux gouvernements aient déterminé si oui ou non les premiers paiements avaient été faits sous la contrainte d'une autorité de facto. Ils ne tombèrent pas d'accord quant à ceci, mais le Gouvernement de Nicaragua ayant demandé au Consul de retourner aux marchands les sommes déposées, la difficulté fut alors tranchée."

Des différends d'une certaine gravité, entre plusieurs Etats de l'Amérique Centrale, ont été réglés, dû aux bons offices de nos ministres. Voici les paragraphes du message qui ont rapport au canal maritime:

"Un sujet des plus importants et qui a pris une phase nouvelle est celui d'un canal inter-océanique. Le Gouvernement de Nicaragua persistant dans son refus de soulever de nouveau la question de forfaiture du contrat de la Compagnie du Canal Maritime, lequel fut annulé en octobre 1899 pour sa soi-disante non exécution, a, en outre, déclaré que la soi-disante option EYRE-CRAGIN avait été annulée pour le non-paiement des avances stipulées. Des protestations à ce sujet ont été reçues au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères et sont prises en considération. Se croyant lui-même relever de ses engagements existants, le Gouvernement de Nicaragua montre une disposition d'agir librement avec la question du canal, soit par la voie de négociations avec les Etats-Unis, soit en prenant des mesures pour favoriser le cours d'eau.

"On est en train d'étudier les propositions faites pour un traité ayant pour but la construction d'un canal sous les auspices des Etats-Unis. En même temps on peut attendre l'avis du Congrès à ce sujet, basé sur le rapport de la Commission chargée d'examiner les mérites comparatifs des différents projets présentés pour la construction d'un canal maritime à travers l'isthme.

"Je recommande au Sénat de donner, le plus tôt possible, son attention à la convention signée avec la Grande Bretagne pour faciliter la construction de ce canal et éloigner les difficultés qui pourraient surgir du traité communément appelé "traité Clayton-Bulwer."

"Un traité d'extradition a été dernièrement signé avec le Pérou avec les modifications qui y ont été apportées par le Sénat et ratifié par le Congrès Péruvien."

Le Président parle ensuite des réclamations américaines contre la Turquie, ainsi que de la nécessité pour le Congrès de prendre des mesures urgentes au sujet des conventions commerciales qui lui furent soumises lors de la dernière session. Voici comment il s'exprime:

"Depuis ma dernière communication au Congrès, des traités commerciaux spéciaux ont été signés avec le Portugal, l'Italie et l'Allemagne en conformité de la troisième section de la loi sur le tarif. Des

traités commerciaux, sous les restrictions de la quatrième section de la même loi, ont été conclus avec le Nicaragua, l'Equateur, la République Dominicaine, la Grande Bretagne en faveur de l'île Trinidad et avec le Danemark pour l'île Sainte-Croix. Ils seront bientôt soumis au Sénat. Des négociations avec les autres gouvernements sont en progrès pour l'amélioration et la sécurité de nos relations commerciales.

"La politique de réciprocité s'appuie si clairement sur les principes d'une équité internationale et a été maintes fois tellement approuvée par le peuple des Etats-Unis que le Congrès ne doit pas hésiter à la mettre en vigueur.

"Ce Gouvernement n'étant pas affecté par les rivalités industrielles nécessairement développées dans l'extension du commerce international, désire conserver avec les autres pays étrangers, les relations commerciales les plus amicales et les plus justes. On croit que les gouvernements étrangers en général ont les mêmes idées, quoique dans certain cas, on leur demande à grands cris une législation spécifiquement hostile aux intérêts américains. Dans le cas où ces demandes prévaudraient, j'en ferais part au Congrès en lui recommandant telle législation qui pourrait être nécessaire.

En ce qui concerne l'Exposition de Buffalo et le Congrès International Américain qui se réunira au Mexique, le Président dit:

"L'exposition des ressources et des produits de l'hémisphère occidental qui aura lieu à Buffalo l'année prochaine promet des résultats importants non seulement pour les Etats-Unis, mais encore pour les autres nations qui y participeront. Il est agréable de voir que les Etats de l'Amérique Latine s'y soient intéressés aussi vivement et le fait qu'un Congrès International Américain se réunira dans la ville de Mexico pendant que l'Exposition sera en progrès, fait espérer qu'il y aura à Buffalo un plus grand étalage qui autrement ne serait pas praticable. Le travail de préparer une exposition de nos richesses nationales fait des progrès satisfaisants sous la direction des divers fonctionnaires du Gouvernement Fédéral; et les Etats de l'Union se sont montrés disposés à y participer grandement.

"Le Bureau des Républiques Américaines," ajoute le Président, "continue, avec les résultats les plus heureux, l'œuvre importante d'étendre les relations cordiales qui existent entre les Etats-Unis et les pays de l'Amérique Latine, tous étant maintenant membres actifs de l'Union Internationale. C'est au Bureau auquel on doit l'organisation d'un autre Congrès International Américain qui se réunira dans la ville de Mexico au mois d'octobre 1901. Le futur du Bureau pour un autre terme de 10 années est assuré en vertu du contrat international; mais le Congrès aura indubitablement beaucoup à faire avec les nouveaux plans de ses travaux et de sa politique en général. Son utilité aux intérêts du commerce latin-américain est considérablement apprécié et démontre un développement satisfaisant."

Après avoir parlé du service consulaire américain et de l'efficacité

avec laquelle il s'occupe des intérêts qui lui ont été confiés et de l'augmentation des travaux du Bureau du Commerce Etranger dont l'objet principal est de compiler et publier les informations et de répondre aux demandes qui lui sont adressées au sujet des affaires dont il s'occupe, le message s'exprime ainsi au sujet de la situation économique du pays:

"Il est très agréable d'être capable de constater que l'excédent des revenus pour l'année fiscale finissant le 30 juin 1900 se montait à $79,527,060.18. Pendant les six années précédentes, nous n'avons eu que des déficits montant de 1894 à 1899 inclus à $283,022,991.14. Les recettes de toutes sources, y compris celles postales, se sont montées pour l'année à $567,240,851.89 et toutes les dépenses, à part celles de l'administration du Ministère des Postes, se sont montées à $487,713,-791.71. Les recettes douanières étaient $233,164,871.16, soit $27,036,-389.41 de plus que l'année précédente. Les recettes provenant des revenus intérieurs se montaient à $295,227,926.76, soit $21,890,765.25 de plus qu'en 1899. Les recettes provenant de sources diverses s'élevaient à $38,748,053.97 contre $36,394,976.92 pendant l'année antérieure.

"Il faut aussi constater avec plaisir que pendant l'année, les dépenses du Gouvernement ont été cousidérablement réduites. Les dépenses du Ministère de la Guerre pour l'année fiscale 1900 se montaient à $134,774,767.78, soit $95,066,486.69 de moins que celles de 1899. Celles du Ministère de la Marine s'élevaient à $55,953,077.72 pour l'année 1900, contre $63,942,104.25 pour l'année précédente, ou une diminution de $7,989,026.58. Les dépenses pour les Indiens étaient en 1900 $2,630,604.38 moindre qu'en 1899; quant aux dépenses civiles et diverses elle ont été réduites en 1900 de $13,418,065.74.

"Par suite de l'excédent des recettes sur les dépenses, le Ministre des Finances a pu affecter les bons et les autres garanties aux fonds d'amortissement pour la somme de $56,544,556.06. Les détails des fonds d'amortissement sont donnés dans le rapport du Ministre des Finances sur lequel j'invite l'attention. Le Ministre des Finances estime que les recettes pour l'année fiscale courante se monteront à $580,000,000 et les dépenses à $500,000,000, laissant un excédent de recettes sur les dépenses de $80,000,000. Les finances du Trésor se trouvent actuellement dans les meilleures conditions possibles. Il existait en caisse, au 30 novembre, en argent comptant, une balance disponible de $139,303,794.50. Si on avait suivi la méthode employée antérieurement à la loi financière du 14 mars dernier, on aurait compris dans le compte du numéraire disponible, la monnaie et les lingots d'or mis en réserve pour le rachat du papier-monnaie des Etats-Unis. Si cette manière d'agir avait été adoptée, la balance en argent comptant, y compris la réserve actuelle d'or de $150,000,000, aurait été de $289,303,794.50. Cette balance était le 30 novembre 1899 de $296,495,301.55. Les fonds généraux qui sont entièrement séparés

de la réserve et ceux mis en dépôt, comprenaient le 30 novembre, $70,090,073.15 en monnaie et lingôts d'or auxquels il faut ajouter $22,957,300 de billets du Trésor remboursables en or, sujets à émission et pour lesquels il y a en réserve dans la division chargé des rachats (division of redemption) de la monnaie et des lingôts d'or, montant la réserve totale d'or disponible à $93,048,373.15.

"Ce sera le devoir du Congrès, et je suis certain qu'il le remplira, de passer les lois nécessaires pour assurer la continuation de la parité, sous toutes les conditions, entre nos deux formes de monnaies métalliques, l'argent et l'or.

"Le surplus de nos revenues a permis au Ministre des Finances, depuis que l'année fiscale est terminée, de payer la dette consolidée de 1891, continuée à 2 pour cent, pour la somme de $25,364,500. Jusqu'au 30 novembre inclus, $23,458,100 de ces obligations ont été remboursées. Cette somme ajoutée au montant qui peut encore résulter d'autres rachats, sera affectée aux fonds d'amortîssements.

"La loi du 14 mars 1900 ordonne de convertir en valeur du 2 pour cent, pour trente ans (le capital et les intérêts payables en monnaie d'or courante) cette partie de la dette publique représentée par les valeurs du 3 pour cent de 1908, du 4 pour cent de 1907 et du 5 pour cent de 1904 dont le montant $839,149,930 n'était pas encore payé quand la dite loi fut promulguée.

"Du 14 mars au 30 novembre, les porteurs des anciennes valeurs présentèrent ces dernières pour les faire échanger contre la somme de $364,943,750. Les économies nettes que ces transactions ont produites au Gouvernement se montent à $9,106,166.

"Un autre effet de l'opération, comme il est établi par le Ministre des Finances, est de réduire les dépenses du Trésor, en ce qui concerne le paiement des intérêts, depuis les dates des remboursements au 1er février 1904, de la somme annuelle de plus de sept millions de dollars. Du 1er février 1905 au 1er juillet 1907, les intérêts annuels seront réduits de plus de cinq millions et pour les treize mois finissant le 1er août 1908, d'environ un million. Le Ministre des Finances donne dans son rapport annuel tous les détails concernant ces remboursements."

Le message parle ensuite du nombre de banques qui ont été créées conformément à la nouvelle loi et de l'augmentation de la circulation des billets des banques nationales résultant de cette loi et qui, du 14 mars au 30 novembre inclus, a atteint le chiffre de $77,889,570.

Au sujet du commerce, voici ce que dit le message:

"Notre commerce extérieur est une preuve admirable du progrès industriel du pays. Pour la première fois dans les annales du pays, le total de nos importations et de nos exportations a dépassé deux billions de dollars. Les exportations sont plus grandes que jamais, le total pour l'année fiscale 1900 étant de $1,394,483,082, soit 167,459,780

dollars de plus qu'en 1899; $163,000,752 de plus qu'en 1898; $343,489,562 de plus qu'en 1897, et $511,876,141 de plus qu'en 1896.

"Le développement de l'industrie manufacturière aux Etats-Unis est démontré par le fait que les exportations des produits manufacturés excèdent grandement celles de n'importe quelle année antérieure, leur valeur pour 1890 étant $433,851,756 contre $339,592,146 en 1899, soit une augmentation de 28 pour cent.

"Les produits agricoles furent aussi exportés pendant l'année 1890 en plus grande quantité qu'en 1899, le total pour l'année étant de $835,858,123 contre $784,776,142 en 1899.

"Les importations pour l'année se sont montées à $849,941,184, soit $152,792,695 de plus qu'en 1899. L'augmentation se fait surtout remarquer dans le matériel pour les manufactures et est en rapport au développement rapide de l'industrie aux Etats-Unis.

"Quoique pendant l'année 1900 la valeur du matériel employé dans les manufactures ait excédé de $79,768,972 celle de 1899, il faut remarquer cependant que les importations des articles manufacturés prêts à être consommés tendent à diminuer, ces derniers formant en 1900 15.17 pour cent du total des importations contre 15.54 pour cent en 1899 et 21.09 pour cent en 1896."

Le Président recommande que pendant les sessions présentes, le Congrès réduise les impôts intérieurs créés pour faire face aux dépenses de la guerre avec l'Espagne de la somme de $30,000,000, et il indique la manière de procéder. Au sujet de la marine marchande américaine, il s'exprime ainsi :

"Pendant les trois années qui viennent de s'écouler, les vaisseaux américains ont transporté environ 9 pour cent de nos exportations et importations. Les bâtiments étrangers devraient transporter la plus petite et non la plus grande partie du trafic américain. Le développement remarquable de nos aciéries, les progrès faits dans la construction des navires pour le commerce du pays et les dépenses que nous faisons continuellement pour la marine offrent l'occasion aux Etats-Unis d'occuper le premier rang parmi les pouvoirs maritimes commerciaux. Par ce moyen, non seulement on atteindra les aspirations du pays mais encore on établira solidement sur toutes nos côtes, le développement d'une industrie vraiment nationale en donnant ainsi une plus grande étendue à l'emploi profitable du travail et du capital.

"Elle augmentera non seulement les facilités de transport, réduira les prix du fret de la grande quantité de produits qui arrivent de l'intérieur aux ports de mer pour être exportés, mais encore sera une arme puissante pour la défense nationale sur laquelle les fondateurs du Gouvernement et leurs successeurs ont mis toute leur confiance. * * *

La question de monopole est traitée par le Président; il en est de même des Philippines qui occupent une grande partie du message dans lequel il fait un compte rendu minutieux des évènements qui s'y sont pro-

duits. Cuba et Porto Rico reçoivent aussi une attention toute spéciale, et le Président annonce le succès du gouvernement civil établi à Porto Rico conformément à la loi passée par le Congrès et l'état satisfaisant de l'administration de l'île. En ce qui concerne Cuba, il fait mention des élections et d'autres affaires d'intérêts pour le bien de l'île. Il parle aussi de la nécessité d'établir une communication par cable avec les îles d'Hawaï et les Philippines. Au sujet de l'armée et des fortifications, le message s'exprime ainsi:

"La force actuelle de l'armée est de 100,000 hommes, 65,000 troupes régulières et 35,000 volontaires. D'après la loi du 2 mars 1899, les volontaires seront renvoyés dans leur foyer le 30 juin prochain et l'armée régulière sera réduite à 2,447 officiers et 29,025 hommes. Plus de 60,000,000 de dollars ont été dépensés pour un grand nombre de forts et de canons avec les mécanismes les plus compliqués et les plus scientifiques et les accessoires électriques nécessaires à leurs usages. Ces engins de guerre réclament des soins particuliers de la part d'hommes expérimentés et le nombre requis pour s'acquitter seulement de ce devoir est fixé par le Ministère de la Guerre à 18,420 au minimum."

La marine de guerre occupe aussi l'attention du Président; il en est de même de toutes les autres affaires qui se rapportent aux différentes branches administratives.

En ce qui concerne les brevets d'invention et les marques de fabriques, le message dit que pendant l'année fiscale finissant le 30 juin 1900, on a accordé 26,540 brevets d'inventions, 1,660 marques de fabriques, 682 étiquettes et 93 gravures enregistrées. Le nombre de brevets expirés se montait à 19,988. Le total des recettes provenant des brevets se montait à $1,358,228.35; les dépenses s'élevaient à $1,247,827.58, soit un surplus de recettes de 110,400.77 dollars.

Après s'être occupé de Hawaï, du recensement et d'autres affaires intérieures, des grands travaux du Ministère de l'Agriculture, de la loi sur les contrats des travailleurs étrangers, et d'autres questions de la plus haute importance, le message termine ainsi:

"Dans notre grande prospérité, nous devons nous garder contre le danger de nous laisser aller à des extravagances dans les dépenses gouvernementales et les sommes allouées; les Représentants choisis par le peuple donneront, je n'en doute pas, dans leurs lois, une preuve de cette sage économie qui, dans une saison abondante, épargne pour l'avenir. Dans cette ère d'une grande activité et d'occasions, la prudence n'est pas prématurée; elle ne diminuera pas, mais augmentera la confiance; elle ne retardera pas, mais développera l'extension commerciale et industrielle. Notre puissance croissante entraîne avec elle des tentations et des périls requérant, pour être évités, une vigilance constante; nous ne devons pas l'employer pour rechercher les conflits ni pour opprimer nos semblables, mais pour maintenir, d'une manière

plus effective, les principes d'égalité et de justice sur lesquels dépendent nos institutions et notre bonheur. Souvenons-nous toujours que la fondation du Gouvernement est la liberté sur laquelle repose la paix.

CONDITION DE L'AGRICULTURE.

L'estimation préliminaire du rendement moyen, par acre, du maïs en 1900, comme l'a publiée le Ministère de l'Agiculture des Etats-Unis, est 25.3 boisseaux contre un rendement moyen de 25.31 boisseaux en 1899, et une moyenne de 10 années de 24.1 boisseaux. Quant à la qualité, la moyenne est 85.5 pour cent contre 87.2 pour cent en 1899.

L'estimation, par acre, du rendement du sarrasin est 15 boisseaux, contre un rendement moyen de 16.36 boisseaux en 1899 et une moyenne, pendant 10 années, de 16.8 boisseaux.

Le rendement moyen, par acre, des pommes de terre est 80.8 boisseaux contre une moyenne de 10 ans de 76.6 boisseaux. Quant à la qualité, la moyenne est 88.1 pour cent.

Le rendement moyen, par acre, du foin est 1.28 tonnes qui est le même que la moyenne de 10 années. Quant à la qualité, la moyenne est 89.7 pour cent.

COMMERCE D'EXPORTATION EN OCTOBRE 1900.

Les statistiques officielles du Ministère des Finances montrent que jamais, dans les annales commerciales des Etats-Unis, les exportations de marchandises ont été aussi grandes qu'en octobre, 1900. Pendant ce mois l'excédent des exportations de marchandises s'est élevé à $92,475,226, soit plus de mille millions par an. L'énormité de cette balance est en partie démontrée par le fait que le total des exportations ne se montait en 1898 qu' à $695,954,507. Pendant le mois d'octobre, 1900, le total des exportations de marchandises s'est élevé à $163,093,597. Les exportations en octobre, 1899, étaient évaluées à $125,966,527 et celles du mois d'octobre, 1898, à $118,619,563. Les importations pour le mois d'octobre, 1900, se montaient à $70,618,371 contre $72,232,238 pour le mois correspondant de 1899.

Les chiffres pour les 10 mois finissant le 31 octobre montrent un excédent d'exportations de $499,667,936. La valeur totale des exportations pour les 10 mois de 1900 se montait à $1,194,775,205, soit $166,331,178 de plus que pendant la même période de 1899. La valeur des importations pour les 10 mois de 1900 dépassait de $36,-972,633 celle des importations pendant les mois correspondants de 1899, donnant un total général de $695,107,269.

LES IMPORTATIONS DE PRODUITS AGRICOLES.

Le Département de l'Agriculture des Etats-Unis vient de publier d'intéressantes statistiques sur les importations de produits agricoles aux Etats-Unis qui, comme on va le voir, sont encore sous ce rapport tributaires de nombreuses contrées étrangères. La valeur de ces

importations s'est élevée en 1899 à 367 millions de dollars, en nombre rond.

Du Brésil, il est arrivé pour 49 millions de cafés; d'Angleterre, pour 34 millions de laine, de plumes et de cuirs; de Cuba, pour 27 millions de sucre brut et 6 millions de tabac; d'Allemagne pour 14 millions de sucre de betterave, 2 millions de peaux et 1 million de vins; du Japon, pour 13 millions de soies et 5 millions de thé; de la Chine, pour 7 millions de thé, autant de soies brutes et 1 million d'opium; d'Italie, pour 6 millions de soies, 5 millions d'oranges et de citrons, 1 million d'huile et 1 million de vins; des îles Sandwich, pour 13 millions de sucre brut; des Antilles, pour 14 millions de sucre et 2 millions de cafés; du Mexique, pour 15 millions de cafés, 2 millions de peau, un million ½ de vanille; du Canada, pour 10 millions de peaux, de laines et de bestiaux sur pied; des républiques de l'Amérique Centrale, des Philippines et des petites contrées d'Europe, pour environ 10 millions de produits divers.

Le total des importations provenant de France dépasse 17 millions de dollars, se décomposant comme suit:

Vins, $4,209,000, dont $3,309,000 de champagne; peaux et cuirs, $2,406,000; soies, $1,477,000; noix et fruits, $1,091,000; huile, $932,000, dont $464,000 d'huile d'olive; argols ou crême de tartre, $69,000; eaux-de-vie, $620,000.

On voit par ces chiffres que les Etats-Unis, malgré leurs ressources et la diversité du climat, sont tributaires sous le rapport de certains produits bruts d'un grand nombre de contrées étrangères.

LA RÉCOLTE ET L'INDUSTRIE DU COTON EN 1899–1900.

Les données ci-après ont été extraites du rapport annuel, récemment paru, du secrétaire de la Bourse de coton de la Nouvelle-Orléans.

La récolte de l'année se terminant au 31 août 1900 s'élève à 9,436,416 balles, soit une diminution sur celle de 1898–99 de 1,838,424 balles et de 1,763,578 balles sur celle de 1897–98, mais une augmentation sur celle de 1896–97 de 678,452 balles. Plus de 50 pour cent de la diminution sur l'année dernière provient du Texas et du Territoire Indien, dont la production a baissé de 27 pour cent; alors que pour les Etats de l'Atlantique et du Golfe, ce décroissement n'a été que de 11 pour cent.

Pendant plusieurs mois après l'ouverture de la saison, les différences les plus marquées existaient des deux côtés de l'Atlantique sur les probabilités de la récolte, les opinions variant entre 8,500,000 balles et 11,000,000 au plus. Le caractère du mouvement fit bientôt pencher les probabilités du côté d'une petite récolte, et par suite de l'accroissement de la demande, les prix montèrent graduellement mais régulièrement d'une moyenne, pour les Etats-Unis, de 6.07 cents en septembre à 7.46 en janvier et 9.34 en avril, "l'étranglement" de juillet forçant le coton disponible à 10¼ cents à la Nouvelle-Orléans.

La valeur commerciale moyenne de la récolte est de $38.55 par balle,

contre $25.08 l'année dernière, $28.62 l'année d'avant, et $36.76 en 1896–97.

En résumé, le Sud a obtenu, pour une récolte inférieure de 1,831,424 balles à celle de l'année dernière, $81,011,833 de plus, et l'on peut dire, sans crainte d'être démenti, que depuis la guerre aucune récolte n'a été plus productive au point de vue financier.

Jamais la consomation des filatures indigènes n'a été aussi forte que pendant l'année commerciale qui vient de finir. Il y a deux ou trois mois, la demande pour les cotonnades était des plus actives, et malgré la forte hausse de la matière due à la faiblesse de la récolte et au peu d'importance des stocks dans le monde, tous les métiers disponibles du pays étaient en activité. Les affaires de Chine ont causé l'arrêt soudain de cette activité, mais cet effet ne s'est produit qu'après qu'on eut atteint, pour la consommation du coton, un chiffre supérieur à tous ceux des années précédentes.

La consommation du coton américain par les filatures du Nord peut être évaluée à 2,300,000 balles. Comme ces filatures ont pris environ 122,000 balles de moins que l'année dernière, elles ont puisé aux 412,000 en réserve au 1er septembre 1899 jusqu'à concurrence de 232,000, lui laissant ainsi un stock actuel de 180,000 balles.

Dans le Sud, l'accroissement énorme des broches et de la consommation non seulement continue, mais encore s'accentue. Le nombre de broches dans les filatures en activité a augmenté d'au moins 800,000, et, de plus, il ressort des dernières informations recues, que l'on monte actuellement 1,418,000 nouvelles broches, ce qui donne un total de 6,267,000. Il convient d'ajouter qu'il est question d'ouvrir sous peu un certain nombre de nouvelles usines.

Prise dans son ensemble, l'année 1899–1900 a été prospère pour le fabricant et pour le planteur. Le grand développment de l'industrie contonnière rend absolument nécessaire celui des débouchés, et cette question est sérieusement agitée par les filatures. L'arrêt causé par les évènements de Chine démontre d'une façon évidente que les Etats-Unis sont arrivés à un point où le pays ne peut pas consommer la totalité des produits fabriqués. Les filatures indigènes tendent tous les jours de plus en plus à employer eux-mêmes le majeure parti du coton produit dans le pays, et il est certian que, dans un temps donné, ils y arriveront. Les conditions économiques sont en leur faveur, surtout dans le Sud, qui est le pays producteur. La nécessité d'un canal à travers l'isthme créant une route plus courte et moins dispendieuse vers les centres de consommation de l'orient n'a jamais été plus évidente qu'à présent. Pour les filateurs et les planteurs du Sud, elle est de la plus haute importance.

Pendant l'année qui vient de finir, la consommation de coton américain des deux côtés de l'Atlantique s'est élevée à 11,022,000 balles contre 10,768,000 l'année précédente.

L'industrie cotonnière du Sud, qui a fait tant de progrès depuis quelques années, prend un développement de plus en plus considérable. On trouve des usines maintenant dans presque tous les Etats de cette région et on en construit sans cesse de nouvelles, munies de toutes les machines modernes qui, partout du reste, ont remplacé l'ancien outillage. Au 1er septembre, on comptait 663 filatures de coton en opération ou sur le point d'ouvrir, alors qu'il y a dix ans il n'en existait que 327. En 1860 le nombre de broches dans les filatures de coton du Sud n'était que de 295,250; en 1890 il était de 1,819,291, et en 1900 il s'est élevé à 6,267,167.

Ces chiffres sont plus éloquents que toutes les dissertations. Ils prouvent que les Américains du Sud ont établi une industrie indigène qu'ils continueront à développer, et avec tous les avantages en leur faveur, ce n'est plus qu'une question de temps pour voir arriver le jour où ils manufactureront toute la matière première qu'ils produisent. Peu à peu les intermédiaires entre le producteur et le consommateur seront éliminés. Une des filatures les plus importantes a consommé l'année dernière plus de six millions de livres de coton brut acheté en graines et reçu directement à l'usine sans être mis en balles. Beaucour de fabriques sont bâties à des distances assez rapprochées des plantations pour pouvoir opérer leurs achats de cette façon. Il est donc facile de se rendre compte de l'économie réalisée.

Pour la saison qui vient de finir, l'augmentation des balles consommées est la plus forte connue. Pendant la majeur partie de l'année, les filatures du Sud ont été très occupées et ils le seraient encore si les évènements de Chine ne s'étaient pas produits.

La consommation moyenne par broche dans les filatures du midi a été de 7.93 livres de moins que l'année dernière et de 1.08 inférieure à celle de l'année précédente, ce qui est attribuable en grande partie au filage de numéros plus fins.

Mr. H. M. Neill, une autorité compétente en ce qui concerne le coton, estime que la récolte de coton aux Etats-Unis pour l'année courante produira, au maximum, 9,750,000 balles. Les indices sont que le nombre de balles sera plutôt petit que grand, la provision diminuant visiblement. On estime que la provision totale ne sera, au 1er septembre 1901, que de 820,000 balles contre 1,400,000 balles le 1er septembre 1900. Voici quelles sont, en détail, les estimations de Mr. Neill, les chiffres suivant représentant le nombre de balles: Etats de l'Atlantique, 3,200,000; Etats du Golfe, 2,800,000; les Texas et le Territoire Indien, 3,500,000; avec une provision inconnue suffisante pour faire plus de 250,000 balles.

AUGMENTATION DE LA POPULATION DE HAWAÏ.

Le premier recensement des îles Sandwich eut lieu en 1832 et fut suivi par d'autres en 1836, 1850, 1853 et 1860, que l'on dit avoir été

très simples et d'un caractère rudimentaire. Jusqu'en 1855, aucun recensement ne fut fait à des périodes régulières, mais à cette époque, l'assemblée législative chargea le conseil de l'instruction publique de faire, tous les six ans, à partir de l'année 1860, un dénombrement complet de la population du royaume.

Pour se conformer à cette requête, le recensement des îles Sandwich se fit tous les six ans, de 1866 à 1896 inclus. Le recensement de 1900 fut fait pour la première fois par les Etats-Unis, comme faisant partie du travail du12ème recensement de ce pays, le Directeur du recensement ayant été autorisé par la loi à prendre les mesures nécessaires pour le dénombrement de la population et l'énumération des produits des possessions insulaires.

Le premier recensement des Iles Sandwich, quif ut fait en 1832, montra une population de 130,313 habitants, mais chaque recensement qui suivit jusqu' à la fin de 1872 montra une diminution, les rapports officiels en 1872 ne donnant seulement qu'une population de 56,897 habitants, ou une diminution depuis 1832 de 73,416 habitants ou de 56.3 pour cent.

Le recensement de 1878 constata seulement une légère augmentation sur celui de 1872, mais pendant les six années qui suivirent, la population augmenta rapidement et le recensement de 1884 montra une population de 80,578 habitants ou une augmentation depuis 1878 de près de 39 pour cent. De 1884 à 1890, la population a augmenté de 11.6 pour cent et de 1890 à 1896, de 21.1 pour cent; la population totale étant, en 1896, de 109,020 habitants.

Pendant les quatre années, de 1896 à 1890, le percentage de l'augmentation a presque doublé, le dernier recensement montrant une population de 154,001, soit une augmentation de 44,981 habitants ou de 41.2 pour cent. Pendant les dix dernières années, de 1890 à 1900, la population a augmenté de 64,011 habitants ou de 71.1 pour cent.

La surface totale du territoire des Iles Sandwich est approximativement de 6,449 milles carrés, le nombre de personnes par mille carré étant, en moyenne, d'après les trois derniers recensements comme suit: 1890, 13.9; 1896, 16.9; 1900, 23.8.

La population de la ville de Honoloulou est de 39,306 habitants. En 1890 elle se montait à 22,907 habitants, soit une augmentation de 16,399 âmes ou de 71.5 pour cent. En 1896 on constatait une population de 29,920 habitants, et d'après le recensement qui s'est fait dernièrement, ou constate une augmentation en quatre ans de 9,386 habitants ou de 31.3 pour cent.

VENTES DE CHAUSSURES AMÉRICAINES EN ANGLETERRE.

Parmi les moyens employés pour développer la vente de chaussures de fabrication nord-américaines en Angleterre, l'établissement, par des

fabricants américains, de magasins de détail dans le Royaume-Uni joue un rôle important.

Quelques grands industriels américains y trouvent un sérieux profit, grâce à certaines particularités du commerce des chaussures en Angleterre. Le négociant anglais accorde généralement de si longs crédits et se trouve à découvert pour des sommes si importantes, qu'il n'est pas en état de tenir un grand magasin. Il en résulte que dans les magasins anglais on n'a pas, comme aux Etats-Unis, la faculté de choisir dans des séries de 5 à 7 numéros. Le négociant se trouve souvent de ce chef dans l'impossibilité de satisfaire ses clients et il les engage à acheter sur mesure, ce qui déplaît à un bon nombre de personnes. En outre, les succursales des maisons nord-américaines se signalent par des bas prix mis sous les yeux du public à l'étalage, et le paiement au comptant est la règle uniforme. La clientèle anglaise préfère opérer ses achats immédiatement et au comptant plutôt que de s'approvisionner d'une manière insuffisante à crédit, en s'exposant à des pertes de temps.

L'INDUSTRIE INDIENNE.

La vannerie et le tissage des couvertures de laine sont presque les seules industries des Indiens des Etats-Unis, et leurs produits montrent combien ils apprécient la couleur, la forme et la beauté de la nature. Il n'y a qu'une seule tribu qui manufacture les couvertures de laine, élève les moutons, les tond, file la laine, tisse le fil sur des métiers de forme primitive et fait des couvertures dont la texture est si fine qu'elles sont ardemment recherchées par les meilleures familles de race blanche du pays. Ces convertures sont manufacturées par les Navajos, Indiens des territoires et des Etats du Pacifique.

Quand les colons européens vinrent pour la première fois s'établir en Amérique, ils découvrirent que les paniers étaient les principaux et presque les seuls articles que fabriquaient les Indiens. Ces paniers n'étaient cependant que des réceptacles ordinaires et ne pouvaient en aucune façon être comparés à ceux manufacturés par les Indiens Navajos pendant le siècle dernier. Ces derniers sont réellement des œuvres d'art. Le Musée National de New York a acheté récemment, pour la somme de 5,000 dollars, une collection de paniers de Navajo et il y a en Californie quelques collections privées parmi lesquelles se trouvent des specimens qui sont évalués à 800 dollars chacun. Ces paniers sont presque entièrement le travail des femmes indiennes (squaws) qui sont trés fières de leurs œuvres. Une particularité qui leur donne une plus grande valeur est le fait qu'aucun panier ne se ressemble soit comme forme ou dessin. Les paniers que ces femmes fabriquent pour les marchés sont entièrement différents de ceux qu'elles tressent pour leur usage personnel, ces derniers étant presque toujours embellis de symboles religieux et de portraits de la vie de famille.

PLACEMENTS DE CAPITAUX DANS L'OHIO.

Le rapport annuel du Secrétaire d'Etat montre que pendant l'année finissant le 15 novembre 1900 les capitaux qui ont été placés dans de nouvelles entreprises dans l'Etat de Ohio se sont montés à $77,593,199. Ce rapport montre aussi qu'en dehors de cette somme des capitaux montant à $35,446.90 ont été ajoutés à ceux déjà placés dans des entreprises en opération avant le commencement de l'année, montant à $113,040,099 les fonds placés en 12 mois.

LA VENTE DES LIVRES AU MEXIQUE.

D'après le "Mexican Herald" le Mexique achète plus de livres aux Etats-Unis que la France et presque autant que l'Allemagne. L'extension de ce commerce, dit ce journal, est due, en grande partie, à la grande population d'Américains des Etats-Unis qui résident dans les villes du Mexique, aux nombreuses demandes de ceux qui exploitent les gisements miniers du Mexique et aussi à l'étendue de cette langue parmi le peuple mexicain. Il y a une grande tendance dans la ville de Mexico à favoriser la popularisation de la langue anglaise qui est apprise non seulement par des hommes professionnels, mais encore par des milliers d'adolescents. Quelques grandes maisons d'éducation font apprendre à leurs élèves l'anglais avant le français.

HAÏTI.

NOUVEAUX DROITS D'EXPORTATION.

"Le Moniteur" du 22 Août, 1900, publie la loi du 30 juillet 1900, établissant des droits applicables à l'exportation de certain produits.

ART. 1er. A partir du 1er Octobre prochain, les articles suivants payeront:

[En gourdes or américain.]

		Droits.
1. Peaux de chèvre ou de cabri, de mouton, de cochon	livre	0. 01½
2. Gomme gaïac	100 livres	0. 50
3. Bœufs	tête	1. 00
4. Chevaux	do	0. 75
5. Anes	do	0. 50
6. Cabris, moutons, cochons	do	0. 15

ART. 2. Les surtaxes de 20 et 10 pour cent ne seront prélevées que sur les peaux et la gomme gaïac.

PARAGUAY.

RÉGIME APPLICABLE AUX VOYAGEURS DE COMMERCE DE MAISONS ÉTRANGÈRES.

Aux termes de la loi du 28 novembre 1898, dit le "Bulletin Commercial", de Bruxelles, les voyageurs de commerce qui voyagent dans la République du Paraguay, avec ou sans échantillons, sont assujettis au paiement d'une patente fixe, personnelle et intransférable de 2,500 francs par semestre. Ce paiement doit être effectué entre les mains de la municipalité de l'Assomption.

L'administration des douanes exige des voyageurs de commerce ou commissionaires, important des échantillons pouvant être réalisés comme marchandises, une caution garantissant le montant des droits à payer pour ces articles en cas de vente. Cette caution est restituée si les échantillons ne sont pas vendus et sont réexportés.

DÉBOUCHÉ POUR LES CHAPEAUX DE FEUTRE.

D'après un rapport du Vice-Consul des Etats-Unis à Assomption, les chapeaux de feutre pour hommes sont importés du Paraguay, d'Angleterre, de France, de Buenos-Ayres et de Montévidéo. Les prix de vente sont exorbitants et atteignent le double de ceux qui sont pratiqués aux Etats-Unis pour des articles de même qualité. Les feutres mous y sont très demandés et c'est l'article qui laisse les plus beaux bénéfices. En général, la qualité des chapeaux les plus en vogue est bonne mais non supérieure.

URUGUAY.

RÉGIME APPLICABLE AUX VOYAGEURS DE COMMERCE DE MAISONS ÉTRANGÈRES.

On lit dans le "Bulletin Commercial" que les voyageurs de commerce qui se rendent dans l'Uruguay sont tenus, avant de commencer leurs opérations, d'adresser à la direction des impôts directs une demande écrite sur papier timbré de 3e classe (50 centavos, or) tendant à obtenir la délivrance de la patente requise, demande à laquelle doit être joint le montant de la somme à acquitter.

Le coût de la patente, laquelle est valable du 1er janvier au 31 décembre, est de 100 piastres, or. Toutefois, le coût est réduit de moitié lorsque la patente est demandée pendant le 3e trimestre de l'année, et des trois-quarts quand elle est prise au cours des trois derniers mois.

Il est recommendé aux voyageurs de commerce de se munir d'un passeport délivré par les autorités de leur pays.

Les échantillons qui accompagnent les voyageurs de commerce sont admis sur simple production de la patente, contre retrait du permis d'introduction et paiement des droits d'entrée s'l y a lieu, le tout conformément aux dispositions du tarif douanier en vigueur et des lois y annexées.

L'importation des armes et des munitions de guerre est subordonnée à l'autorisation du ministère de la guerre et de la marine.

NOUVELLES INDUSTRIES.

Parmi les nouvelles industries en voie d'établissement dans l'Uruguay et qui, paraissent appelées à un développement facile le "Nouveau Monde" signale, à titre d'indication, une fabrique d'huile de coco qui fera venir la matière première du Paraguay, et une fabrique de beurre. Les promoteurs de cette dernière ont l'intention d'établir leur industrie sur une vaste échelle en utilisant la matière première nauturellement très abondante dans l'intérieur du pays et dont une grande partie restait sans emploi jusqu'à présent. Ce sera un nouveau débouché pour les produits de l'élevage local et les beurres de l'Uruguay pourraient bien tôt faire concurrence aux beurres salés de l'Australie sur les marchés européens.

L'INDUSTRIE DE LA GRAINE DU COTON.

Le coton, dont le génie inventif de l'homme peut seul en limiter les usages, est le textile le plus connu et est employé dans toutes sortes de manufactures. Il se consomme actuellement chaque année dans le monde environ 14,000,000 balles de coton pesant chacune 500 livres, quantité requise pour permettre aux 105,000,000 broches qui se trouvent dans les filatures, d'opérer. Tout ce coton pourrait être produit aux Etats-Unis si les prix se maintenaient au taux actuel.

Mais la fibre n'est pas le seul produit du cotonnier. Il n'y a probablement aucune grande industrie aux Etats-Unis qui soit moins connue des nations étrangères et même du public américain en général que celle de la graine du coton. Il y a moins de vingt ans, les planteurs de coton du pays se débarrassaient, par tous les moyens possibles, de cette graine, la considérant sans aucune valeur; aujourd 'hui les huileries du Texas et des autres Etats méridionaux la payent de 12 à 14 dollars la tonne. Quoique le procédé employé pour faire de l'huile avec cette graine soit encore dans son enfance, il existe actuellement plus de 500 huileries dans les Etats du Sud, représentant un capital de près de $25,000,000 qui fournissent annuellement pour $5,000,000 environ de produits. Le nombre de personnes employées dans chacun de ces établissements se monte en moyenne à 40, de sorte que cette industrie procure du travail à plus de 20,000 individus. Une huilerie a

besoin d'un grand espace, ce qui fait qu'elle est rarement située dans une ville; sa construction et son matériel d'exploitation coûtent environ $50,000. La plus grande huilerie de coton du monde est située près de Sherman, Texas, et a une capacité telle qu'elle peut broyer quotidiennement 450 tonnes de graines et appartient à la "Sherman Oil and Cotton Company," qui possède, outre l'établissement principal, des raffineries, des fabriques de barils, des savonneries, des effilocheurs, des égreneuses, des parcs à bestiaux pour nourir le bétail et un grand nombre d'autes industries dépendant de l'huilerie.

Le résidu des graines de coton, une fois l'huile extraite, est transformé en aliment pour les animaux domestiques et sert aussi à fertiliser le sol. L'huile est épurée et classée; une partie étant employée comme aliment, une autre brulée dans les lampes des mineurs et une autre, enfin, servant dans le lubrifiage et aussi dans la fabrication des chandelles et du savon. Toutes les plus grandes fabriques de conserves alimentaires sont vivement intéressées dans cette industrie et emploient de grandes quantités de cette huile dans la fabrication du lard et la substitue aussi au beurre. L'angleterre et l'allemagne sont les meilleures pratiques des huileries de coton des Etats-Unis et les exportations d'huile de coton et de tourteau viennent, comme importance, inmédiatement après celles du coton proprement dit dans la plupart des ports méridionaux.

La France et l'Italie achètent aussi de grandes quantités d'huile de coton américaine. Jadis la France fabriquait, en assez grande quantité, de l'huile avec l'Ararchide hypogée ou pistache de terre des Antilles et de l'Afrique, mais l'industrie de l'huile de coton a supplanté cette dernière et des cargaisons de cette huile partiellement épurée sont expédiées maintenant des ports de la Nouvelle Orléans et de Galveston à Marseilles où elles sont de nouveau épurées et perfectionées par les procédés français. Tous les ans une quantité considérable de ce produit est expédiée à Gênes qui, dit-on, la réexpédie comme huile d'olive pure. La graine de coton a une lougueur de moins de la moitié d'un pouce et lorsqu'elle a atteint tout son développement, a un diamètre de trois huitième d'un pouce. Elle est très légère, parait molle à cause du duvet long et soyeux qui l'enveloppe et ne donne aucune indication de l'huile, des substances nutritives et de l'engrais qu'elle contient. Il y a, dit un correspondant du "New York Commercial" six procédés différents pour fabriquer l'huile, ce sont: le nettoyage, la séparation du duvet de la graine au moyen de scies spéciales, la séparation de la coque de la graine, la trituration, la cuisson de la masse broyée, la formation de tourteaux et l'extraction de l'huile.

Quand on décharge les graines des chariots et des vagons, on les transporte généralement dans des entrepôts au moyen d'une machine spéciale qui a un fond en fer percé de trous permettant au sable et à la poussière de passer, la quantité de matières rejetées étant générale-

ment d'environ 3 pour cent. Quand on veut pressurer la graine, on la place dans un crible qui enlève toutes les capsules et toute autre matière étrangère plus grosse que la graine; de là elle passe dans un autre crible qui la débarasse de toutes les autres substances étrangères plus petites, et enfin elle va dans des machines, "linters," qui enlèvent le coton qui y est adhérent.

Quand la graine passe par ces machines, on emploie des aimants très forts pour attirer toutes les substances métalliques qui pourraient s'y trouver, émousser les scies et empêcher ainsi le travail de se faire convenablement. Ces machines enlèvent la moindre parcelle de coton qui adhère aux graines. Ces dernières passent ensuite dans des machines à décortiquer, sous lesquelles se trouvent généralement des batteurs. Tout cette masse nétoyée passe alors sous des cylindres broyeurs qui en expriment toute l'huile qu'elle peut contenir. Cette pâte est retirée de dessous les cylindres et mise dans des chaudières à vapeur où elle est soumise à une pression variant de 40 à 100 livres. Une fois cuite, elle est reçue dans un chauffoir où le tourtean se forme, ce dernier étant alors placé dans des pressoirs et soumis à une pression hydraulique de 2,500 ã 4,000 livres par pouce carré afin d'en extraire l'huile.

Quand les tourteaux sont retirés des pressoirs et qu'ils ont été débarrassés du tissu dont ils sont enveloppés dans ces machines, ils sont généralement emmagasinés, jusqu'à ce qu'ils soient complètement froids, et quelque fois expédiés sous cette forme. La méthode généralement employée est de moudre le tourteau pour en faire de la farine que l'on donne en grande quantité aux bestiaux et que l'on utilise aussi pour fertiliser la terre. Dans les huileries, les coques sont, jusqu'à un certain point, employées comme combustible, mais la plupart sont données au bétail au lieu de foin. Une tonne de graines de coton de l'Etat du Texas contient, quand elle arrive à l'usine, 100 livres environ de sable, de poussière, etc., 250 livres d'huile, 20 livres de duvet, 740 livres de tourteau et 890 livres de coque.

La farine pure de graine de coton contient les ingrédients suivants: protéine, 50.81; graisse, 18.01. Comme valeur, elle occupe le premier rang parmi les substances alimentaires bien connues.

LA CONCURRENCE AMÉRICAINE ET LE PRIX DES RAILS EN ALGLETERRE.

Le "Ironmonger," de Londres, annonce que les fabricants anglais de rails en acier ont tenu, le 25 octobre dernier, à Londres, une réunion à laquelle assistaient des représentants de tous les laminoirs du Royaume-Uni.

Bien que les décisions prises au cours de cette réunion ait été tenues assez secrètes, on sait cependant qu'il y a été question d'abaisser le prix des rails, à cause de la concurrence croissante des Etats-Unis.

Pendant longtemps le prix des gros rails a varié entre 7 livres sterling et 7 livres 5 sh. st. (176 à 183 frances) la tonne, taux fixé de commun accord par les fabricants, mais, dans ces derniers temps, on s'est aperçu qu'il était nécessaire d'abaisser ce prix, si l'on voulait pouvoir lutter avec succès contre les laminoirs américains qui menaçaient d'enlever la plus grande partie des commandes. C'est pour régler ce point et pour se concerter sur le mode d'action commune à adopter, qu' a été tenue la réunion dont il s'agit.

Nous croyons savoir, dit le journal anglais, qu'il a été décidé que chaque fabricant aurait désormais pleine et entière liberté d'action en ce qui concerne les prix, qui seront déterminés par l'importance des commandes. Le prix fixe a donc été aboli et le marché, si longtemps fermé, a été de fait ouvert à la libre concurrence. Immédiatement après cette décision, certaines usines auraient déjà, paraît-il, abaissé le prix des gros rails à 6 livres 10 shillings (164 francs) la tonne et on affirme que ce prix sera accepté pour toutes les commandes de rails ordinaires. Il a, en effet, été coté le jour même pour un lot moyen de rails pesants.

D'un autre côté, il a aussi été décidé, à la réunion susmentionée, que, pour les fortes commandes, le prix serait fixé de commun accord par les membres de l'association, et des personnes à même d'être bien informées affirment que, dans ce cas, les fabricants accepteront le prix de 6 livres sterling, soit 151 francs.

La décision prise par l'association a excité un assez grand intérêt sur le marché et elle semble être accueillie avec satisfaction.

BIBLIOGRAPHIE.

Les livres et les brochures qui seront envoyés au Bureau des Républiques Américaines, et qui contiendront des sujets ou matières traitant des pays de l'Union internationale des Républiques Américaines, seront mentionnés dans le Bulletin Mensuel sous le titre "Bibliographie."

La Maison Munn & Cie. de New York vient de publier un ouvrage intitulé: "Le progrès de l'invention au dix-neuvième siècle," par Edward W. Byrn. L'auteur a réussi à compiler dans un volume de 480 pages, in-octavo, l'histoire on ne peut plus intéressante du progrès de l'invention pendant les cent années passées. Parmi les sujets les plus importants qui y sont traités sont: le télégraphe, le dynanomètre et ses applications, le moteur, la lumière électrique, les téléphones, les diverses applications de l'électricité, les machines à vapeur, les chemins

de fer, la navigation à vapeur, l'imprimerie, les machines à écrire, les machines à coudre, les machines agricoles, les caoutchouc, les procédés mécaniques, etc. Cette œuvre est illustrée de 300 gravures, plans et dessins, a des tables de matière excellentes et peut servir en même temps de livre de renseignements et de lecture.

Le Bureau des Républiques Américaines doit à l'amabilité du Ministère de la Guerre des Etats-Unis, la possession d'une copie de "La loi sur le service civil," promulguée par la Commission des Philippines pendant le mois de septembre 1900. Cette loi a trait aux nominations de civils dans les administrations du gouvernement et est applicable à tous les emplois, à l'exception de ceux qui sont remplis par les fonctionnaires nommés par le Président des Etats-Unis. À titre égal, la préférence est donnée d'abord aux natifs des îles et ensuite aux soldats et marins des Etats-Unis libérés honorablement du service militaire ou maritime. La loi est formelle et très complète.

L'index du commerce américain: Liste descriptive et classifiée des membres de l'Association Nationale de Manufacturiers des Etats-Unis, arrangée pour la commodité des acheteurs étrangers. Philadelphie: "National Association of Manufacturers." Prix, $5 en monnaie des Etats-Unis. La troisième édition de cet index est imprimée en anglais et en français et 7,500 exemplaires sont distribués gratis aux principales maisons de commerce du monde, dans le but de mettre les membres de cette association en rapport avec les acheteurs étrangers.

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